

**Request for Applications (RFA)
for
Community Cancer Research Pilot Projects
Spring 2023**

A: Timelines

	Important Dates:
RFA Announcement	October 24, 2022
Application Deadline	January 27, 2023
Outcome Announced	April 21-23, 2023*
Start Date	July 1, 2023
Progress Report Deadline	August 2, 2024

**Recipients will be announced and presented during the 2023 Duke Debates Hematological Cancer Conference to be held April 21-23, 2023 at the Westin Hilton Head Island Resort & Spa.*

B: Award Details

Eligibility

This opportunity is open to all DCI members or associate members as well as non-DCI members. Any non-DCI member or associate member is required to have a DCI member as a sponsor. Investigators who are the primary PI or Co-PI on any active DCI pilot project grant are ineligible to apply.

Applications from new investigators (less than three years faculty status at Duke), fellows, trainees, as well as underrepresented minorities are strongly encouraged.

Investigators may be either PI or Co-PI on only **one** application. There is no limit to the number of applications that an Investigator can be listed as Co-Investigator or Collaborator.

**For any questions regarding eligibility, please contact dc_i_administration@duke.edu. To apply for membership, please visit the following link: http://dc_i.duke.edu/membership.*

Research Site Location

The Duke Cancer Network (DCN) has affiliations with 12 community hospitals and physician practices. Research Studies should utilize one or more of the sites listed below with preference given to the sites highlighted in blue. For information on analytics or additional details about these sites, please contact Lynda Owen at lynda.owen@duke.edu.

Each recipient will be assigned a DCN Physician to help facilitate the execution of the research study/project at the selected DCN Research Site Location(s).

Research Site Locations:

UNC Johnston Health	CalvertHealth	Augusta health
DLP Maria Parham Health	Conway Medical Center	Cape Fear Valley Medical Center
Scotland Medical Center	Wilson Medical Center	Spartanburg Regional Medical Center
Southeastern UNC Healthcare	DLP UP Health system - Marquette	Virginia Oncology Associates

Funding Mechanisms

Acceptable Projects include:

- Retrospective and prospective studies which can include chart reviews, surveys, and/or interviews
- Small clinical trials are eligible
- Total project period may not exceed 12 months, with the option to submit a renewal request in the following year for an additional year of funding
- Budget for direct costs for the total project period may not exceed \$50,000
- Proposal budgets can support research expenses, such as fellows/trainee's salary support, research staff, supplies, shared resources services. Proposal budgets may not include equipment including computers, travel or tuition remission costs.
- Support for established faculty effort is not allowed
- If research takes place at a VA Hospital or uses VA data, the applicant must receive pre-approval from the DCI Scientific Review Chairs and the DCI Director of Research Strategy and Operations prior to submission

C: Submission Guidelines

Combine all below listed documents into one PDF document and submit your application via: https://bit.ly/DCN_Grant. Files should be named with the investigator(s) last name, first name followed by “_DCN Community Pilot Project”. (e.g.: “Smith, John_DCNC Community Pilot Project.pdf”)

Please include the following in your application:

1. Research Strategy (5-page limit) encompassing the following sections, in this order:
 - The title of the grant, the name of the primary PI and (if appropriate) co-PI(s) and co-investigator(s), and identify the appropriate DCI Research Program Area or Special Interest Area
 - A brief abstract that includes the specific aims
 - A significance section, paying particular attention to relevance to community oncology
 - An innovation sections
 - A research design section, including relevant preliminary data and figures
 - A brief statement indicating the need for the funds and an indication of how these pilot funds will assist you in obtaining peer-reviewed funding
 - A brief explanation of DCN sites to be utilized and rationale
2. References (no page limit)
3. Budget
 - Budget should be for 12 months totaling no more than \$50,000. Please use PHS 398 Form Page 4 and 5
 - A detailed budget justification is required

- Indirect costs are not allowed
4. Letter of support from the one of the following:
 - DCI program leader of your primary or secondary research program (a full list of DCI Research Programs and leaders are listed below) or DCN Areas of Special Interest contacts (Listed Below)
 - Fellowship Program Director if in a trainee/fellowship position

The Letter of support should explain the importance of your cancer research both in general and in relation to their program, as well as confirming that you are a member of the program, if applicable. A Letter of Support is also required from a DCI Member if not applicant is not a DCI member or Associate Member.

5. NIH Biosketches for PI, Co-PI(s), Co-I(s), and collaborators.
6. NIH Other Support documents for PI, Co-PI(s), Co-I(s), and collaborators, including, when appropriate, an explanation of whether overlap exists with the proposed project.

Please use the following NIH forms:

- Budget: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html>
- Biosketches: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm>
- Other Support: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/othersupport.htm>

DCN Areas of Special Interest:

Cardio-Oncology (Contact: Susan Dent, MD)

Health Equity/Population Health Sciences (Contact: Tomi Akinyemiju, PhD, MS)

Nursing Research (Contact: Devon Noonan, PhD, MPH)

Community Health (Contact: Kevin Oeffinger, MD)

DCI Research Programs:

Cancer Biology

Leaders: Ann Marie Pendergast, PhD, Micah Luftig, PhD and Jen-Tsan “Ashley” Chi, MD, PhD

Cancer Prevention and Control

Leaders: Kathryn Pollak, PhD and Leah Zullig, PhD

Cancer Risk and Detection Interception

Leaders: Meira Epplein, PhD and Katherine Garman, MD

Immuno-Oncology

Leaders: Scott Antonia, MD, PhD and Stefanie Sarantopoulos, MD, PhD

Neuro-Oncology

Leaders: David Ashley, MD, PhD and Kyle Walsh, PhD

Precision Cancer Medicine and Investigational Therapeutics

Leaders: John Strickler, MD, Shannon McCall, MD, and Dorothy Sipkins, MD, PhD

Radiation Oncology and Imaging

Leader: David Kirsch, MD, PhD, Nimmi Ramanujam, PhD and Manisha Palta, MD

D: Terms of the Award

- Acceptance of funds implies a firm commitment:
 - To provide a progress report by the deadline outlined in the NOA and subsequently, an annual update for a five-year follow-up period, if applicable
 - Not to use funds for unallowable costs as determined by the NIH. (List of current unallowable costs included below NOA)
- All awards, publications and presentations must acknowledge the Duke Cancer Institute and the P30 Cancer Center Support Grant as indicated on NOA.
- DCN expects that the grantee will completely utilize the full amount of the funding during the term of the award. All unspent funds at the end of the grant period will be returned to the sponsor.

E: Review Process

Similar to NIH study sections, each application will be peer reviewed by at least two members of the DCN Scientific Review Committee, followed by a review of the most meritorious applications at a roundtable discussion of the entire committee. All applicants will be informed of the outcome by April 1, 2023 (summary statements will not be provided) and **will be requested to provide a short presentation of their project at the 2023 Duke Debates Hematological Cancer Conference in April 2023**. For this funding cycle, the Duke Cancer Network will be funding a total of 2-3 awards.

Each Proposal will be reviewed based on the following criteria:

1. Innovation, novelty, and soundness of the research plan;
2. Relevance to cancer;
3. Potential Impact and Relevance to the Community Hospital setting
4. Likelihood that the project could lead to new peer-reviewed funding,
5. Budget that reflects the project plan.

If you have questions about this funding opportunity, please contact Bettina Lampkin (bettina.lampkin@duke.edu).

Apply Here:



List of Unallowable Costs

Unallowable cost is any expense or cost that is not eligible for reimbursement by the Federal government.

1. Office supplies (e.g., paper, pens, folder, etc)
2. Local phone service
3. Subscriptions
4. Memberships
5. Furniture
6. Food for meetings, entertainment
7. Fees
8. Advertising for general promotion of the University, including printed materials, promotional items, memorabilia, gifts, and souvenirs
9. Advertising for recruitment purposes that includes color or is excessive in size
10. Alcoholic beverages
11. Alumni or fund-raising activities
12. Antiques
13. Bad debt write-offs
14. Donations or Contributions
15. Commencement expenses
16. Cost Overruns; any costs allocable to a particular sponsored agreement may not be shifted to other sponsored agreements in order to meet deficiencies caused by overruns or other fund considerations, to avoid restrictions imposed by law or by terms of the sponsored agreement, or for other reasons of convenience.
17. Costs on Industry, Foreign Government or Other Non-Government Grants/Contracts; any costs allocable to activities sponsored by industry, foreign governments or other sponsors may not be shifted to federally-sponsored agreements.
18. Decorative objects for private offices
19. Fine/original art
20. Fines and penalties
21. First-class/business-class air travel differentials
22. Flowers
23. Gifts, prizes, and awards
24. Goods or services for personal use
25. Lobbying
26. Memberships in airline travel clubs
27. Memberships in civic, social, community organizations or country clubs
28. Faculty and exempt staff salary in excess of base rates paid by the institution.
29. Tuition and/or tuition remission
30. Selling or marketing products or services of the University
31. Social events
32. Capital equipment
33. Computer

