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## GENERAL QUESTIONS

How can I know if I'm eligible to apply for a grant or award?

Visit our Funding Opportunities page and review the Request for Proposals (RFP) of the program you are interested in. The RFP provides information on the eligibility criteria, application components, application instructions and key dates. Here is a summary of the 2026 funding opportunities.

Does Conquer Cancer fund non-US based applicants and institutions?

Yes, most of our programs are open to international applicants and institutions with a non-profit status. Visit our Funding Opportunities page for more information.

Does Conquer Cancer fund unsolicited proposals?

No. We do not accept or review unsolicited proposals.

Are indirect costs supported by Conquer Cancer grants?

Yes, Conquer Cancer allows indirect costs unless noted in the Request for Proposal of a specific grant. The maximum allowable overhead/indirect cost is included in the RFP of the program.

May I send my application directly to Conquer Cancer?

All applications must be submitted through the ASCO and Conquer Cancer Application Portal. Please do not mail or email any applications directly to Conquer Cancer, they will not be accepted.

How do I log in to the ASCO and Conquer Cancer Application Portal?

You will need an ASCO user account to log in. If you don't have an ASCO account, please go to ASCO Sign In and click 'Create an Account'. For assistance with log-in, please contact ASCO Customer Service.

What is your grant review process?

All Conquer Cancer research grant applications are carefully reviewed and evaluated by an independent Grants Selection Committee (Committee) using consistent criteria across all applications for each grant or award type. The Committee scores and ranks the applications, and the highest-scoring applications are funded.

In some circumstances, applications already deemed "fundable" based on their high application scores may be matched with Conquer Cancer grants that have additional donor-specified criteria. However, all fundable applications will receive Conquer Cancer

research grants. In no case will an application not deemed fundable in the initial review process receive a Conquer Cancer research grant.

The applications are evaluated and scored using the 1-9 NIH scoring scale.

Can I apply to the YIA General competition award and a YIA Special Competition with two separate applications?

An applicant may only submit one application either under a special competition or the general competition. Applicants who applied under a special competition will be considered for funding under the general competition if their application is determined as fundable.

How do I withdraw my application?

Please send an email to [grants@conquer.org](mailto:grants@conquer.org) to request the withdrawal of an application.

My sponsoring institution wants to issue an announcement related to my Conquer Cancer grant. Do you have guidelines and who is the contact person?

Please follow our guidelines for Promoting Grant and Award Recipients. We also ask that you notify us at [grants@conquer.org](mailto:grants@conquer.org) of any upcoming announcements.

What are the Conquer Cancer's Intellectual Property and sharing policies?

Discoveries and related regulatory approvals made through the Research Project funded by Conquer Cancer are the property of the Sponsoring Institution or Principal Investigator conducting the research. The Principal Investigator and Sponsoring Institution are responsible for notifying Conquer Cancer of the filing of any letters patent for any discovery, invention, or intellectual property made on research funded by Conquer Cancer.

What is the Physician Payments Sunshine Act?

The Physician Payments Sunshine Act, or “Sunshine Act”, is part of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (health care reform) that passed in 2010. The law is designed to bring transparency to financial relationships between physicians, teaching hospitals, and healthcare companies. The Sunshine Act requires manufacturers of pharmaceutical drugs and devices, as well as group purchasing organizations, to report payments or transfers of value made to U.S. physicians and teaching hospitals. Reports are made to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), a government agency. Learn more about the Sunshine Act.

If I receive a grant or award from Conquer Cancer, will I be reported to CMS?

Some Conquer Cancer grants and awards are supported by companies required to report to CMS under the Physician Payments Sunshine Act. Each of the supporting companies must make its own determination of what it must report to comply with the Sunshine Act. Those payments that are determined to be reportable will be published on the public Open Payments website, including the name of the physician recipient and each payment associated with the total amount of the grant.

The Sunshine Act requires that all reportable payments or transfers made starting August 1, 2013 be reported to CMS. To assist Conquer Cancer in complying with its reporting obligations to its supporters, grant recipients will be asked to provide the following information to Conquer Cancer: State of License; State License Number; and National Provider Identifier (NPI) Number. The obligation for Conquer Cancer is to provide this data to the supporting companies based on language in the letters of agreement for this support.

Can I submit more than one application for the same award in a given funding cycle?

No, each applicant may submit only one proposal or application for the same award in a given funding cycle.

Where can I find the list of recipients and projects that have been funded by Conquer Cancer?

Visit the Grants & Awards section in ASCO.org and go to View All Recipients. The institution listed reflects the sponsoring institution at the time of grant or award.

Where can I find the general terms and conditions of the award I am applying to?

You may find the general terms and conditions of the award in the Request for Proposals (RFP). The Terms and Conditions section of the RFP includes selected provisions of the Terms and Conditions that the applicant and their Sponsoring Institution should review carefully before submitting an application. The RFP does not contain the complete Terms and Conditions document. Conquer Cancer reserves the rights to modify any of the provisions of the Terms and Conditions prior to execution by the applicant and Sponsoring Institution.

Do I receive reviewer feedback on my application?

Conquer Cancer provides reviewer feedback on full applications submitted to the following programs: Research Professorship, Advanced Clinical Research Award, Career Development Award, Global Oncology Young Investigator Award, International Innovation Grant, Long-term International Fellowship, and Young Investigator Award. Scores are not provided.

I submitted a proposal that wasn't funded. May I resubmit?

You may apply again to the same funding opportunity as long as you are still eligible and submit the same proposal. Research grant applicants "resubmitting" a prior application are required to upload a one-page introduction to address the feedback and critiques provided during the prior application cycle.

Who do I contact for further information about the Grants and Awards Program?

For grant management and program related inquiries, please call the Grants and Award Program staff at 571-483-1700 or send an email to [grants@conquer.org](mailto:grants@conquer.org).

## ELIGIBILITY

I'm on a visa at a US academic institution. Can I apply for a Conquer Cancer grant?

Most Conquer Cancer grants have no citizenship or geographic requirements unless indicated in the program's RFP. However, by submitting an application, an applicant applying from an institution located in a country in which they are not a citizen or a permanent resident assures that the visa status will provide sufficient time to complete the project and grant term at the institution from which they applied.

I am currently enrolled in a PhD program. Can I apply for a YIA?

If the PhD program is part of your MD, PhD program, you must provide a letter from your Program Director to confirm the program structure. This letter should be on official letterhead and may be sent as a PDF to [grants@conquer.org](mailto:grants@conquer.org), prior to submitting your application. Otherwise, if selected to receive a YIA, you must have completed your PhD before the grant period starts.

I am enrolled in the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) Research Pathway. Can I apply for a YIA?

Yes, however, you would need to include in your application as a supporting document an official letter from your program director describing the program at your institution and indicating that you will have the protected research time.

I do not have an active medical license yet but will have one by the time the grant period starts. Can I still apply for a YIA (or a CDA)?

You may apply for the YIA (or a CDA). However, we require that you submit a letter from your program director indicating that you will have the appropriate licensure to conduct your study by the time the grant period begins. This letter should be on official letterhead and may be sent as a PDF to [grants@conquer.org](mailto:grants@conquer.org) prior to submitting your application.



Is there an exception from the 10-year rule after obtaining a medical degree in the YIA eligibility criteria?

Applicants are evaluated on a case-by-case basis and may be granted exceptions corresponding to the length of the issue. If any of the following scenarios apply, please send an email to [grants@conquer.org](mailto:grants@conquer.org) to explain why you should be considered as a “young investigator” and why an exception to this eligibility criterion should be granted:

- A fellow who received their MD and PhD in one of many foreign countries that require them to finish their MD training before they can begin their PhD.
- A fellow who is a foreign medical graduate but obtained their residency in the US and submitting application from US.
- An MD who later chooses to pursue a PhD before specializing in oncology.
- An MD or MD/PhD who is recruited by industry but later returns to medicine with an interest in oncology.
- An MD or MD/PhD who completes one fellowship and then chooses to further refine their training with an oncology fellowship.
- An MD or MD/PhD whose career has been sidetracked due to health, personal issues, or other obligations.

I am not in the last two years of my residency in Radiation or Surgical Oncology. Am I eligible to apply for a YIA?

Applicants whose dedicated year of protected research time falls outside of their last two years of oncology subspecialty training can request an exception. We require a letter from your program director confirming the structure of the program and that you will have protected research time during the grant period. This letter should be sent as a PDF to [grants@conquer.org](mailto:grants@conquer.org), prior to submitting your application.

I recently completed my subspecialty training and transitioning to a faculty by the time of grant submission. Can I apply for the YIA?

Please send your latest CV to [grants@conquer.org](mailto:grants@conquer.org) to confirm your eligibility.

I have a federal career development award. Can I apply for a CDA?

Applicants with concurrent federal career development awards (e.g., K23, K08, or any other type of career development award) are eligible to apply provided there are no scientific and budgetary overlaps.



I have an institutional career development award. Can I apply for a CDA?

Applicants with institutional career development awards (e.g., KL2, K12) are eligible to apply provided there are no scientific and budgetary overlaps.

The program criteria indicate that the applicant must commit at least X% of full-time effort in research. Is this specific to the Conquer Cancer grant?

The percentage effort applies to total research activities, not just the Conquer Cancer-funded project and must be indicated in the institutional letter of support.

The sections in the Applicant Information form are blank, how do I fix this?

The information that is blank is pulled directly from your ASCO profile. If you need to make any changes to your information, visit [profile.asco.org](https://profile.asco.org). Changes made to your profile do not save in this form in real-time but will be reflected before submission of your full application. Please email [grants@conquer.org](mailto:grants@conquer.org) if you notice significant delays.

Are co-Principal Investigators allowed in a YIA (or a CDA) application?

The YIA and CDA are designed as individual career development awards. Collaborators are allowed in the application, however, there should only be one primary applicant.

Who should be a grant mentor?

A mentor is an investigator who will guide your research and help you with your professional development and advancement. The primary mentor must be an ASCO member and must be in the same institution as the applicant. Applicants may have an additional mentor who is from another institution. Visit the Application Resources page for points to consider when choosing a mentor.

How many mentors are allowed in a YIA or CDA application?

An applicant may have a maximum of two mentors, unless otherwise noted in the Request for Proposals. The primary mentor must be from the same institution as the applicant. Each mentor must submit their biosketch and write an individual letter of support for the applicant. The mentorship plan must be signed by both mentors and the applicant.

My mentor is the Department Chair who is the same person writing the institutional letter of support. Is this allowed?

No. If the mentor is the Department Chair, the Institutional Letter of Support must come from the Division Head, Dean, or any member of the institution's leadership that can assure commitment and support for the applicant and on the performance of the proposed research.

Can my sponsor be the same person who writes my institutional letter of support?

The sponsor may be the same individual writing the institutional letter of support, however, both the sponsor letter of support and institutional letter of support must be separate letters and should be written differently based off the RFP guidelines.

Who should write the mentorship plan?

The mentorship plan must be jointly written, signed and dated by the applicant and mentor(s).

What bio-sketch form is required?

Applicants should use the most recent NIH biosketch template. The biosketch must not exceed five (5) pages. Please refer to these instructions.

What citation style do our reviewers require?

We do not require a specific citation style.

Should I use the NIH salary cap when budgeting for salary support?

Yes. Applicants can use the latest NIH Salary Cap.

Can you please confirm whether it is allowable for us to include General Auto and Employment Liability (GAEL) insurance assessments on our budget?

This is unfortunately not an allowable charge. We only allow travel costs that are directly related and essential to conducting the research project and related to attendance to the ASCO Annual Meeting.

Who do you consider as a patient advocate?

A patient advocate can be a survivor of or person living with cancer, a family member or primary caregiver of a person living with cancer, or other individual with a strong personal connection or experience with cancer. A patient advocate should have a dedicated interest in cancer research (preferably in the type of cancer in which the research is proposed) and survivorship and be able to represent the perspective of patients with cancer/survivors/co-survivors in the development and conduct of the project.

What format should the patient advocate Letter of Support follow?

Use the patient advocate's organization's official letterhead if affiliated with an organization or personal letterhead if they have it. If not, the letter should include the patient advocate's name, address and email address. The letter should be signed by the Patient Advocate.

Digital signature is accepted.

My institution does not have research patient advocates. Can you recommend resources?

Please visit the Application Resources page on [asco.org](https://www.asco.org) for the most up-to-date listing.

- Research Advocacy Network
- ECOG-ACRIN Cancer Research Group
- SWOG Cancer Research Network
- Children's Oncology Group
- Alliance for Clinical Trials in Oncology
- National Breast Cancer Coalition's Project LEAD
- AACR Scientist↔Survivor Program®
- NCI Office of Advocacy Relations
- The National Cancer Institute (NCI) Clinical Trial Network Patient Advocate Committees
- Susan G. Komen Advocates in Science
- Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network

Do you have grant writing resources?

Please visit the [Application Resources](#) page. There are webinars that discuss essential grant writing skills, how to work with biostatisticians and patient advocates, completing a biosketch, and more Applicants may also sign-up for virtual office hours and view funded and unfunded applications.

What documents are considered as “Post Submission Materials” that I may submit?

- Proof of receipt of drug from a company
- Letter from a drug company that they will provide the investigational drug
- Letter of support for any investigational agents
- Letter of collaboration from another laboratory providing expertise for this project
- Letter of resource availability for any other materials necessary for the project (e.g. tissue).
- IRB approval
- Clinical protocol if applicable for all human related studies
- Accepted publications that were initially under review when the application was submitted.
- If there is an institutional change: mentor letter of support, institutional letter of support & mentorship plan

Can I make changes to my grant application after it has been submitted?

You must notify Conquer Cancer immediately by sending an email to [grants@conquer.org](mailto:grants@conquer.org) if any of the following conditions apply from application submission through award notification:

1. **Withdrawal of Application.** Send an email to [grants@conquer.org](mailto:grants@conquer.org) to inform the Conquer Cancer Grants and Awards team of the reason(s) for withdrawing the application. The email should include the applicant's name, the title of the proposal, and the reason for withdrawing the application.
2. **Change of Institution or Position.** The applicant has a career plan change, leaves their current position in the institution, or is unable to meet the eligibility requirements of this RFP. If the applicant is selected to receive an award, Conquer Cancer has the right in its sole discretion to withdraw the award.
3. **Mentor or Co-Mentor Change of Institution.** If the applicant's mentor or co-mentor leaves their current position or institution, the applicant is required to identify a new mentor and submit updated documents.
4. **Change in Proposal (Scope, Timeline, Budget, etc.).** The applicant has significant changes in the submitted proposal affecting aims, research strategy, timeline, and/or budget. If Conquer Cancer is notified of the change in proposal after the applicant is notified of an award, Conquer Cancer has the right in its sole discretion to withdraw the award.

Changes in institution/position, mentor, or project scope after an award notification will require additional documents and review and approval from Conquer Cancer. Conquer Cancer has the right in its sole discretion to withdraw the award.

#### AWARD ACCEPTANCE

I will be at a new sponsoring institution by the start of the grant term. Can I still accept the grant? What information do I need to provide to Conquer Cancer?

Yes, you may still accept the grant as long as you can still meet the required percentage commitment of total research activities and the other eligibility requirements of the award. You will need to submit the following:

- start date at new institution
- new mentor biosketch and letter of support (applicable to mentored awards)
- new mentorship plan (applicable to mentored awards)
- new institutional letter of support

- proposed budget at the new institution (if different from the approved application budget)
- brief summary of changes in research project (if there are changes in any the original research project)

Based on the proposed changes, you may be asked to submit a revised research plan, biostatistical plan and project timeline.

Conquer Cancer will review these requirements and has the right in its sole discretion to withdraw the award.

Can I delay the start date of my award term? For how long?

You may request that the Award Period be delayed with a start date that begins up to six months after the published start date indicated in the Request for Proposals, which will be approved or disapproved by Conquer Cancer in its sole discretion.

I was just awarded a grant. Can I revise the specific aims and/or budget of my grant before the start of the award term?

Yes. You will need to complete a Change of Scope Request (for any changes in specific aims) and/or a Rebudget Request (for changes in the budget) in the application portal, which will be approved or disapproved by Conquer Cancer in its sole discretion.

Can I accept multiple awards from Conquer Cancer?

Grant recipients are allowed to hold only one active grant from Conquer Cancer at a time. YIA recipients may accept a Merit Award while their YIA is still active.

Do I need to have ASCO membership to accept a Conquer Cancer grant?

Yes. Recipients of multi-year grants must also maintain ASCO membership for the entire duration of the grant. Visit ASCO Membership to join/renew online.

## POST-AWARD

Does the grant get paid to the individual Principal Investigator or to their affiliated organization (e.g., university, agency or NGO)?

Grant funds are paid directly to and administered by the Principal Investigator's Sponsoring Institution.

Where do I find my progress and budget reporting schedule?

You can find your progress and budget reporting schedule as an Exhibit in your award agreement.

Where do I submit my progress and budget reports?

Reports must be submitted through our Application Portal at [awards.asco.org](https://awards.asco.org).

I accepted a position at a different institution. May I transfer the grant to continue the project?

Yes, you may transfer your grant to your new institution as long as you still meet the award's required percentage commitment of total research activities and other requirements of the award. You can initiate an institution transfer by submitting a request through the application portal. You may need to submit the following:

- new mentor biosketch and letter of support (applicable to mentored awards)
- new mentorship plan (applicable to mentored awards)
- new institutional letter of support
- final expenditure report (for active grants)
- proposed budget at the new institution (if different from most recent approved budget)
- your role and contribution to the project

Conquer Cancer will review your request and notify you within 10 business days of requesting approval. If approved, Conquer Cancer will have requirements for the new institution to complete.

How will my remaining grant funding move to my new institution?

Your original sponsoring institution must submit a final expenditure report showing the remaining balance in the grant. The remaining funds should be remitted to Conquer Cancer, the ASCO Foundation. Please contact [grants@conquer.org](mailto:grants@conquer.org) for payment method. Once the institution transfer is approved and the returned funds received, a payment will be issued to the new institution.

I am leaving my institution and will not be transferring my grant. May another PI take over the project and continue to receive funding?

No. ACRA and mentored grants such as the YIA, CDA, LIFe, and Global Oncology YIA cannot be transferred to another investigator or to the mentor. The recipient must relinquish their grant and return the unexpended funds to Conquer Cancer.

Can I rebudget my grant funds?

You may move funds of up to 5% of the total yearly budget without prior approval from Conquer Cancer. Budget changes of greater than 5% per year between budget categories must be made through the application portal and approved by Conquer Cancer before expenditure of funds.

Can I change the aims of my project?

Significant changes in the specific aims of the Research Project will not be allowed without review of change in scope request and prior written consent from Conquer Cancer. Any request for changes in the specific aims of the research project must be made through the application portal prior to making any changes to the Research Project.

I need more time to complete my research project. What do I do?

You may request for a no-cost extension (NCE) to extend the project period beyond the original project end date without additional funding. A request for NCE must be made through the application portal. Conquer Cancer approves a six-month NCE at a time. If a no-cost extension is granted by Conquer Cancer, you will submit additional progress reports and financial expenditure reports every six months during the extension term. Applicants are still required to submit progress and expenditure reports as detailed in their award agreement in addition to the NCE reports.

Do I need to inform Conquer Cancer if I plan to go on sabbatical or take a leave of absence?

Yes, prior approval from Conquer Cancer is required. Please send an email to [grants@conquer.org](mailto:grants@conquer.org) and include the following information:

- A statement that qualifies the leave of absence.
- A brief description of the activities to be performed by the PI recipient while on leave and the relationship to the grant.
- The extent of research to be continued on the grant at the sponsoring institution during the PI recipient's absence.
- The name and email of the proposed person to be left in charge of day-to-day activities in the PI recipient's absence.

How do I acknowledge the support from Conquer Cancer for my grant?

Recipients must acknowledge Conquer Cancer and the funder of their grant (if applicable) when they submit the results of their research project for publication, presentation (including posters), or other public release. In the event the recipients' results are published or otherwise publicly released either during or after the grant period, the



recipient will provide Conquer Cancer with a copy of such publication or public release. All publications and public releases will include an acknowledgment of Conquer Cancer:

"This work was funded by a Conquer Cancer [name of grant]. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect those of the American Society of Clinical Oncology® or Conquer Cancer® [or funder name if applicable]."

The Recipient is encouraged to use an emblem for the program on posters, presentations, and similar items produced for scientific meetings and conferences. The emblem may be used with the acknowledgment language. The Recipient may request this emblem by sending an email to [grants@conquer.org](mailto:grants@conquer.org).

The results of my Conquer Cancer funded grant was accepted for publication. How do I share this with Conquer Cancer?

You can email [grants@conquer.org](mailto:grants@conquer.org). You may also complete the Publications Form in the application portal.