

IMPORTANT: Eligible applicants **MUST** reach out to Dr. Doug Hurst for application materials. Email is doug.hurst@cancer.org



American Cancer Society Catalyst Awards

PURPOSE

The American Cancer Society has a longstanding commitment to fund impactful cancer research and invest in the careers of researchers, often early on in their careers. We recognize that there has been a decrease in available funding for cancer research, resulting in a surplus of innovative and potentially impactful research projects that have gone unfunded. To this end, the American Cancer Society announces the American Cancer Society (ACS) Catalyst Award. The purpose of the Catalyst Award opportunity is to catalyze the research of early-stage investigators with high-scoring, but unfunded research projects recently submitted to either the American Cancer Society – Research Scholar Grant or the National Cancer Institute – R01 grant funding mechanisms. Through the Catalyst Awards, ACS intends to sustain the projects and investigators as they continue to apply for research grants, including resubmissions of their unfunded proposals.

SCIENTIFIC SCOPE

The applicant must clearly articulate and justify the need for the ACS Catalyst Award. We encourage applications in all areas of cancer research; special consideration will be given to those addressing ACS priorities of:

- Prevention, screening, early detection, and cancer recurrence
- Health care implementation, the uptake of evidence-based cancer care, and survivorship
- Improving the mortality from prostate cancer
- Improving equitable access to care and reducing cancer disparities
- Bench-to-bedside translation

ELIGIBILITY AND BUDGET

The principal investigator must have a doctoral degree, work at a U.S. academic institution or eligible non-profit, and have an independent faculty appointment (or equivalent position). ACS guidelines for independence are located in the Policies document.

In addition, the applicant must meet the following criteria:

- Must have applied for an ACS Research Scholar Grant April 2023-April 2024 and received a score of Outstanding following review, but the application was not funded **OR** must have applied for an NIH R01 to the NCI in 2023 or 2024 and scored in the 20th percentile or lower but missed the payline cutoff.
- Applicants cannot be the PI of more than one current or past R01/R01-equivalent grant at the time of application. An R01-equivalent grant is a grant that is **more than** \$100,000 direct costs per year and is for **more than** 3 years.
- The scope of the ACS Catalyst Award submission cannot be currently funded by another funding agency.

Each award is for one year and \$150,000 direct costs only. Indirect costs cannot be claimed.



All application instructions and materials are located on ProposalCentral, and eligible applicants will be given access to the materials by the ACS.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

The American Cancer Society plans to fund up to \$5 million in ACS Catalyst Awards. The funds are expected to support applicants as they apply for grants.

Timeline:

Application Deadline: September 9, 2024

Application Review and Decisions: September 2024

Notification: October 2024

Grant Start: no later than January 1, 2025

Program Contact:

- ACS Research Scholar Grant applicants should work directly with their ACS scientific program office.
- NIH R01 applicants may contact Doug Hurst, PhD at doug.hurst@cancer.org.