



ROBERT A. WINN  
**EXCELLENCE**  
IN CLINICAL TRIALS  
AWARD PROGRAM

Established by the Bristol Myers Squibb Foundation

**2027**

**ROBERT A. WINN EXCELLENCE IN CLINICAL TRIALS:  
CLINICAL INVESTIGATOR LEADERSHIP AWARD  
POWERED BY CONQUER CANCER'S EVERYGRANT®**

**SUPPORTED BY BRISTOL MYERS SQUIBB FOUNDATION**

**REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS**

Last Updated: April 21, 2026

**Application Deadline: June 29, 2026**

Conquer Cancer®, the ASCO Foundation  
2318 Mill Road, Suite 800  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Questions? Email [ProfessionalDevelopment@asco.org](mailto:ProfessionalDevelopment@asco.org)

**EveryGrant®**

Powered by  
**CONQUER CANCER®**  
THE ASCO FOUNDATION

### **About the Bristol Myers Squibb Foundation**

A healthier world is attainable and achievable, but access to healthcare remains unequal. The Bristol Myers Squibb Foundation (BMS Foundation), an independent charitable organization, is dedicated to improving global health, striving to bridge divides by empowering local communities and health systems to create lasting impact. With a vision to help create a world where everyone has the opportunity to achieve their optimal health, the BMS Foundation works to increase access to healthcare and develop grantee relationships in geographies where they are focused, including in Brazil, India, ten countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, and across the United States. For more information, visit [bms.com/foundation](https://bms.com/foundation).

### **About Virginia Commonwealth University**

Virginia Commonwealth University is a major, urban public research university with national and international rankings in sponsored research. Located in downtown Richmond, VCU enrolls nearly 29,000 students in 238 degree and certificate programs in the arts, sciences and humanities. Twenty-three of the programs are unique in Virginia, many of them crossing the disciplines of VCU's 11 schools and three colleges. The VCU Health brand represents the VCU health sciences academic programs, the VCU Massey Cancer Center and the VCU Health System, which comprises VCU Medical Center (the only academic medical center in the region), Community Memorial Hospital, Tappahannock Hospital, Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU, and MCV Physicians. The clinical enterprise includes a collaboration with Sheltering Arms Institute for physical rehabilitation services.

For more, please visit <https://vcu.edu/> and <https://www.vcuhealth.org>.

### **About Conquer Cancer and EveryGrant®**

Conquer Cancer®, the ASCO Foundation, funds research for every cancer, every patient, everywhere. Since 1984, its Grants & Awards program has awarded more than \$203 million through more than 9,800 grants and awards to improve cancer care and accelerate breakthroughs in clinical and translational oncology research. For more information visit [CONQUER.ORG](https://CONQUER.ORG).

Powered by Conquer Cancer, the ASCO Foundation, EveryGrant is a comprehensive grant management service that blends decades of grantmaking success with a global network of experts to help organizations design innovative funding programs—all without navigating the complexities of building them in-house.

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## Program Overview

The Robert A. Winn Clinical Investigator Leadership Award in Oncology powered by Conquer Cancer's EveryGrant® (Winn CILA-Onc) is a three-year career and leadership development program designed to provide oncology graduates of the Winn Career Development Award (Winn CDA) program with advanced clinical trials knowledge, leadership skills, mentorship and sponsorship to succeed as independent clinical researchers, team members, and leaders.

The program is exclusive to the participants of the Robert A. Winn Career Development Award program who are early-career investigator oncology physicians.

The program will provide five (5) Winn CDA Scholars with advanced clinical trials knowledge, leadership skills training, mentorship, and sponsorship to support their development into independent clinical researchers, team members, and leaders. This is a mentored award, the purpose of which is to expand the number of community-based sites with the capacity to conduct clinical and translational research.

The leadership and training program will be led by the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) in partnership with the five US cancer cooperative groups. As part of the training, each participant will be assigned to a National Clinical Training Network (NCTN) group, placed on one of its protocol development committees, and matched with an experienced clinical trialist. This will ensure that participants will have the skills not only to conduct high-impact clinical trials, but also to effectively engage with communities to foster active community participation in clinical research.

## Key Dates

Online Applications Open:	<b>April 27, 2026</b>
Full Applications Due:	<b>June 29, 2026 (11:59 PM ET)</b>
Notification Date:	<b>September 2026</b>
Award Term:	<b>January 1, 2027 – December 31, 2029</b>

## Program Components

- **Program Term:** Three-year career and leadership program
- **Salary Support:** 30% salary support for protected time
- **Leadership Training:** (4) In-person leadership training sessions at ASCO Headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia delivered by an executive leadership coach
- **Coaching:** Virtual individual and group coaching sessions
- **Mentorship:** Support from ASCO Mentor and Peer Mentor
- **Sponsorship:** Placement on a NCTN Protocol Development Committee and assigned senior NCTN Committee Member as a mentor
- **Professional Development:** ASCO Virtual Sessions that introduce key ASCO initiatives, resources, and opportunities.

## Funding Available

The total award amount is \$278,307 for the three-year program term. The total award includes up to \$10,000 per year, which may be applied to overhead or facilities and administrative cost of the applicant's institution in administering the research project.

## Eligibility Criteria

### Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Be a current or immediate past Robert A. Winn Career Development Award Scholar who has or will complete the Winn CDA term by January 2027.
- Be in good standing in the Winn CDA program.\*
- Completed an oncology subspecialty training.
- Be employed at an institution that is a current/active member of an NCI National Clinical Trials Network.
- Be able to commit at least 30% of full-time effort during the three-year award period, as confirmed in an Institutional Letter of Support.

*\*To be considered in good standing, scholars must be currently at 80% required forum participation and up to date with program deliverables. All Winn CDA program requirements and funding must be completed and expended by January 2027 in order to participate in Winn CILA-Onc. Or, scholars who have graduated (fulfilled all Winn CDA program requirements and are now considered Winn CDA alumni).*

For any questions regarding your standing in the Winn CDA program, please contact the Winn CDA team at [winncda@vcu.edu](mailto:winncda@vcu.edu).

## Application Procedures

All applications must be submitted in accordance with the requirements and instructions of this Request for Applications (RFA). All application materials must be in English and must be submitted online through the Conquer Cancer's EveryGrant portal at [everygrant.smapply.us](https://everygrant.smapply.us). No paper applications sent by mail, e-mail, or fax will be accepted.

Accessing Conquer Cancer's EveryGrant portal requires applicants to register an account. Applicants can register an account at [everygrant.smapply.us](https://everygrant.smapply.us) by clicking **Log in** then **Register**.

**Applicants are encouraged to start their application early due to the complexity of the online application process.** The full application must be submitted by **11:59 PM ET on June 29, 2026**. No late applications will be accepted. Please note that technical assistance is only available until 5:00 PM ET on June 15.

Helpful Tips for Using the Application Portal are included in Appendix A.

The applicant must notify [ProfessionalDevelopment@asco.org](mailto:ProfessionalDevelopment@asco.org) **immediately** if any of the following conditions apply from application submission through award notification:

1. Withdrawal of Application. The email should include the applicant's name and the reason for withdrawing the application.
2. Change of Institution or Position. The applicant has a career plan change, leaves their current position, or their current institution, or is unable to meet the eligibility requirements for the program.

Changes in institution/position 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.

## Application Guide

Sections of the full application are listed below. More details about each section, including requirements and instructions, are described in the next pages.

1. Applicant Information (required)
2. Applicant Short Answer Questions (required)
3. Personal Statement (required)
4. Winn CDA Independent Professional Development Plan (IPDP) (required)
5. Applicant's Biosketch (required)
6. Winn CDA Mentor Recommendation Form (required)
7. Institution Leader Support Form from Department Chair or Dean (required)
8. Institution Grant Approval (required)
9. Review and Submit (required)

### 1. Applicant Information

This section includes the following:

- Applicant Information Form. Provide the following information:
  - First Name
  - Middle Name
  - Last Name
  - Degree
  - Primary Organization Name
  - Address (including city, state, and zip code)
  - Country
  - Primary Email Address (all future communications about the application will be sent to this address)
  - Do you have a full-time faculty appointment (This includes full-time instructor position)?
  - Academic Rank. Select from the drop-down list.
  - Certification/Subspecialty Training. Select from the drop-down list.
  - Field of Clinical Training. Select all that apply.

- Field of Research Training. Select all that apply.

After completing this form, click **“Mark as Complete”**.

## 2. Applicant Short Answer Questions

*Limit 100 words each.*

- What is your practice environment (i.e., Urban, rural, or suburban; private practice, community practice, or hybrid).
- Indicate which NCI National Clinical Trials Network(s) your institution is affiliated with; select all that apply.
- Indicate which NCI National Clinical Trials Network(s) you are affiliated with; select all that apply.
- List your top three (3) preferred NCTN for placement in rank order. Provide a brief justification for your ranking.
- Please list names of all past attended clinical research or clinical trials trainings/workshops and providers.
- Have you enrolled patients in clinical trials? If yes, please list past experiences.
- Have you participated in clinical trial protocol development? If yes, please list past experiences.
- Have you received research support as key personnel within the past 5 years? If, yes, what was your role (i.e., PI, co-PI, sub-investigator, study physician, etc.)?
- Thinking about obstacles faced by clinical trialists, state the most important lesson(s) you learned from participation in Winn CDA.
- Describe how participation in Winn CIL-A-Onc would align with your career goals.

After completing this form, click **“Mark as Complete”**.

## 3. Personal Statement

*Limit 500 words each.*

Describe your commitment to promoting excellence in cancer clinical trials:

- Share examples of specific actions or initiatives you have undertaken in the past that demonstrate your commitment to transforming and expanding access to the clinical trial landscape.
- Describe how you intend to include community voices and perspectives in clinical trials going forward. Provide examples of how you plan to collaborate with community organizations or other stakeholders to promote participation in clinical trials.
- Describe how you plan to integrate community outreach and engagement strategies in your future role as a clinical trialist.

After completing this form, click **“Mark as Complete”**.

## 4. Winn CDA Independent Professional Development Plan (IPDP)

Applicants are required to upload an updated version of their Winn CDA Independent Professional Development Plan (IPDP).

Upload as a PDF file. Click “**Attach File**” and select the file to be uploaded in the application. Use this file naming convention: 2027CILA\_IPDP\_Last Name (e.g., 2027CILA\_IPDP\_Smith)

After completing this form, click “**Mark as Complete**”.

## 5. Applicant’s Biosketch

Applicants should use this biosketch [template](#). The biosketch must not exceed five (5) pages.

Upload as a PDF file. Click “**Attach File**” and select the file to be uploaded in the application. Use this file naming convention: 2027CILA\_Biosketch\_Last Name (e.g., 2027CILA\_Biosketch\_Smith)

After completing this form, click “**Mark as Complete**”.

## 6. Winn CDA Mentor Recommendation

Please identify one (1) Winn CDA mentor to complete a recommendation form to assess the candidate’s demonstrated leadership traits and clinical trialist experience. Mentors will assess the applicant on the following:

### **Demonstrated Leadership Traits of Applicant**

- Ability to clearly communicate ideas
- Ability to effectively build relationships
- Acts as a positive influence on a team
- Dependable, reliable and follows through on tasks
- Ability to effectively give and receive feedback

### **Demonstrated Clinical Trialist Experience of Applicant**

- Applicant’s role in Winn CDA project (PI, co-PI, Sub-investigator, study physician, etc)
- Applicant’s experience developing a clinical trial protocol

### **Overall Assessment**

- Applicant’s demonstrated readiness to serve as PI or co-PI on an NCTN clinical trial

### **Instructions**

- To request a recommendation from the Winn CDA Mentor:
  - Click “**Request a Recommendation**”.
  - Enter the First name, Last name, Email address, and write a message (optional) to the Mentor.
  - Click “**Send Request**”. The Mentor will receive an email notification with the message.

- If the Mentor accepts or declines the recommendation request, the applicant will receive an email notification.
- To resend or withdraw the request, click the ellipsis (...) near the Mentor’s name and email and select the appropriate option from the drop-down list.
- **IMPORTANT:** The Winn CDA Mentor must complete their task and click “Submit” at the bottom of the page **prior** to the deadline. An email notification will be sent to the applicant confirming that the task has been completed.
- The applicant will not be able to submit the application until this task is submitted.
- Once the Winn CDA Mentor has submitted the task, return to this section and click “**Mark as Complete**”.

## 7. Institution Leader Support

The Department Chair or Dean from the applicant’s sponsoring institution must complete the Institution Leader Support form. Completion of the form certifies approval that will enable the applicant’s full participation in this three-year program, including that the applicant will have at least 30% protected time during the award period for required activities and meetings.

### Instructions

- To request your Department Chair or Dean to complete the Institution Leader Support form:
  - Click “**Request a Recommendation**”.
  - Enter the First name, Last name, Email address, and write a message (optional) to the Institution Leader.
  - Click “**Send Request**”. The Institution Leader will receive an email notification with the message.
  - If the Institution Leader accepts or declines the recommendation request, the applicant will receive an email notification.
- To resend or withdraw the request, click the ellipsis (...) near the Institution Leader’s name and email and select the appropriate option from the drop-down list.
- **IMPORTANT:** The Institution Leader must complete their task and click “Submit” at the bottom of the page **prior** to the deadline. An email notification will be sent to the applicant confirming that the task has been completed.
- The applicant will not be able to submit the application until this task is submitted.
- Once the Institution Leader has submitted the task, return to this section and click “**Mark as Complete**”.

## 8. Institution Grant Approval

An authorized signing official representing the sponsoring institution, must approve your application before submission by completing the “Institution Approval” task.

### Instructions

- To request a recommendation from the Institution Grant Approver:

- Click **“Request a Recommendation”**.
- Enter the First name, Last name, Email address, and write a message (optional) to the Institution Grant Approver.
- Click **“Send Request”**. The Institution Grant Approver will receive an email notification with the message.
- If the Institution Grant Approver accepts or declines the recommendation request, the applicant will receive an email notification.
- To resend or withdraw the request, click the ellipsis (...) near the Institution Grant Approver’s name and email and select the appropriate option from the drop-down list.
- **IMPORTANT:** The Institution Grant Approver must complete their task and click “Submit” at the bottom of the page **prior** to the deadline. An email notification will be sent to the applicant confirming that the task has been completed.
- The applicant will not be able to submit the application until this task is submitted.
- Once the Institution Grant Approver has submitted the task, return to this section and click **“Mark as Complete”**.

## 9. Review and Submit

The applicant will not be able to navigate to this page until all required sections have been **“Marked as Complete”** and all tasks from the Mentor(s), Sponsor (if applicable), and Institution Approver have been submitted.

On the left navigation, click **“Review”** to review or **“Submit”** to submit the application.

To download a copy of the application, click **“My Applications”**. Click the ellipsis (...) on the specific application and click **“Download”**.

On the next screen, select the desired options and click **“Download.”** A new tab will open. Once the download is ready, click **“Download”**. The application will be downloaded as a zip file.

## Peer Review of Applications

The applications are reviewed by the Winn Clinical Investigator Leadership Award (Winn CILA-Onc) Selection Committee using a multi-stage review process. Each application is assigned to at least two reviewers who are leaders in their areas of expertise for independent and confidential review.

The applications are evaluated and scored by the Committee based on the following criteria using a 9-point scoring scale. The descriptions follow, with “1” representing the highest quality and “9” representing the lowest quality.

Overall Impact or Criterion Strength	Score	Descriptor
High	1	Exceptional
	2	Outstanding

	<b>3</b>	<b>Excellent</b>
<b>Medium</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Very Good</b>
	<b>5</b>	<b>Good</b>
	<b>6</b>	<b>Satisfactory</b>
<b>Low</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Fair</b>
	<b>8</b>	<b>Marginal</b>
	<b>9</b>	<b>Poor</b>

Applicants are evaluated on the strengths and weaknesses of the complete application packet and of the following equally weighted application components to determine the applicant’s demonstrated leadership traits and clinical trialist experience.

- Personal Statement Form and Short Answer Questions
- Mentor Recommendation Form
- Winn CDA Independent Professional Development Plan (IPDP)
- Institutional Letter of Support from Department Chair or Dean

## Award Notification

Applicants can expect to be notified in September 2026. To ensure receipt of notifications from the application portal, it is highly recommended to include [programs@everygrant.org](mailto:programs@everygrant.org) and [ProfessionalDevelopment@asco.org](mailto:ProfessionalDevelopment@asco.org) to the applicant’s safe sender list. All communication regarding applications, including award notifications, will be sent to the preferred email address on the applicant’s EveryGrant profile. For questions, please contact [ProfessionalDevelopment@asco.org](mailto:ProfessionalDevelopment@asco.org).

# Appendix A. Helpful Tips for Using the Application Portal

## Getting Started

To access the application portal, go to [everygrant.smapply.us](https://everygrant.smapply.us).

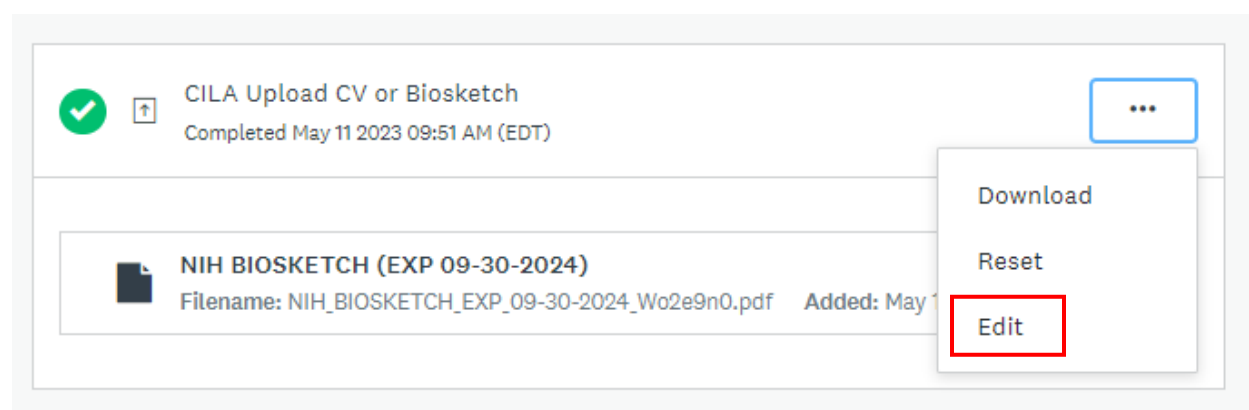
- *To create an EveryGrant portal account*, go to [everygrant.smapply.us](https://everygrant.smapply.us) and click “Log-in” in the top right corner of the screen. On the next screen, click “Register” and follow the prompts to complete your account setup and create a password. After your account is set up, you will be returned to the application portal.
- *To initiate an application*, once logged into the application portal, click “View Programs”, select the program “Robert A. Winn Excellence in Clinical Trials: Clinical Investigator Leadership Award powered by Conquer Cancer’s EveryGrant® (Winn CILA-Onc)”, and click “Apply”.

## Completing the Eligibility Quiz

You will first be asked to complete an eligibility quiz. Once you have answered each question, click “**Mark as Complete**” at the bottom of the page. You will then receive an email to confirm your eligibility. If you are eligible, you will automatically have access to the full application. The different application tasks will appear in the left navigation. If you have any questions regarding eligibility, contact [ProfessionalDevelopment@asco.org](mailto:ProfessionalDevelopment@asco.org).

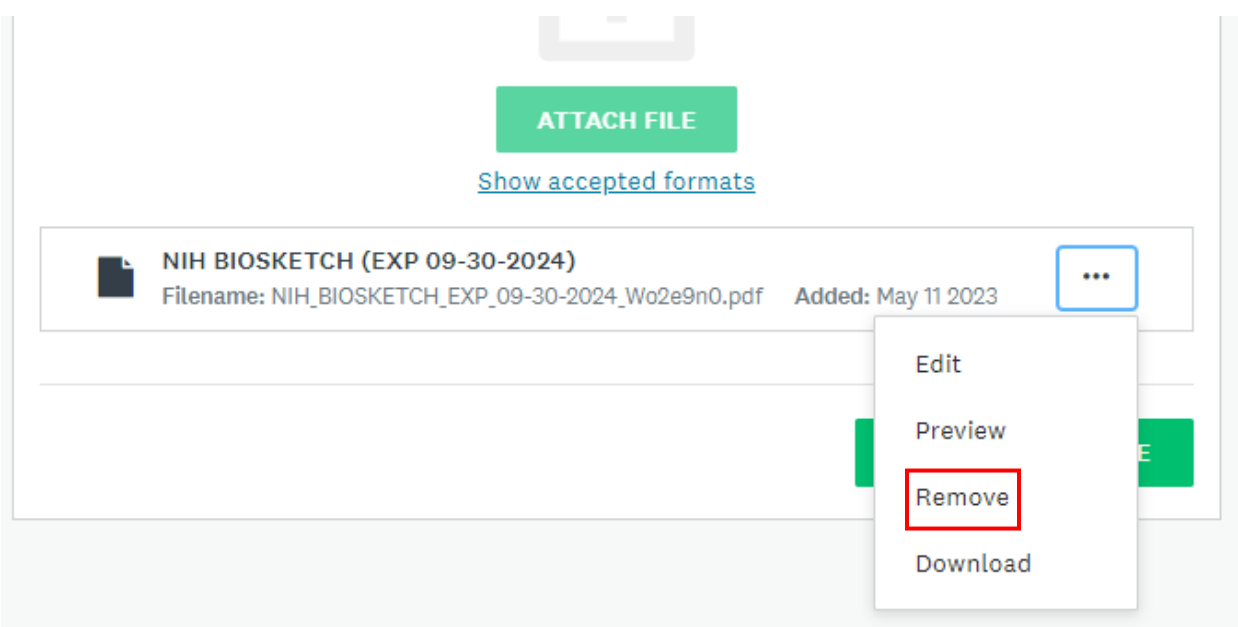
## Navigating the Application

- Click the task(s) in the left navigation to start working on your application.
- Click “Save and Continue Editing” at the bottom of the page as you go through the application.
- When finished with a particular task (e.g., Upload CV or Biosketch), click “Mark as Complete” at the bottom of the page to validate task completion.
- If you need to edit a task after it has been Marked as Complete, click the ellipsis (...) on the top right corner of the task as shown below. Select “Edit” to reopen the form.
  - **IMPORTANT!** Do NOT click “Reset” as this will delete previously entered data!



## Uploading a Document

- Click “Show accepted formats” to determine the file formats accepted. Documents should not be password protected.
- Documents must follow the file naming convention and requirements for page limits, margins, and fonts (see individual application sections for details). **If any document you uploaded does not meet the specific criteria, your application will be returned.**
- To upload a document, click “**Attach File**” and select the file to be uploaded.
- To edit a file name, click the ellipsis (...) next to the file name as shown below. Select “Edit” and enter the new file name based on the file naming convention.
- To remove or replace an uploaded document, click the ellipsis (...) next to the file name as shown below. Select “Remove” then click “Attach File”. NOTE: You may need to clear your browser’s cache to make sure you are able to view the re-uploaded document.



## Requesting a Recommendation

- As part of your application process, you will need to “Request a Recommendation” from third parties such as your mentor, institution leader, and institution grant approver. Click on the task and fill in the details of the Recommender including the First Name, Last Name, Email, and a brief message (optional) to send the Recommender. Once the information is submitted, an automated email will be sent to the Recommender letting them know that they’ve been asked to provide a recommendation. When the recommendation is submitted, you will be instantly notified.
- If the Recommender didn't receive an email invite, confirm that you sent the invite to the correct email address and there are no spelling errors, ask the Recommender to check their junk/spam folder, or resend the Invitation.

- To resend or withdraw the request, click the ellipsis (...) near the Recommender's name and email and select the appropriate option from the drop-down list as shown below.

The screenshot displays the 'CILA Mentor 1 Invite' interface. At the top, there is a green circular icon with a white arrow, a thumbs-up icon, the text 'CILA Mentor 1 Invite', and a three-dot menu icon. Below this is a section titled 'Task instructions' with a 'Hide' link. The instructions state: 'Invite your Mentor to submit a recommendation for your application. If your Mentor has an ASCO user account, use your Mentor's email address associated with their ASCO account to ensure access to the recommendation task in the Application Portal. If you used an incorrect email address, you may withdraw your request and create a new request using the correct email address. To resend or withdraw your request, click the ellipsis (...) and select from the options. Once your Mentor submits the recommendation, you will receive a notification. Click **Mark as Complete**.'

Below the instructions is a 'Recommendations' section with the note: 'You will not be able to review the contents of received recommendations.' A table lists one recommendation:

Recommendation	Requested	Actions
App1YIA Blackwell App1YIA@mailinator.com	Requested: May 11 2023	...

A dropdown menu is open over the ellipsis icon for the first recommendation, showing two options: 'Resend request' and 'Withdraw request'. The 'Withdraw request' option is highlighted with a red box. At the bottom right, there is a green button labeled 'MARK AS COMPLETE'.

## Receiving Notifications

Add [programs@everygrant.org](mailto:programs@everygrant.org) and [ProfessionalDevelopment@asco.org](mailto:ProfessionalDevelopment@asco.org) to your safe senders list to ensure timely receipt of notifications associated with recommender task submissions, application submissions, etc. If you are not receiving notifications, check your junk/spam folders first, then contact [ProfessionalDevelopment@asco.org](mailto:ProfessionalDevelopment@asco.org) for additional assistance.