



OUR 2023-24 RESEARCH GRANTS CYCLE IS NOW OPEN! LOI DUE 10/15/2023

We are excited to learn of your new ideas in therapeutic cancer prevention.

The goal of CPI's research grant program is to identify and provide seed funding for innovative projects that have the potential to make substantial contributions to the development of therapeutic interventions for the prevention of inherited cancers.

We welcome research ideas from all individuals irrespective of their background or professional roles. You need not be a principal investigator or a clinician to apply. If you have a new idea for a project rooted in scientific rationale and the potential to revolutionize cancer prevention, we encourage you to apply.

Our aim is to bridge funding gaps by considering projects that may not align with the conventional criteria of established funding agencies.

We firmly believe that prevention is better than treatment. Therefore, we are actively seeking to attract the best minds in the field of cancer research to join our efforts in cancer prevention research.

CPI 2023-24 RESEARCH GRANTS - REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Research grants are up to \$ 150,000 per year for a period of up to three (3) years.

We are open to considering both short-term pilot projects and long-term in-depth studies.

Two step application process:

- Letter of Intent (LOI) Application – required from all applicants.
- Full Application - by invitation only for projects chosen for funding consideration based on LOI.

KEY DATES

LOI Application submission deadline: October 15th, 2023, 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time

Notification of LOI decision by January 31st, 2024

Full Application submission deadline: March 15th, 2024

Target project start date: June 1st, 2024

FUNDING PRIORITIES

We accept proposals that could lead to the prevention of any inherited cancer. We will consider research projects that can contribute to broader understanding in various areas related to premalignant stages, transformation, early detection, and the development of assays/models and preventive therapies.

Studies that propose to study established cancers and cancer treatments will not be considered for funding.

Priority will be given to proposals focused on the following categories:

1. The Basic Biology of Cancer Initiation

This broad category includes discovery research that will increase our knowledge and understanding of early, pre-cancer stages - research that will identify and characterize molecular biological and cellular changes that occur during early stages of inherited cancer following the initial genetic lesion and as well as mechanisms restraining precancer stages.

We hope that successful completion of research in this category will generate knowledge that helps to identify novel biomarkers for early detection and risk assessment and novel targets that can be exploited for the development of preventive agents.

Research could include, but is not limited to, study of oncogenic targets and signaling pathways; genetic/epigenetic, proteomic, and metabolomic changes related to transformation; the immune microenvironment of pre- and early-cancer; contributions of the microbiome to transformation. We will prioritize studies that can fill knowledge gaps that have hindered early detection and the development of preventive measures. Projects may also include those that propose the development of preclinical assays and models to understand mechanisms of transformation.

2. Early Detection

Development of technologies that could enable early detection of cancer at preneoplastic or premalignant stages. Development of tests to distinguish malignant vs benign preneoplastic lesions. May include projects that could help stratify the risk for cancer in individuals with genetic predispositions. Projects could include, but are not limited to, research that could lead to the discovery and validation of biomarkers and the development of diagnostic tests.

3. Early Intervention

Development of interventions to intercept early tumorigenic events to reduce cancer risk. May include projects that propose to develop predictive preclinical assays for effective and efficient screening; further the scientific insights into the mechanisms of cancer prevention by the agents examined; characterize the effects of known or potential preventive agents on their molecular targets and on any biological events associated with cancer development; functionally validate targets that can be potentially exploited for the development of cancer preventive therapies.

Chemoprevention: Develop and test new pharmacologic agents or re-purpose existing agents for early interception of cancer.

Immunoprevention: Develop strategies to harness the anti-cancer activities of the immune system and to suppress the cancer-promoting functions of the immune system to eliminate cancer cells early.

APPLICATION GUIDELINES & REVIEW PROCESS

All applications must be submitted electronically through Proposal Central at <http://proposalcentral.com>.

All interested researchers must submit a Letter of Intent (LOI).

The LOIs will be reviewed by a panel of select members of CPI's Scientific Advisory Board and other experts in relevant fields. The LOIs will be assessed for how well they address one or more of CPI's funding priorities and for innovation, significance, feasibility, potential for clinical translation, etc. Select projects that we wish to evaluate further in detail will be invited to submit a Full Application.

The LOI review is a highly selective process where the projects are assessed for their scientific merit. The projects that are selected are strongly considered for funding. Therefore, we encourage you to ensure that you clearly state how well the project meets the review criteria in your LOI.

Funding determination will be made at the end of the Full Application review. Financial support for proposals is at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

LETTER OF INTENT (LOI) APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

The LOI application is due **October 15th, 2023, at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time (ET)**

The following sections are required in the LOI application. More details can be found in the [LOI Instructions](#) document and the [LOI Detailed Instructions](#) document.

Abstract: A scientific abstract is required. A general audience summary is optional at the LOI phase of the application. Abstracts are limited to 3,000 characters.

LOI Narrative: Follow the formatting guidelines listed in the [LOI Narrative Template](#).

The LOI Narrative is limited to two (2) pages and must include all the following sections (A-D):

- A. Research Question: Hypothesis and Objective
- B. Background and Significance
 - 1. Background
 - 2. What CPI Funding Priority will this proposal address?
 - 3. Describe how the completion of the proposed research project could provide a definitive resolution of the hypothesis and/or advance the field of cancer prevention
- C. Feasibility: Briefly describe the scientific basis for the proposed research and the feasibility for achieving a successful outcome
- D. Specific Aims & Timeline: Describe the research aims and timetable for completion, including intermediate milestones

References: Include only the most relevant references. References are limited to one (1) page.

Biosketches: Biosketches are required for all key personnel. Use the [NIH biosketch template](#).

Budget: A detailed budget is not required at the LOI phase of the application. The budget can be up to \$150,000 per year, up to a period of three (3) years. Awards are limited to a maximum total of \$450,000.

FULL APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

The Full Application is due March 15, 2024

Details regarding Full Application submission will be released at the end of the LOI review process.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS AND TEMPLATES

- [LOI Instructions](#)
- [LOI Detailed Instructions](#)
- [LOI Narrative Template](#)
- [Biosketch Template \(NIH format\)](#)

You may refer to the ProposalCentral tutorials below for detailed instructions.

- [How to Create an Application Using ProposalCentral](#)
- [How to Register as a ProposalCentral User](#)
- [How to Register your Institution with ProposalCentral User](#)

For grant inquiries, contact the CPI Grants team via email at Grants@CancerPreventionInitiative.org.

For assistance using ProposalCentral, contact ProposalCentral customer support via email at pcsupport@altum.com or by calling toll-free (800) 875-2562 (U.S. and Canada) or 1(703) 964-5840 (international direct dial). ProposalCentral support hours are from 8:30AM to 5:30PM EST.