



Yosemite-American Cancer Society Award 2024 Request for Applications

Submission Timeline: March 1, 2024 (open) – May 10, 2024 (deadline)

TOPIC #1

AI has the potential to revolutionize biotechnology and healthcare delivery. Technologies are revolutionizing how we can predict protein folding, gene expression, how patients are diagnosed at the point of care, and more. Broadly accessible tools like these have the ability to transform drug discovery and development, diagnostics and prognostics, clinical care delivery, and healthcare administration. The **Yosemite-American Cancer Society Award** supports projects pioneering the application of transformative AI models to make novel discoveries with the potential to impact how we care for cancer patients. We believe AI will continue to accelerate the pace of innovation in healthcare and broaden the reach into communities to reduce health inequities. Many of these discoveries will come from top researchers thinking deeply about how new tools in the space may unlock insights in their own work.

Project proposals should fit into one of two broad categories:

- Advancing the AI technology stack for biotechnology and healthcare delivery
 - Research that supports model development, data storage and transmission, orchestration, observability, security, and validation
 - Health system, pharma, or payer administrative efficiency. Examples include:
 - Health system - Hospital operations, staffing and scheduling, billing and revenue cycle management, referral management and scheduling, and prior authorization
 - Payers - Payer operations efficiency research, including improvements to claims processing, payment integrity, fraud, waste and abuse, network contracting and management, and prior authorization
 - Pharma - Accelerating research, clinical trial optimization, supply chain optimization
- Applications of AI tools in ways that can impact cancer patients, including:
 - Novel pathways / target discovery
 - Drug design across any modality
 - Tumor microenvironment and immune cell phenotypes
 - Screening and early detection
 - Therapeutic decision support
 - Digital pathology
 - Symptom management

TOPIC #2

We have seen an incredible pace of innovation in immuno-oncology and various cell therapy approaches, all of which would benefit from innovation in tumor microenvironment modulation, including:

- Removing the immunosuppressive microenvironment
- Removing deleterious cell types in the TME
- Bolstering helpful cell phenotypes
- Novel TIL approaches
- Targeting angiogenesis



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ADDITIONAL DETAILS

The **Yosemite-American Cancer Society Award** supports innovative research to develop methodologies, establish feasibility, or pilot high risk/high reward projects to advance the prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of cancer as outlined above in topic #1 or #2. Preliminary data are not required. Priority will be given to projects that are highly innovative, feasible within a two-year maximum timeframe, and are poised to make an impact on cancer prevention, treatment, and healthcare delivery.

ELIGIBILITY

Investigators at any career stage with a faculty appointment or full-time employment position at one of the Invited Institutions (see below) are eligible to apply.

TERM AND BUDGET

Yosemite-American Cancer Society Award grantees are funded at up to \$300,000 direct costs for one or two year projects. Indirect cost of 10% are included with a maximum allowable budget of \$330,000 total costs for a two-year project period. These grants are not renewable or transferable to a different institution.

Applications should not exceed six pages (one page for Specific Aims). Page limits do not apply to biosketch or references. Budgets submitted must be realistic estimates of the funds required for the proposed research.

APPLY NOW

Applications must be submitted via <https://proposalcentral.com/>. To request application link and instructions, please contact Yosemite@cancer.org

INVITED INSTITUTIONS

Cambridge University
Columbia University
Cornell University
Duke University
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
Harvard University
Johns Hopkins University
MD Anderson Cancer Center
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Mayo Clinic
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

The Rockefeller University
University of Oxford
University of California at San Francisco
University of Pennsylvania
Stanford University
Technion-Israel Institute of Technology
Tel Aviv University
Washington University, St. Louis
Weizmann Institute of Science
Yale University