



PANCAN RESEARCH RECOVERY GRANT

Guidelines and Application Instructions

PANCREATIC
CANCER
ACTION
NETWORK

®

BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY

The Pancreatic Cancer Action Network's (PanCAN) Research Grants Program funds promising and meritorious research as part of its mission to improve the lives of everyone impacted by pancreatic cancer. PanCAN recognizes that the uncertainties and disruptions in U.S. federal research funding could slow the momentum gained over the past decade and threaten continued progress toward PanCAN's vision of a world in which all patients with pancreatic cancer will thrive. This Request for Applications is for Research Recovery Grants to provide bridge funding for projects that have demonstrated exceptional merit through national scientific peer review but experienced disruptions in funding continuity.

Research Recovery Grants will provide funding up to \$125,000 to a Principal Investigator (PI) with an active research project focused on pancreatic cancer that has been peer-reviewed by the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH) or the U.S. Department of Defense Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program (DoD-CDMRP) but is experiencing recent funding delays or uncertainties. This includes unanticipated termination or interruption of extramural funding in a non-competing continuation, a competing continuation (renewal) application, or a new application based on a body of work from the PI's laboratory that has received a meritorious score, but funding has not been awarded. Meritorious scores are considered those in the top 15th percentile by an NIH study section or that have been invited for a full application and been reviewed by the DoD-CDMRP. The application includes the peer-reviewed grant application, Summary Statement, Termination Letter (if applicable), a one-page description of the status of the project and the laboratory environment, and a budget and budget justification for a duration of up to one year.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Applications are due by January 9, 2026, at midnight Eastern Standard Time
- Funding decisions are anticipated by early March 2026
- Grant term is April 1, 2026 – March 31, 2027
- Grant recipients are expected to attend the PanCAN Scientific Summit. The meeting location and dates are to be determined.

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

- Applicants must have a doctoral degree (including PhD, MD, DO, DC, ND, DDS, DVM, ScD, DNS, PharmD or equivalent) in biomedical science or in a field applicable to health science research and may not currently be a candidate for a further doctoral degree.
- Applicant must be Principal Investigator (PI) on a federal award who either
 - received notification in 2025 of sudden, unanticipated termination in extramural funding prior to the anticipated project end date/no-cost extension date, through no action of the PI, or routine course of grant activity
- OR**
- expected to be funded in 2025 (received a Summary Statement containing scores and critiques as communicated by the agency delegate) but has not received the anticipated funding because of federal agency delays.
- Applicant must be performing the work at an academic, medical or research institution within the United States; there are no citizenship requirements.

USE OF FUNDS

Up to \$125,000 total is available for critical research expenses over a one-year term. Indirect costs up to 10% of the total award may be requested. Expenses such as technician or post-doctoral fellow salaries, the cost of maintaining critical animal colonies, and maintenance contracts on essential equipment are recognized as high-priority items for bridge funding. Other expenses are allowed with appropriate justification. Resources should be used to maintain research productivity over the period of the award; no-cost extensions will be considered only in exceptional circumstances.

RESEARCH PROJECT CRITERIA

- Research projects must have **direct** applicability and relevance to pancreatic cancer. They may be in any discipline of basic, clinical, translational or epidemiological research, and fall within at least one of the categories of the [Common Scientific Outline](#) (Biology; Etiology; Prevention; Early Detection, Diagnosis, and Prognosis; Treatment; or Cancer Control, Survivorship, and Outcomes Research).
- The request must identify the essential components needed to complete the project that will be supported by the bridge funding.

EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS

Applications will be reviewed by a Programmatic Review Committee consisting of scientists, clinicians, and patient advocates. The Committee will consider the following criteria when reviewing the applications:

- Scientific merit – determined by submitted Abstract and scientific review Summary Statement
- Strategic fit for purpose – the likelihood that the bridge funding will maintain an important and worthwhile component of the research enterprise
- Impact on patient outcomes – the relative potential of the project to impact patient outcomes in the short- or long-term

APPLICATION COMPONENTS (to be completed online using the ProposalCentral site)

You will need to register for an account on [ProposalCentral](#) if you do not already have one. To apply, log in and search for “Research Recovery” program within the Grant Opportunities tab for the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network. Select “Apply Now” and enter information directly into the online submission platform and complete the following sections.

SECTION 1: Title Page

SECTION 2: Download Templates and Instructions

- Research Recovery Grant Instructions

SECTION 3: Enable Other Users to Access this Proposal

SECTION 4: Applicant Information

- Professional Profile

SECTION 5: Institution & Contacts

- Lead Institution Profile
- Post-Award Institutional Contact

SECTION 6: Scientific Abstract

- Copy directly from your reviewed grant application or modify to highlight what can be accomplished with this bridge funding

SECTION 7: Budget Period Detail

- Enter budget details for up to \$125,000 over a one-year term

SECTION 8: Budget

- Review budget detail summary and provide budget justification

SECTION 9: Secured and Pending Support

SECTION 10: Application Documents

Upload the following documents:

- Reviewed grant application for which bridge funding is requested
- Summary Statement provided by the NIH or DoD-CDMRP review process
- Letter of Request. Two pages maximum. The letter should be written on institutional letterhead and describe:
 - the situation that resulted in notification in 2025 of sudden, unanticipated termination in extramural funding prior to the anticipated project end date/no-cost extension date, through no action of the PI, or routine course of grant activity OR delay of new funding for a project that received a Summary Statement containing fundable scores and critiques as communicated by the agency delegate but has not received the anticipated funding because of federal agency delays
 - the progress made on the aims of the proposed project to date
 - the rationale for the selection of the requested components for support if the entire project cannot be supported with bridge funding
 - the progress anticipated within the financial and time constraints of the requested Research Recovery Award
- Notice Letter of Unanticipated Termination of Extramural Funding (if applicable) if you are applying as a PI who experienced unanticipated termination of active grant

SECTION 11: Validate

SECTION 12: E-Signature and Application Download

SECTION 13: Submit

PLEASE DIRECT QUESTIONS TO:

Research Grants Department | grants@pancan.org



THE PANCREATIC CANCER ACTION NETWORK

leads the way in accelerating critical progress for pancreatic cancer patients. We take bold action by funding life-saving research, providing personalized patient services and creating a community of supporters and volunteers who will stop at nothing to create a world in which all pancreatic cancer patients will thrive.