



Atrium Health
Wake Forest Baptist

**Comprehensive
Cancer Center**

2024 Inter-programmatic Collaborative Research Pilot
Cancer Prevention and Control (CPC)
Request for Applications

Purpose

The Cancer Prevention and Control (CPC) Program of the Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist Comprehensive Cancer Center (AHWFBCCC) is pleased to announce the availability of funds to support new or ongoing inter-programmatic collaborative research that has promise for larger-scale extramural support. This pilot project opportunity is available to all CPC program investigators and any AHWFBCCC members or non-members who wish to collaborate with a CPC investigator.

The pilot award will be used to fund research that aligns with one or more of the scientific aims of the CPC program, including: **Aim 1: Healthy Behavior:** Promote healthy lifestyles that reduce the risk of cancer incidence, morbidity and mortality; **Aim 2: Survivorship:** Address quality of life among survivors and their caregivers; integrate biomarkers and patient-related outcomes; and develop optimal supportive care interventions to address survivors' most challenging psychosocial concerns; **Aim 3: Cancer Care Delivery:** Advance cancer care delivery by enhancing the implementation of strategies that promote healthy lifestyles and develop digital health interventions that improve care along the cancer care delivery continuum.

Program leaders are interested in projects that highlight the "value-added" aspects across all campuses of AHWFBCCC, such as a focus on translational research, inclusion of investigators from more than one of the four scientific research programs (inter-programmatic), use of AHWFBCCC Shared Resources, and new investigator teams. Projects that can lead to multi-PI extramural grant applications (R01s, P01s and SPORes), as well as collaborations across campuses are strongly encouraged.

Highest consideration will be given to projects well-aligned with Cancer Center strategic priorities (e.g., work that advances mechanistic understanding of late and long-term effects of cancer and its treatment, work that leverages enterprise data for implementation of evidence-based practices relevant to cancer prevention and control). In addition, special consideration will be given to projects that address the needs of our catchment area and are expected to reduce disparities across the cancer control continuum. Projects that have achieved near fundable scores on a prior grant application are also encouraged, in which case the original grant and critiques should be included with the pilot application.

Eligibility

Applications will be considered responsive to the call if they meet the following criteria:

- Focus on a major cancer disparity and a disparity population (racial or/ethnic minority, rural, sexual or gender minority, adolescents and young adults);
- Provide a clear description of the project's relevance to our catchment area, health equity, and institutional efforts on community outreach and engagement;
- Address novel and/or innovative hypotheses or approaches that leverage cross-disciplinary synergies and/or collaborations with other scientific programs;
- Describe the strategy for submission of R-or P-type grant applications to further the work



developed in this pilot;

- Include an AHWFBCCC CPC member on the project team and any AHWFBCCC members or non-members who wish to collaborate with a CPC investigator (partnerships with Legacy Atrium researchers are encouraged) as well as opportunities for trainee involvement.

Key Dates

Date	Detail
4/1/2024	Full Application Deadline
6/1/2024	Project Start Date
4/30/2026	24-month Progress Report Due (2-year pilots)

Funding

Up to 2 applications will be funded with a maximum funding of \$100,000 for up to 24 months. See section on Budget Guidelines for more details on allowable and non-allowable budget items.

Application Procedure

Full Application Deadline: Monday, April 1, 2024, 5 pm EST

The application can be submitted through [REDCap](#), by the deadline noted above. Application instructions are summarized below.

Format Specifications

- Arial font and no smaller than 11 point.
- Margins at least 0.5 inches (sides, top and bottom).
- Single-spaced lines.
- Consecutively numbered pages.

Abstract (250 words max)

Public Summary/Lay Abstract

- [Dubé CE, Lapane KL. Lay abstracts and summaries: writing advice for scientists. J Cancer Educ. 2014 Sep;29\(3\):577-9. doi: 10.1007/s13187-013-0570-1. PMID: 24132543.](#)

Research Plan (limited to 4 pages)

- *Specific Aims* – Describe the goals of the pilot project as well as the future project proposal for extramural funding.
- *Significance* – Explain how the project addresses an important problem, how it will improve scientific knowledge, technical capability and/or clinical practice.
- *Investigator(s)* – Describe how each member of the team will contribute to the project. Include their expertise and experience that will be utilized on this project.
- *Innovation* – Explain how this project uses novel concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions.
- *Approach* – Describe the overall strategy for this project, including potential problems, alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success.
- *Projected Timeline*.

References (no page limit)



Information Regarding Human Subjects

Address the following if the project **involves human subjects**.

- Provide a one-page document addressing the Protection of Human Subjects, if applicable.
- IRB Approval Status (please note: IRB approval is *not required* for full application submission, however **a delay in IRB approval does not alter the project end date**) Pre-submission discussion with the Wake Forest IRB is strongly suggested.

Information Regarding Live Vertebrates if applicable.

- IACUC Approval Status (please note: IACUC approval is *not required* for full application submission, however **a delay in IACUC approval does not alter the project end date**).

Budget and Justification (budget template plus 1-page justification)

- Complete the budget template form provided in [REDCap](#) along with a brief justification for the funds requested for this RFA. Please include an explanation of other resources that may be leveraged to support the project.
- Sub-awards to other institutions to carry out work on a project are not allowed.

NIH-style biographical sketch for all Key Personnel

Budget Guidelines

The budget period is for up to 24 months. A maximum of \$100,000 in direct costs may be requested.

Funds may be budgeted for:

- Research support personnel (including undergraduate and graduate students).
- Faculty salary support may also be included but should be well justified.
- Travel *necessary* to perform the research.
- Small (non-capital) equipment, research supplies and core lab costs, or
- Other purposes deemed necessary for the successful execution of the proposed project.

Funds may **not** be budgeted for:

- Office supplies or communication costs, including printing.
- Meals or travel, including to conferences, except as required to collect data.
- Professional education or training.
- Computers or audiovisual equipment, unless fully justified as a need for the research.
- Manuscript preparation and submission.

Awarded funds must be used to conduct the work proposed. All direct charges to this award must adhere to federal regulations and requirements regarding the use of AHWFBCCC funds. The AHWFBCCC leadership reserves the right to revoke funding in the event it is determined that funds were not spent in accordance with the approved protocol. The general criteria for determining allowable direct costs on federally sponsored projects is set forth in 2 CFR Part 200: Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (The Uniform Guidance).

Review Criteria and Process



Proposals will be evaluated by the Pilot Grant Review Committee (PGRC). Funding decisions will be made based on the reviews of an evaluation of the projects' connection with the goals of the AHWFBCCC. Final award approval will be at the recommendation of AHWFBCCC Leadership. Any IACUC and/or IRB protocols must be approved prior to funding of the approved pilot.

Reviewers will score applications from 1 to 9 based on:

1. Significance of the problem to be addressed;
2. Innovation in the proposed solutions;
3. Strength and breadth of the investigative team;
4. Methodological rigor and feasibility with clear milestones;
5. Likelihood the innovation will be broadly applicable and have impact on translational research;
6. A reporting plan regardless of whether the study yields positive or negative results;
7. Other elements to be considered in the review include: the likelihood that the investment will lead to external funding or a licensable innovation, early-career faculty involvement, race/gender inclusiveness of the research team and inclusion of women, minorities, older adults, and children as potential participants.

Program Expectations

Should any significant issues arise, the study team will be required to work with the AHWFBCCC Director to define an intervention strategy for the study to be successfully completed (or in rare cases, terminated).

Specific Deliverables Include (not a complete list):

- Key preliminary data needed for a revised extramural grant application.
- Proof of concept data to establish a novel scientific hypothesis or approach.
- A completed application to an extramural RFA.
- A publication establishing a new collaboration.

Other Guidelines

1. Prior to receiving funds, research involving human subjects must have appropriate approval from the IRB. Either an IRB approval letter or an IRB response to a "Determination Whether Research or Similar Activities Require IRB Approval" must be submitted to the AHWFBCCC prior to funds being released. Human subjects must be reviewed in accordance with the institution's general assurances and HIPAA. All key personnel must have certification of training in the protection of human subjects prior to the start of the grant period.
2. It is expected the PI will report outcomes achieved due to the pilot award, e.g., subsequent external funding, publications, presentations, and patents, including participation in relevant Program activities such as research updates at Program meetings or retreats.
3. Any awardee who leaves his or her position should contact the AHWFBCCC to discuss future plans for the project.

Grant Administration

Projects will be for a maximum 24-month period unless otherwise stated. An annual progress report will be required, and no-cost extensions may be requested at that time with sufficient justification and remaining funds.

Contacts

Questions about your research proposal should be directed to Drs. Eric C. Donny



(edonny@wakehealth.edu) and John M. Salsman (jsalsman@wakehealth.edu).

Questions about the REDCap system should be directed to Natalie Barrett, nbarrett@wakehealth.edu.