



2026 Program Guidelines and Competitive Letter of Intent Instructions

American Association for Cancer Research 615 Chestnut Street, 17th Floor Philadelphia, PA 19106-4404 www.aacr.org/funding grants@aacr.org

Last Updated: October 30, 2025

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PROGRAM SUMMARY	3
LETTER OF INTENT DEADLINE AND OTHER IMPORTANT DATES	
APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA	4
RESEARCH PROJECT CRITERIA	5
COMPETITIVE LETTER OF INTENT DESCRIPTION	5
EVALUATION OF COMPETITIVE LETTERS OF INTENT AND INVITED APPLICATIONS	6
TOBACCO INDUSTRY FUNDING AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST STATEMENT	7
LETTER OF INTENT INSTRUCTIONS	
GETTING STARTED IN ProposalCentral	8
LETTER OF INTENT FORMAT	9
SUBMITTING COMPLETE LETTER OF INTENT	12
CHANGES TO YOUR LETTER OF INTENT	14
INQUIRIES	14
MORE ABOUT THE FUNDING PARTNERS	15

PROGRAM GUIDELINES

PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Breast Cancer Research Foundation (BCRF)-AACR NextGen Grant for Transformative Cancer Research In Honor OF Nancy E. Davidson, MD represents the AACR's flagship funding initiative to stimulate highly innovative research from young investigators. This grant mechanism is intended to promote and support creative, paradigm-shifting cancer research that may not be funded through conventional channels. It is expected that these grants will catalyze significant scientific discoveries and help talented young investigators gain scientific independence.

The proposed project may be basic, translational, clinical, or population-based research in nature and must have direct applicability and relevance to **breast cancer**.

The grant provides \$450,000 over three years for expenses related to the research project, which may include salary and benefits of the grant recipient, postdoctoral or clinical research fellows, graduate students (including tuition costs), and research assistants, research/laboratory supplies, equipment, travel applicable to the research project, publication charges for manuscripts that pertain directly to the funded project, other research expenses, and indirect costs.

LETTER OF INTENT DEADLINE

December 18, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. U.S. Eastern Time

We recommend confirming this time in your respective time zone. To do so, please use a time zone converter.

APPLICANTS NOTIFIED OF DECISION STATUS OF LETTER OF INTENT

February 2026

FULL APPLICATION DEADLINE (for those invited to apply based on the Letter of Intent) April 7, 2026, at **1:00 p.m.** U.S. Eastern Time

NOTIFICATION OF AWARD

June 2026

ANNUAL GRANTEE RECOGNITION EVENT

Grant recipients must attend the Annual Grantee Recognition Event during the AACR Annual Meeting to formally accept their grant. Grant funds may be used to support the grantee's registration and travel to this event.

In the event of unforeseen scheduling changes, the grantee will be contacted regarding alternative arrangements.

2026 Program Guidelines and Competitive Letter of Intent Instructions Page 4 of 15

START OF GRANT TERM

July 1, 2026

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Applicants must have a doctoral degree (PhD, MD, MD/PhD, or equivalent) in a related field and not currently a candidate for a further doctoral degree.

At the start of the grant term on July 1, 2026, applicants must:

- Hold a tenure-eligible appointment (or equivalent, if institution does not follow a tenure system) at the rank of assistant professor (appointments such as research assistant professor, adjunct assistant professor, assistant professor research track, visiting professor, or instructor are not eligible. Applicants who have progressed to associate professor appointments are also not eligible.)
 - o If eligibility is based on a future position, the position must be confirmed at the time of submission, and <u>CANNOT</u> be contingent upon receiving this grant.
 - If the future position is at a different institution than the applicant's current institution, the applicant must contact the AACR's Research and Grants Administration Department (AACR's RGA) at grants@aacr.org before submitting their Letter of Intent for information on additional verification materials/signatures that may be required.
- Have held a tenure-eligible assistant professor appointment for <u>no more than three years</u> (i.e., cannot have held a tenure-eligible appointment prior to July 1, 2023)
- Work at an academic, medical, or research institution anywhere in the world
 - There are no citizenship or geographic requirements. However, by submitting a Letter of Intent for this grant, an applicant applying from an institution located in a country in which they are not a citizen or a permanent resident assures that their visa status will provide sufficient time to complete the project and grant term at the institution from which they applied.

An exception to the three-year window may be granted for parental leave or other well-justified leave from research for pressing personal or family situations of generally less than 12 months duration. Applicants whose faculty position exceeds the maximum of three years but who believe they are eligible (e.g., maternity/family leave) must contact the AACR's RGA **before** submitting a Letter of Intent to verify their eligibility.

AACR is obligated to comply with U.S. laws and regulations regarding research and related transactions in countries subject to U.S. Government enforcement of economic and trade sanctions for particular foreign policy and national security reasons. If your proposed project involves U.S. Government <u>sanctioned countries</u> subject to restrictions, please contact AACR's RGA at grants@aacr.org.

Applicants must be AACR **Active** members in good standing (dues paid for the current year). Please be informed that no dues are required for members located in countries building cancer research capacities (view list of eligible countries here) on members interested in this grant opportunity must submit a satisfactory application for AACR Active membership by the letter of intent (LOI) deadline. **Nonmembers** can apply for membership online. Please review the Membership Categories for the category that best fits your qualifications. Nonmembers must obtain a statement of support from a nominator who is an

2026 Program Guidelines and Competitive Letter of Intent Instructions Page 5 of 15 $\,$

Active AACR member in good standing (dues paid for the current year). Nonmembers requiring assistance with finding a nominator may email membership@aacr.org and include your geographical location to receive a list of members in your area to contact for nominations. For more information check the members can renew their membership through myAACR. You will need your logon (email address) and password to access the member portal. If you require assistance logging in, please submit a help form. Lapsed members must be members in good standing by the LOI deadline and should contact the Membership Department at membership@aacr.org for assistance.

Investigators may submit only **one** Letter of Intent for the BCRF-AACR NextGen Grant for Transformative Cancer Research in Honor of Nancy E. Davidson, MD but may concurrently apply for other AACR grants. However, applicants are expected to accept the first grant they are awarded. Individuals may accept and hold only one AACR grant at a time.

Employees or subcontractors of a U.S. government entity or for-profit private industry are not eligible. Employees or subcontractors of a U.S. government entity or for-profit private industry may serve as Collaborators, but no grant funds may be directed towards these individuals.

Investigators who are currently, or have been, a Principal Investigator on a substantial independent research award (e.g., an NIH R01 award, DP2 award, DP5 award, MIRA award, or the equivalent) are **not** eligible. For the purpose of this grant, a substantial independent research award is defined as a grant that offers at least \$250,000 (direct) per year for more than three years and must have undergone a peer-review process by active researchers and/or physician-scientists. Qualified investigators are invited to apply for AACR grants for independent investigators.

Current AACR grantees may apply only if their current grant ends before the start of the grant term of this funding opportunity (i.e., July 1, 2026). Also, the terms of their current grant must require that the final progress reports be approved by the AACR before July 1, 2026.

Postdoctoral or clinical research fellows or the equivalent who are working under the auspices of a scientific mentor are **not** eligible to apply. Qualified fellows are invited to apply for an AACR Fellowship.

Members of the AACR Breast Cancer Scientific Review Committee are not eligible to apply for a BCRF-AACR NextGen Grant for Transformative Cancer Research in Honor of Nancy E. Davidson.

All applicants with questions about eligibility should contact AACR's RGA at grants@aacr.org before submitting a Letter of Intent.

RESEARCH PROJECT CRITERIA

The proposed research must represent a highly innovative approach to a major contemporary challenge in cancer research. The funded project must have the potential to lead to groundbreaking discoveries in the field, and transform our understanding of the tumorigenesis process and/or our ability to treat, detect, or prevent cancer. While proposals may be basic, translational, clinical, or population-based in nature, they must demonstrate clear relevance and direct applicability to **breast cancer**.

2026 Program Guidelines and Competitive Letter of Intent Instructions Page 6 of 15 $\,$

COMPETITIVE LETTER OF INTENT DESCRIPTION

An AACR Competitive Letter of Intent is an application tool designed to identify the projects with the greatest scientific potential and alignment with the Program Guidelines without requiring applicants to first submit a full application. A Letter of Intent is not written as *correspondence* to the Scientific Review Committee, but instead follows a prescribed template that gathers information summarizing the proposed research project. Letters of Intent have also been called "pre-applications", "concept papers", or "letters of inquiry" by other funders.

Letters of Intent are peer-reviewed by the Scientific Review Committee. A limited number of applicants whose Letters of Intent are deemed most meritorious will be invited by the committee to submit full applications.

The Letter of Intent for the BCRF-AACR NextGen Grant for Transformative Cancer Research is limited to two pages and must describe the proposed cancer research project, including the Specific Aims; Rationale, Preliminary Data, Methodology, and Approach; Statistical Analysis Plan; and Significance and Statement of Relevance. Relevant references must be included and are limited to two pages.

The Letter of Intent must be accompanied by:

- Lay and Scientific Abstracts limited to 3,000 characters including spaces, which provide a clear, concise, and comprehensive overview of the proposed research project
- Applicant's Biographical Sketch
- Applicant Checklist

EVALUATION OF COMPETITIVE LETTERS OF INTENT AND INVITED APPLICATIONS

The Scientific Review Committee that will peer-review the Letters of Intent and invited full applications is comprised of senior researchers and physician-scientists respected for their own accomplishments in cancer research and viewed as leaders in the field. The President of the AACR will appoint the members of the Scientific Review Committee.

The Committee will consider the following criteria when reviewing Letters of Intent and invited full applications:

- Innovation and Significance. Does the project propose creative, paradigm-shifting cancer research? Is the scientific and technical merit of the proposed project of great significance? Is the proposed project of high quality, and what potential does it have to provide groundbreaking and innovative advances in cancer research? How will successful completion of the aims challenge and/or enhance the current concepts, methods, or technologies used in the field of cancer research? Are the concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions novel to the field of cancer research?
- *Investigator*. What training and experience does the applicant have to ensure the successful implementation of the proposed project? Does the applicant have demonstrated capacity to carry out independent research? Is there evidence that the applicant is developing a successful track record in cancer research or that they could make a career commitment to this field?
- **Approach.** Are the overall strategy, design, and methodology well-reasoned and appropriate to accomplish the specific aims of the project within the grant term? Are potential problems, alternative strategies and benchmarks for success presented? Is there an

2026 Program Guidelines and Competitive Letter of Intent Instructions Page 7 of 15 $\,$

appropriate statistical analysis plan in place to rigorously assess the impact of the data? Is the budget fully justified and reasonable in relation to the proposed project? (The budget-related question will be used to evaluate the full applications for the BCRF-AACR NextGen Grant.)

• Institutional Environment. What evidence is provided of institutional commitment for the scientific development of the applicant? What support, equipment, and resources will be available to the applicant and are they adequate to successfully complete the proposed project? (This criterion will be used to evaluate invited full applications.)

The Committee will consider each year's applicants independently, without regard to the topics covered in previously funded proposals or to the institutions of the previous grantees.

TOBACCO INDUSTRY FUNDING AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST STATEMENT

Scientific investigators or health professionals who are funded by the tobacco industry for any research project are not eligible for any AACR grant. Grantees who accept funding from the tobacco industry for any research project during the term of an AACR grant must inform the AACR of such funding, whereupon the AACR grant will immediately be terminated.

Tobacco industry funding is defined for purposes of AACR grant applicants and recipients as money provided or used for all or any of the costs of any research project, including personnel, consumables, equipment, buildings, travel, meetings and conferences, and operating costs for laboratories and offices. It is not defined as money provided or used for meetings or conferences that do not relate to any particular research projects.

Tobacco industry funding includes: funds from a company that is engaged in or has affiliates engaged in the manufacture of tobacco produced for human use; funds in the name of a tobacco brand, whether or not the brand name is used solely for tobacco products; funds from a body set up by the tobacco industry or by one or more companies engaged in the manufacture of tobacco products.

The following do not constitute tobacco industry funding for the purposes of this policy:

- Legacies from tobacco industry investments (unless the names of a tobacco company or cigarette brand are associated with them)
- Funding from a trust or foundation established with assets related to the tobacco industry but no longer having any connection with the tobacco industry even though it may bear a name that (for historical reasons) is associated with the tobacco industry

2026 Program Guidelines and Competitive Letter of Intent Instructions Page 8 of 15 $\,$

LETTER OF INTENT INSTRUCTIONS

LETTER OF INTENT PROCEDURES

The AACR requires applicants to complete an online Letter of Intent submission by **1:00 p.m.** U.S. Eastern Time on **Thursday, December 18, 2025** using the ProposalCentral website at https://proposalcentral.com.

In order to submit a complete Letter of Intent, applicants need to enter information directly into the online submission platform as well as upload a number of documents. The following instructions provide details about information that needs to be entered and the materials that need to be uploaded. The section numbering corresponds to the section number of the Letter of Intent Instructions and the online ProposalCentral application.

Information to be Entered Directly	Letter of Intent Instructions	ProposalCentral Section
into ProposalCentral	Section	
Project Title and Acknowledgement of		
Reading the Terms of Conditions	1. Title Page	1) Title Page
Applicant Information	4. Applicant	4) Applicant
Institution and Contact Information	5. Institution & Contacts	5) Institution & Contacts
Lay Abstract	6. A. Lay Abstract	6) Abstracts
Scientific Abstract	6. B. Scientific Abstract	6) Abstracts
Specific Aims	7. Specific Aims	7) Specific Aims

Templates	Letter of Intent Instructions	ProposalCentral Section
	Section	
Letter of Intent Template	8.A. Letter of Intent Documents	8) Letter of Intent Documents
Applicants Biographical Sketch	8.B. Letter of Intent Documents	8) Letter of Intent documents
Template		
Applicant Checklist	8.C. Letter of Intent Documents	8) Letter of Intent Documents

Additional Materials to be Uploaded	Letter of Intent Instructions Section	ProposalCentral Section
Letter of Intent Template	8.A. Letter of Intent Documents	8) Letter of Intent Documents
Applicant's Biographical Sketch	8.B. Letter of Intent Documents	8) Letter of Intent Documents
Applicant Checklist	8.C. Letter of Intent Documents	8) Letter of Intent Documents

Required Signatures	Letter of Intent Instructions Section	ProposalCentral Section
Applicant Checklist	8.C. Letter of Intent Documents	8) Letter of Intent Documents
Application Signature Page	10. Signature Page(s)	10) Signature Page(s)

GETTING STARTED IN ProposalCentral

<u>If you are a new user of ProposalCentral</u>, click the "Need an account?" link and complete the registration process. After logging in, complete your Professional Profile before starting a Letter of Intent.

2026 Program Guidelines and Competitive Letter of Intent Instructions Page 9 of 15 $\,$

<u>If you are already registered with ProposalCentral</u>, access the site and log in with your Username and Password. If you have forgotten your login information, click on the "Forgot Your Password?" link.

<u>To start a Letter of Intent</u>, select the "Grant Opportunities" tab. A list of grant opportunities will be displayed. The list of applications can be filtered for just this organization by clicking "Filter by Grant Maker" at the top and selecting "American Association for Cancer Research" in the drop-down menu. Find "Breast Cancer Research Foundation-AACR NextGen Grant for Transformative Cancer Research in Honor of Nancy E. Davidson, MD" and click the blue "Apply Now" button to create your application.

If you have any difficulties registering, logging in, or creating your application, contact ProposalCentral Customer Support at: 800-875-2562 (Toll-free U.S. and Canada), +1-703-964-5840 (Direct Dial International), or by email at pcsupport@altum.com. See the ProposalCentral FAQ section for additional information.

LETTER OF INTENT FORMAT

The following information is required to submit a complete Letter of Intent. Numbers correspond to the sections found on the left side of the ProposalCentral website.

1. TITLE PAGE. Enter the title of the research project. The title is limited to no more than 100 characters (including spaces). Do not use abbreviations. A project title must be entered **and saved** before additional sections may be accessed.

Terms and Conditions of the Grant. In order to ensure that the applicant is informed of the terms and conditions of the grant should they be selected as a recipient, applicant must acknowledge that they have read the Terms and Conditions and have shared them with their institution by typing in their name and date in the box provided.

The terms and conditions of this grant may be modified or amended by the AACR prior to execution of the Grant Agreement. In addition, the grant recipient's institution may only request revisions to sections VII.F.; XII.; XIII.F.; and XIV.A. of the Grant Agreement prior to execution. Only in special circumstances will revisions be considered to sections other than those noted above.

2. **DOWNLOAD TEMPLATES & INSTRUCTIONS**. The Program Guidelines and Competitive Letter of Intent Instructions document, Terms and Conditions, Applicant Eligibility and Compliance Guide, and all templates can be downloaded from this page. Applicants are required to use **all** templates provided.

See Section 8 of the Letter of Intent Instructions for how to complete and upload the templates.

- 3. ENABLE OTHER USERS TO ACCESS THIS PROPOSAL. Optional.
- **4. APPLICANT.** Enter information for the applicant. Applicants must include their contact information, including e-mail address, phone number, mailing address, and AACR membership information.

Applicants are also strongly encouraged to have an ORCID iD and include this identifier with their

2026 Program Guidelines and Competitive Letter of Intent Instructions Page 10 of 15 $\,$

application.

5. INSTITUTION & CONTACTS. Enter information regarding the applicant's institution and signing official.

NOTE: For those invited to submit a full application, the application process will require a Letter of Reference from a nominator. A nominator must be the applicant's department chair, division head, or dean. If the nominator is not an active, emeritus, or honorary member of AACR, information for an endorser who is an active, emeritus, or honorary member of AACR must also be provided.

6. ABSTRACTS.

- **A.** Lay Abstract. Limited to 3,000 characters (including spaces) and must provide a lay summary of the proposed project in language suitable for a non-scientific audience. Do not use abbreviations. It should include the background, purpose, objectives, and study design of the project; how it will contribute to the field of breast cancer research; and how the results will help breast cancer patients in the future.
- **B. Scientific Abstract.** Limited to 3,000 characters (including spaces) and must provide a brief summary of the proposed research project.

If funded, these Abstracts will become public information; therefore, do not include proprietary/confidential information.

From the lists provided, select the research areas that are most applicable to this project (select no more than two), select the tumor site that is most applicable to this project, and indicate how you found out about this grant opportunity.

7. SPECIFIC AIMS. Please enter Specific Aims exactly as written in the Letter of Intent Narrative (see Section 8 of the Application Format). Be sure to click the 'Save' button after each Specific Aim entry.

8. LETTER OF INTENT DOCUMENTS.

Formatting Instructions. Applicants must adhere to the following instructions in completing the templates. Failure to observe these guidelines will result in the return of the Letter of Intent without review.

- <u>Type size</u>. Must use 12-point Times New Roman for the text, and no smaller than 9-point type for figures, legends, and tables.
- <u>Single-spaced text</u>. Single-spacing is acceptable, and space between paragraphs is recommended.
- Margins. The page margins must be no less than 0.75 inches on each side.
- <u>Page numbering</u>. The Narrative must be numbered consecutively; do not use section designations such as "3A" or "3B".
- Tips and techniques for inserting images in documents.
 - o Reduce the file size of documents with images by "inserting" the image (as opposed to

2026 Program Guidelines and Competitive Letter of Intent Instructions Page 11 of 15 $\,$

- "cutting" and "pasting"). Save graphical images as JPG or GIF files. Insert the image into the document by selecting "Insert Picture From File" from the MS Word menu.
- o Insert only GIF or JPG graphic files as images in your Word document. Other graphical file formats are either very large or difficult to manipulate in the document.
- Do not insert Quick Time or TIFF objects into your document.
- Anchor the images that you embed in your document.
- Once you have anchored the inserted image, you can format text to wrap around the image.
- o Do not edit your images in Word. Use a graphics program.
- o Do not embed your images in tables, text boxes, and other form elements.
- Do not add annotations over the images in Word. Add annotations to the images in a graphics program.

When a template is provided, the template <u>MUST</u> be used. Prepare and upload the following documents into your application in portable document format (PDF):

- **A. Letter of Intent.** Applicants are required to use the Letter of Intent template available from the ProposalCentral website. The information must be presented in this order:
 - Letter of Intent Narrative. Limited to two pages, including figures and tables. The References section does not count against this page limit. Must describe the proposed innovative cancer research project and include the Specific Aims; Rationale, Preliminary Data, Methodology, and Approach; Statistical Analysis Plan; and Significance and Statement of Relevance.
 - II. References. Limited to two pages. AACR reference style follows that of the <u>Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals</u>. Note that the <u>Uniform Requirements</u> specify that, for articles with more than six authors, the names of the first six authors must be listed, followed by "et al". For articles with six or fewer authors, all authors must be listed.
 - III. Data-sharing Plan. Limited to one page. AACR recognizes the importance of data sharing to accelerate the dissemination of new research findings among scientists and others dedicated to the conquest of cancer. In order to facilitate and encourage data sharing, AACR requires applicants for this funding opportunity to provide a data-sharing plan for the data resulted from this grant. The plan may include what type of data will be shared, how the data will be shared, what repository will be used, and a timeline to share the data. Identification of the personnel in charge of implementing data sharing is also recommended. Applicants are encouraged to at least share the data underlying published research generated from the grant funds.

AACR's RGA endorses AACR Journals' policies on <u>Availability of Materials and Data</u> and encourages applicants to follow these guidelines.

Note: Failure in providing a data-sharing plan will render the application incomplete.

B. Applicant's Biographical Sketch. Applicants are required to use the template available from the *ProposalCentral website*. This template as well as an example are available for download from the ProposalCentral platform. All sections of the biosketch must be filled in and the biographical sketch must be in English.

2026 Program Guidelines and Competitive Letter of Intent Instructions Page 12 of 15

C. Applicant Checklist. In order to ensure eligibility, applicants must complete the checklist and obtain all required signatures. For institutions that do not follow the traditional tenure system, such as non-academic, non-profit research institutions or organizations, tenure-eligible equivalence must be confirmed. Electronic/digital signatures are permitted. These signatures transmitted by electronic means shall have the same force and effect as original signatures. Please note that if eligibility is based on a future position, the position must be confirmed at the time of application, and CANNOT be contingent upon receiving this grant.

The **signed** Applicant Checklist must be uploaded to your online Letter of Intent in the Letter of Intent Documents section.

D. <u>Applicant Eligibility and Compliance Guide.</u> Please note that this document will not be uploaded onto the platform with your other application materials, and is only provided as a guide to help applicants to ensure their submission meets all eligibility and compliance requirements.

Uploading the attachments into your submission. Once you have converted your attachments to PDF files, the next step is to upload the files to your online Letter of Intent. *Only PDF attachments are permitted for this Letter of Intent submission.*

- Open your online Letter of Intent and go to the section for attaching files. Click the blue "Attach Files" button.
- Select the appropriate type of attachment from the drop-down list.
- Enter your own description of the file in the "Describe Attachment" field.
- Click on the "click here to browse" link to select the file from your computer or drag and drop. Click on the "Upload and Continue" button. You will get a confirmation message on your screen that the file was uploaded successfully. You will also see that your file is now listed in the "Current list of uploaded attachments" section of the screen. Clicking the "Back" or "Upload and Return" button allows you to go back to the main page of this section where the uploaded documents should now be listed. Click the download icon next to the file name to open and view your uploaded documents. To delete the file, click on the trashcan icon to the right under the "Delete" column..

In the section for attachments, all the required attachments are listed in the middle of the screen, just below where you upload your files. This list of required attachments helps you track completion and uploading of your required attachments. Once you upload a required attachment, that attachment type will be removed from the required list and will be displayed in the "Current list of uploaded attachments".

If you wish to modify the attached file, make the revisions to your *original* file on your computer, convert the file to PDF, and use the same process above to attach the new file. **Delete any previously submitted versions of the file before submitting your Letter of Intent.**

SUBMITTING COMPLETE LETTER OF INTENT

9. PI DATA SHEET. Please verify the applicant gender, race, and ethnicity. This is automatically populated based on the applicant's Professional Profile within ProposalCentral. Changes to the

2026 Program Guidelines and Competitive Letter of Intent Instructions Page 13 of 15 $\,$

selections on this screen will be reflected in your Professional Profile. The information is handled separately from the application and will not be provided to the Scientific Review Committee.

10. SIGNATURE PAGE(S). In order to ensure that all parties have approved the application, electronic signatures are required from the Applicant/PI and Signing Official. Any user whose signature is required will have automatic access to this application. An email notification is sent to all signatories when a signature is provided.

To sign, enter your name then click the sign button



Use the "Download Application" button to download a copy of your Letter of Intent, including attachments.

NOTE: Data entered in the online Letter of Intent submission are automatically included in the Signature Pages. The following signature page fields will remain blank until the full application process: Dates of Proposed Project, Proposed Budget, Human Subjects, Vertebrate Animals, Recombinant DNA, and Biohazards. If information is missing in the Signature Pages, it could be because you have not entered the information in one of the online sections **OR** the information is not required for this grant program. If the institution's Employer Identification Number (EIN) is not completed on the Signature Page, please request your institution to provide that information in their ProposalCentral profile.

The AACR **strongly encourages** applicants to also use the "Download Application" option. This option can be used if your institution wishes to review the Letter of Intent but also should be used by the applicant to ensure that your attachments loaded properly.

Errors may occur when the uploaded PDF files are assembled by the system. Please check to ensure that <u>all pages of every document included</u> appear in the "Download Letter of Intent" option. If you are having any issues with this option, please contact ProposalCentral customer support at: 800-875-2562 (Toll-free U.S. and Canada), +1-703-964-5840 (Direct Dial International), or by e-mail to pcsupport@altum.com.

- **11. VALIDATE.** Validate the application on ProposalCentral. This is an essential step. An application that has not been validated cannot be submitted. "Validate" checks for required data and attachments. You will not be able to submit if all the required data and attachments have not been provided.
- **12. SUBMIT.** After successfully passing the validate check, click the **"Submit"** link. An e-mail will be sent to you confirming your submission.

Once your Letter of Intent is submitted you may view it by selecting "Submitted" from the "Proposal Status" drop-down menu under the 'Proposals' tab, then clicking the "View" button under the Edit column. The status column will show "Submitted" and the date submitted. You may need to refresh your browser screen after submitting the Letter of Intent to see the updated status.

2026 Program Guidelines and Competitive Letter of Intent Instructions Page 14 of 15 $\,$

CHANGES TO YOUR LETTER OF INTENT

Withdrawal of Letter of Intent. Please advise AACR's RGA promptly, in writing, should you decide to withdraw your Letter of Intent for any reason. Your correspondence must include your name, the grant opportunity to which you applied, the project title, and the reason for withdrawal.

Change of Address. Notify the AACR of any changes of address, e-mail, or phone number, following the submission of a Letter of Intent. Include your name and the ProposalCentral identification number. The e-mail address provided with your Letter of Intent will be used for all official communication about your submission including the recipient selection results. Your Professional Profile in ProposalCentral must be kept up to date.

Change of Institution or Position. If you change your institution or professional position, contact the AACR to determine whether your Letter of Intent is still eligible for review.

INQUIRIES

Inquiries or technical issues regarding ProposalCentral and the online application process should be directed to customer support at: 800-875-2562 (Toll-free U.S. and Canada), +1-703-964-5840 (Direct Dial International), or by e-mail to pcsupport@altum.com.

Inquiries about the program guidelines, eligibility requirements, and Letter of Intent materials can be directed to the AACR's Research and Grants Administration department at grants@aacr.org.

2026 Program Guidelines and Competitive Letter of Intent Instructions Page 15 of 15 $\,$

MORE ABOUT THE PARTNERS



The Breast Cancer Research Foundation® (BCRF) is a nonprofit organization committed to achieving prevention and a cure for breast cancer. Founded by Evelyn H. Lauder in 1993, BCRF-funded investigators have been deeply involved in every major breakthrough in breast cancer prevention, diagnosis, treatment and survivorship.



Founded in 1907, the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) is the world's first and largest professional organization dedicated to advancing cancer research and its mission to prevent and cure cancer. AACR membership includes more than 58,000 laboratory, translational, and clinical researchers; population scientists; other health care professionals; and patient advocates residing in 141 countries and territories around the world. Presently, 32% of members live outside the United States and 22% of AACR's international members are located in countries with emerging economies. The AACR offers seven categories of membership to support each aspect of our members' professional development and enhancement in cancer research. In support of the professional development of early-career researchers, no annual dues are required for Associate membership. The AACR marshals the full spectrum of expertise of the cancer community to accelerate progress in the prevention, biology, diagnosis, and treatment of cancer by annually convening more than 30 conferences and educational workshops, the largest of which is the AACR Annual Meeting with more than 22,500 attendees. The AACR's Virtual 2020 Annual Meeting attracted over 74,000 attendees. In addition, the AACR publishes ten prestigious, peer-reviewed scientific journals and a magazine for cancer survivors, patients, and their caregivers. The AACR funds meritorious research directly as well as in cooperation with numerous cancer organizations. As the Scientific Partner of Stand Up To Cancer, the AACR provides expert peer review, grants administration, and scientific oversight of team science and individual investigator grants in cancer research that have the potential for near-term patient benefit. The AACR actively communicates with legislators and other policymakers about the value of cancer research and related biomedical science in saving lives from cancer. For more information about the AACR, visit www.AACR.org.