



Finding the funds:

Private funding and training opportunities



Jun. 14, 2023 | 1–2:30 p.m. Eastern



Table of Contents



Overview & Scope

Funding Opportunities

Logistics & Application Process

Alzheimer's Association: Funding, Collaboration & Convening Opportunities

**Stefania Forner, Ph.D.
Director, Medical & Scientific Relations**

Funding



ISTAART



Conferences



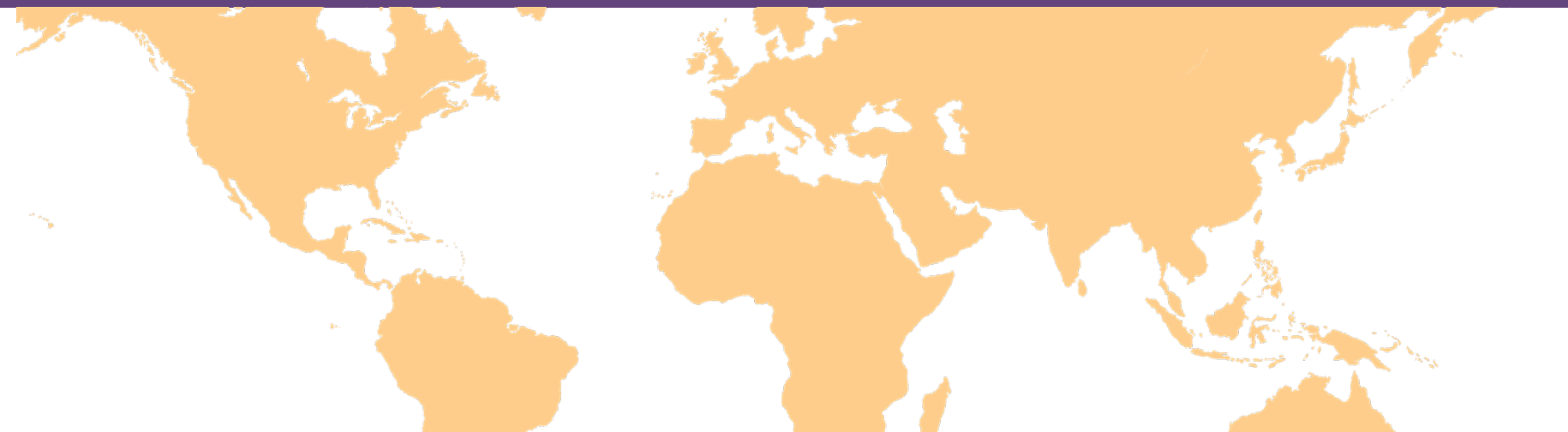
ALZHEIMER'S  ASSOCIATION®

Vision: A world without
**Alzheimer's disease and
all other dementia.**



1-800-272-3900

alz.org



Our Research Strategy

- Dynamic
- Durable
- Multi-dimensional
- Multi-faceted



SEED

new ideas to develop therapies; tools for earlier, accurate diagnosis; care interventions; and more

SPEED

scientific discovery

SCALE

to accelerate the science

The Largest Nonprofit Funder of Alzheimer's & All Dementia Research in the World



Find GRANT info at
alz.org/grants



\$320M

currently
active



1000+

projects



54

countries

ALZ Early Career and New to Field Research Grants

**PROGRAMS OFFERED 2X
ANNUALLY**

Next cycle will open: Summer 2023

more info: alz.org/grants

contact: grantsapp@alz.org

Clinician Scientist
Fellowship
(AACSF)

Clinician Scientist
Fellowship
to Promote Diversity
(AACSF-D)

Research Grant
(AARG)

Research Grant
to Promote
Diversity
(AARF-D)

Research Fellowship
(AARF)

Research Fellowship
to Promote Diversity
(AARF-D)

Research Grant
New to the Field
(AARG-NTF)

Research Grant
New to the Field
to Promote
Diversity
(AARG-D-NTF)

Emerging Areas, Drug Discovery & Clinical Trial Research Grants

more info: alz.org/grants

contact: grantsapp@alz.org



PROGRAMS OFFERED THROUGH YEAR

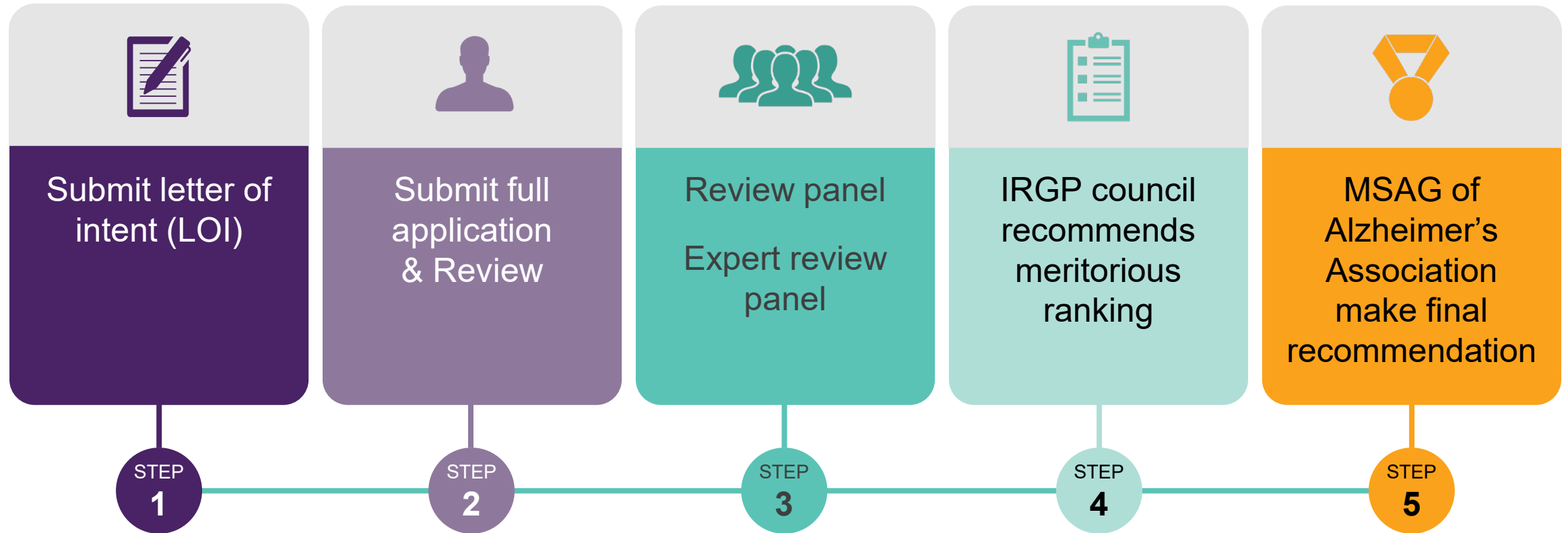
- Zenith Fellows Program (in review)
- Discovery Funding Program (in review)
- Sex & Gender Program (SAGA 23 – in review)
- Endolysosomal Dysfunction in Alzheimer's Funding Program (in review)
- Imaging Research in Alzheimer's and other Neurodegenerative diseases, in partnership with ASNR- in review



COMING SOON

- Part the Cloud Trials Program
- Tau Pipeline Enabling Program (T-PEP), in partnership with Rainwater Charitable Foundation

Funding the Best Research Worldwide Through Peer-Review



Alzheimer's Association: Peer-Review Process

STEP
1



Submit letter of
intent (LOI)

LOI's should include:

- Brief project summary, including methodology
- Specific aims of the proposed project
- Innovation/novelty of the proposed project
- Overall Impact on the field of Alzheimer's disease and related dementia
- *NTF only: includes Transition Statement

LOI's review criteria:

- Demonstrable innovation/novelty of the proposed project (especially in the context of the PIs recently funded work)
- Alignment with the research priorities of the Alzheimer's Association
- Impact of project on Alzheimer's and all other dementia research
- Evidence of methodological rigor that address the research question(s) being proposed
- *NTF only: how transitioning to the field will elevate Alzheimer's and all dementia research

AARF

Alzheimer's Association
Research Fellowship

AARF-D

Research Fellowship to
Promote Diversity



Targeting postdoc, instructor level researchers and requires a mentorship component – 13 years from Ph.D.



U\$200,000 up to 3 years, including up to U\$7,500 for travel and U\$10,000 stipend at the completion of the award for the awardee and for their mentor



Funding for the full spectrum of science – basic biology, adaptive technology, translational, clinical, social / behavioral and cognitive / functional research

AACSF

Alzheimer's Association
Clinician Scientist Fellowship



Targeting individuals with clinical service (MD, DO, Ph.D. - with clinical licensure) – 18 years from terminal degree

AACSF-D

Fellowship
to Promote Diversity



U\$250,000 up to 3 years, including U\$7,500 for travel and U\$10,000 stipend at the completion of the award for the awardee and for their mentor



Funding for the full spectrum of science – basic biology, adaptive technology, translational, clinical, social / behavioral and cognitive / functional research

Alzheimer's Association: Peer-Review Process

STEP
2



Submit full
application
& Review

FELLOWSHIPS provide:

- Statement of Mentorship (by Mentor)
- Statement of Commitment (by Fellow / Applicant)
- Area of Research (Problem Statement & Work Plan)
- Letters of support (3)

FELLOWSHIPS review criteria:

- Mentoring plan
- Applicant and originality of research plan
- Significance of question impact-risk
- Resubmission

AARG

Alzheimer's Association
Research Grant

AARG-D

Research Grant to
Promote Diversity

*(previously called New Investigator
Research Grants)*



Target for newly independent investigators – Assistant Professor and above at their institution – who are within the first 15 years of their terminal degree



Welcome applications from those “new” to Alzheimer's & related dementia research



U\$200,000 over 2 to 3 years, including U\$7,500 for travel



Funding for the full spectrum of science

AARG-NTF

Research Grant
New to the Field

AARG-D-NTF

Research Grant to
Promote Diversity
New to the Field



Emphasis on individuals that have not published or been funded in Alzheimer's or any neurodegenerative disease

In recent years, oncology, immunology, rheumatology, computer science / engineering have been represented



U\$200,000 over 2 to 3 years, including U\$7,500 for travel



Funding for the full spectrum of science

Alzheimer's Association: Peer-Review Process

STEP
2



Submit full
application
& Review

RESEARCH GRANTS provide:

- Problem Statement
- Work Plan
- *New to the Field (NTF) also includes a Transition Statement

RESEARCH GRANTS review criteria:

- Applicant information
- Quality of work plan
- Impact-risk
- Resubmission

ALL programs provide:

- Recruitment Plan
(if applicable)
- Available Resources & Budget Justification
- Biosketches
- Plan for Data Sharing
- Resubmission Statement
(if applicable)
- References

Tips for Success



ISTAART Guide to Grants

Hear from the Alzheimer's Association and the team leading the International Research Grant Program about how successful grants are evaluated, and tips for a smooth and successful applications process from current and past awardees of the Association's grant programs. A new 5-part webinar series will break down the critical components of a Fellowship application – Letter of Intent (LOI), Mentorship Statement, Applicant Statement, Work Plan and Budget. The Alzheimer's Association funds more than \$250 million more than 750 projects in 39 countries, spanning 6 continents.

Letter of Intent

Recorded: January 31, 2022

Panelists: Cynthia Lemere, Christian Salazar, Yuyu Song

[Presentation Slides](#)

Mentor Statement

Recorded: February 1, 2022

Panelists: Neus Falgàs, Bruce Lamb

[Presentation Slides](#)

Applicant Statement

Recorded February 2, 2022

Panelists: Joe Abisambra, DeAnnah Byrd, Michael Lourenco

[Presentation Slides](#)

Workplan

Recorded: February 3, 2022

Panelists: Yakeel Quiroz, Charles Windon

[Presentation Slides](#)

Budget

Recorded: February 4, 2022

Panelists: Catherine Kaczorowski, Eduardo Zimmer

[Presentation Slides](#)

Writing the BEST Fellowship Application

dementiaresearcher.nihr.ac.uk

Hosted by Dr Stefania Forner

Guests
Dr DeAnnah Byrd
Dr Joe Abisambra
Dr Eduardo Zimmer

Mecanismos de financiamento globais pela Alzheimer's Association

Recorded: July 6, 2022

Aprenda sobre os mecanismos de financiamento da Alzheimer's Association dos Estados Unidos para pesquisadores de outros países. Uma conversa com dicas sobre como escrever um projeto internacional financiado pela Alzheimer's Association com pesquisadores brasileiros.

Participação da Dra. Carolina Marinho (UFMG) e do Dr. Eduardo Zimmer (UFRGS).

Moderadores: Fernando Aguzzoli-Peres e Stefania Forner

Alzheimer's Association - Oportunidades de financiación

Recorded: January 19, 2023

El primer webinar en español sobre los Programas de Financiamiento del Programa Internacional de Subvenciones de Investigación. Nos centraremos en aspectos de la solicitud de los programas (AACSF/AARF/AARG/AARG-NTF). Escucharemos consejos e ideas de los miembros de IRGP y MSAG de la Alzheimer's Association y de beneficiarios actuales y pasados de nuestros programas.

[Presentation Slides](#)

<https://training.alz.org/Research-Webinars>

Tips for Success

contact: grantsapp@alz.org



READ the Program Announcement; it changes **EVERY** cycle – call us if you have questions



Your **LOI** is **REVIEWED**, and it is not a guarantee you will be invited to submit – please align with the RFA/ program goals



Some of our eligibility criteria is **VERY** specific; programs may be targeted



Find someone good at getting grants to help review and comment on your application **BEFORE** submitting

Tips for Success

Alzheimer's Association grants team is here to help **YOU**. Email any questions, clarifications, comments:
grantsapp@alz.org



If invited,
IDENTIFY
reviewers to
include / exclude



Read and pay
attention to the
critiques in
resubmissions



Alzheimer's
Association staff
only control so
much – but are
here to help you!
CALL or **EMAIL**
us if you have
questions



We want you to
be successful –
GOOD LUCK!

**ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A REVIEWER
FOR THE ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION GRANTS PROGRAM?**

SCAN THE QR CODE AND FILL OUT THE FORM.
(OR SEND US AN EMAIL AT grantsapp@alz.org)



ISTAART



The Alzheimer's Association's International Society To Advance Alzheimer's Research and Treatment (ISTAART)

is an inclusive global network of **7,886** on researchers, clinicians and dementia professionals who share common goals: the pursuit of knowledge, collaboration and breakthroughs.



Understanding the types of dementia and contributing factors

Atypical AD | Diversity & Disparities | Down Syndrome & AD | Frontotemporal Dementia & Related Disorders | Immunity & Neurodegeneration | Lewy Body Dementias | Neuromodulatory Subcortical Systems | Nutrition, Metabolism & Dementia | Perioperative Cognition & Delirium | Reserve, Resilience & Protective Factors | Sex & Gender Differences | Sleep & Circadian Rhythms | Vascular Cognitive Disorders

Assessing markers and manifestations of the disease process

Artificial Intelligence for Precision Dementia Medicine | Biofluid Based Biomarkers | Cognition | Design & Data Analytics | Electrophysiology | The Eye as a Biomarker for AD | Neuroimaging | Neuropsychiatric Syndromes | Subjective Cognitive Decline | Technology & Dementia

Intervening to improve outcomes

Clinical Trials Advancement & Methods | Health Policy | Nonpharmacological Interventions

Supporting professionals in advancing their careers

Alliance of Women Alzheimer's Researchers (AWARE) | Diversity & Disparities | PIA to Elevate Early-Career Researchers (PEERs) | Partnering with Research Participants

ISTAART members can join 29 Professional Interest Areas (PIAs), which span various aspects of dementia research and treatment.

ISTAART members can also stand for election to a PIA's executive committee to join global leaders in the field and drive a PIA's activities.



@ISTAART

alz.org/ISTAART

alz.org/grants

alz.org/scientificmeetings

alz.org/research-webinars

ISTAART has three membership tiers

>> **Student Membership: Free**

>> **Postdoctoral Membership: \$65***

>> **Professional Membership: \$125***

***Student, postdoctoral and professional memberships are all FREE for individuals based in low- and middle-income countries.**

The **ISTAART Ambassador Program** provides students and early postdocs with a **year-round program of volunteering** and networking opportunities.

Ambassadors gain valuable experience **volunteering** at AAIC and other in-person or virtual scientific meetings, and also build **awareness** of ISTAART's activities within their regions.



Ambassador Program is open to...

Students, both undergraduate and graduate, and early postdocs (within 2 years of obtaining PhD) world-wide

Applications open annually in February

Visit alz.org/ISTAART for more information on the program



There are also year-round opportunities to learn and network in focused meetings.

With conferences dedicated to specific **topics** - addressing burgeoning areas in research and practice, specific **locations** - growing regional networks, and specific **career-stages** - supporting the next generation of professionals.

Find **SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS** at
alz.org/scientificmeetings



ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION®

AAIC>23

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE®

JULY 16-20 > AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS, AND ONLINE

**RECORD BREAKING
NUMBER OF ABSTRACTS
SUBMITTED!**

HIGHEST NUMBER OF ABSTRACTS EVER SUBMITTED: 5,101 total abstracts submitted
(40% higher than last year (3,654 abstracts) & 23% higher than next highest year (4,154 abstracts, AAIC 2020))



Thank You!



For more information visit alz.org

GRANTS info at alz.org/grants

grantsapp@alz.org

Finding the Funds at the ACS



Lynne Elmore, PhD
Sr. Scientific Director



June 14, 2023



Vision: End cancer as we know it, for everyone.

Mission: Improve the lives of people with cancer and their families through advocacy, research, and patient support, to ensure everyone has an opportunity to prevent, detect, treat, and survive cancer.

Patient
Support



Action
through
advocacy



Advancing
discovery



Extramural Discovery Science

Research We Fund

Largest non-governmental funder of cancer research in the US

Over \$5B in research funded since the 1940's

Very often first major grant for young researchers

Historically, 50% of ACS grants are to women researchers

We've funded: >32,000 grants, >25,000 investigators, >1,100 institutions

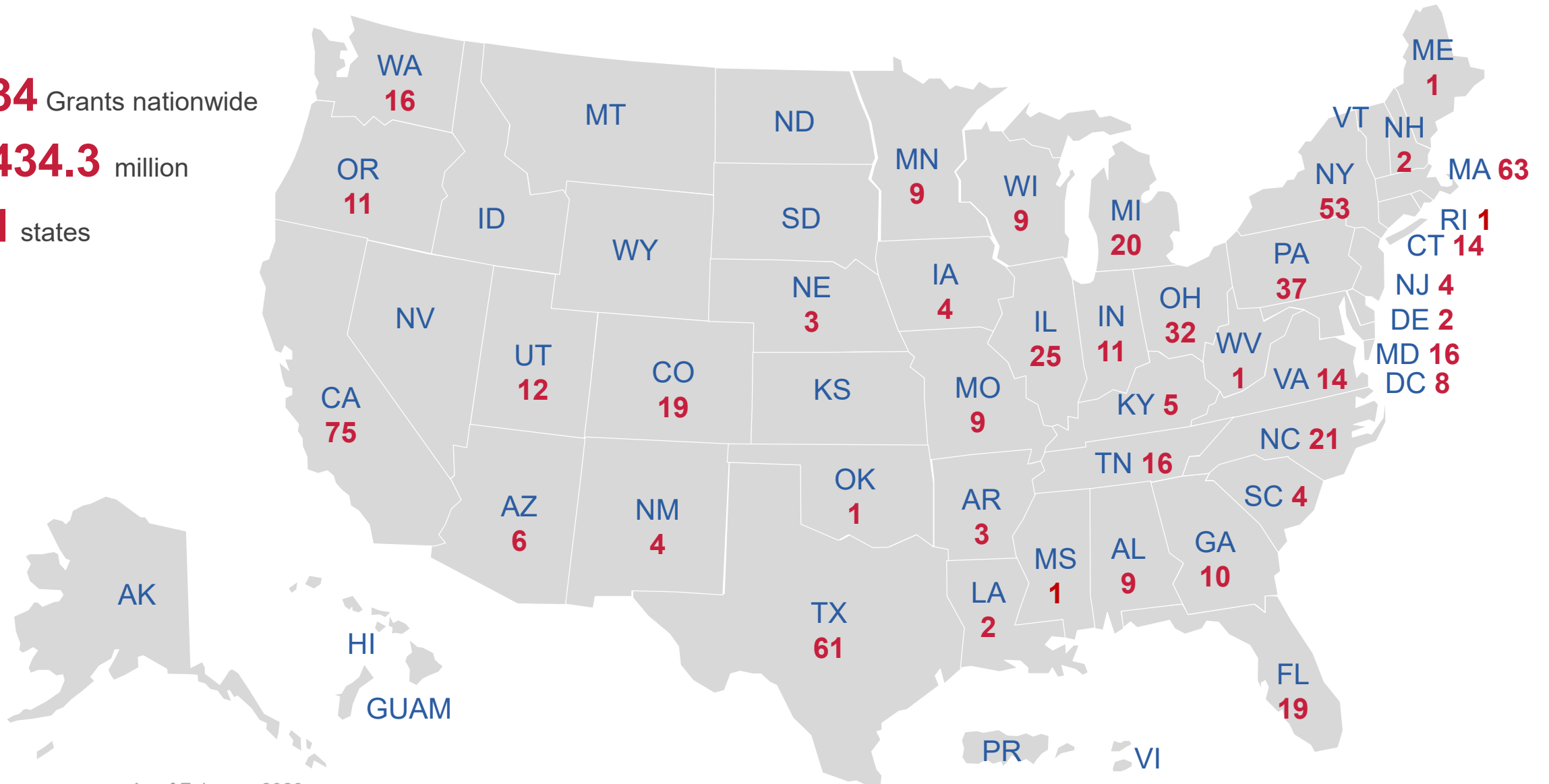


Where do we currently fund research?

634 Grants nationwide

\$434.3 million

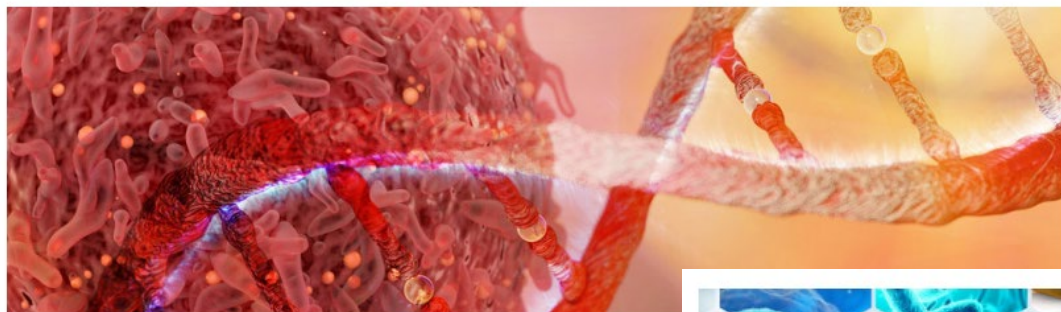
41 states



As of February 2023

ACS Research Focus

We fund research across the cancer continuum



Basic science

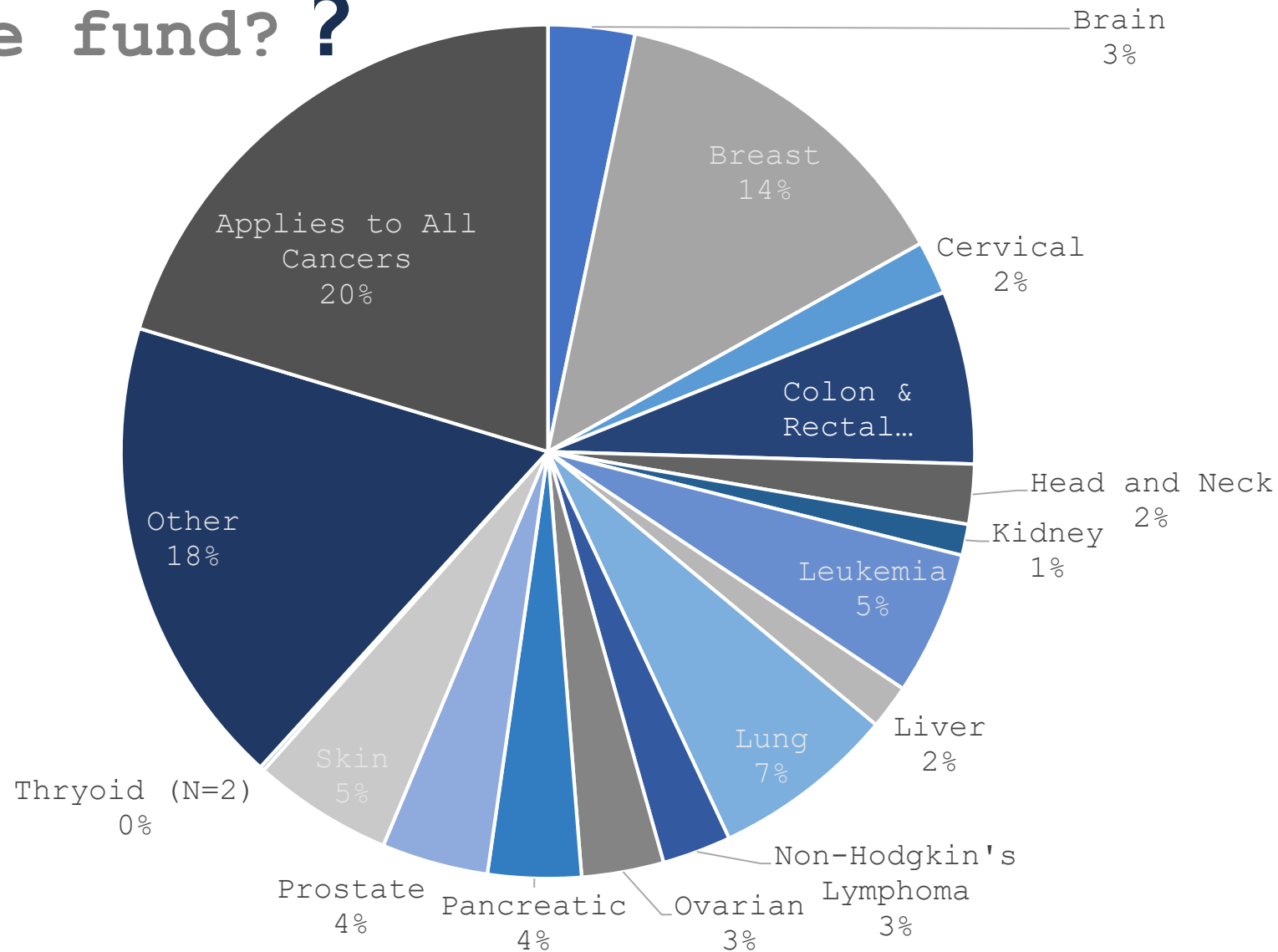
Preclinical research



Clinical research



What do we fund? ?



Our cancer research portfolio is broad - any type of cancer and within any part of the research continuum - with a special emphasis on solution-based health equity research

Extramural Discovery Science Research Programs

Scientific
Directors
Program Managers

Doug Hurst, PhD
Nicole Lopanik,

Lynne Elmore, PhD
Rachel Commander, PhD

Joanne Elena, PhD,
MPH

Scientific
Programs

Biochemistry
& Immunology
of Cancer

Cell Biology
& Preclinical
Cancer
Research

Clinical &
Cancer Control
Research

Standard
Peer Review
Committees

Immunology & Blood Cell
Development
DNA Mechanisms of Cancer
RNA Mechanisms of Cancer
Tumor Biochemistry &
Endocrinology
Mission Boost Grants

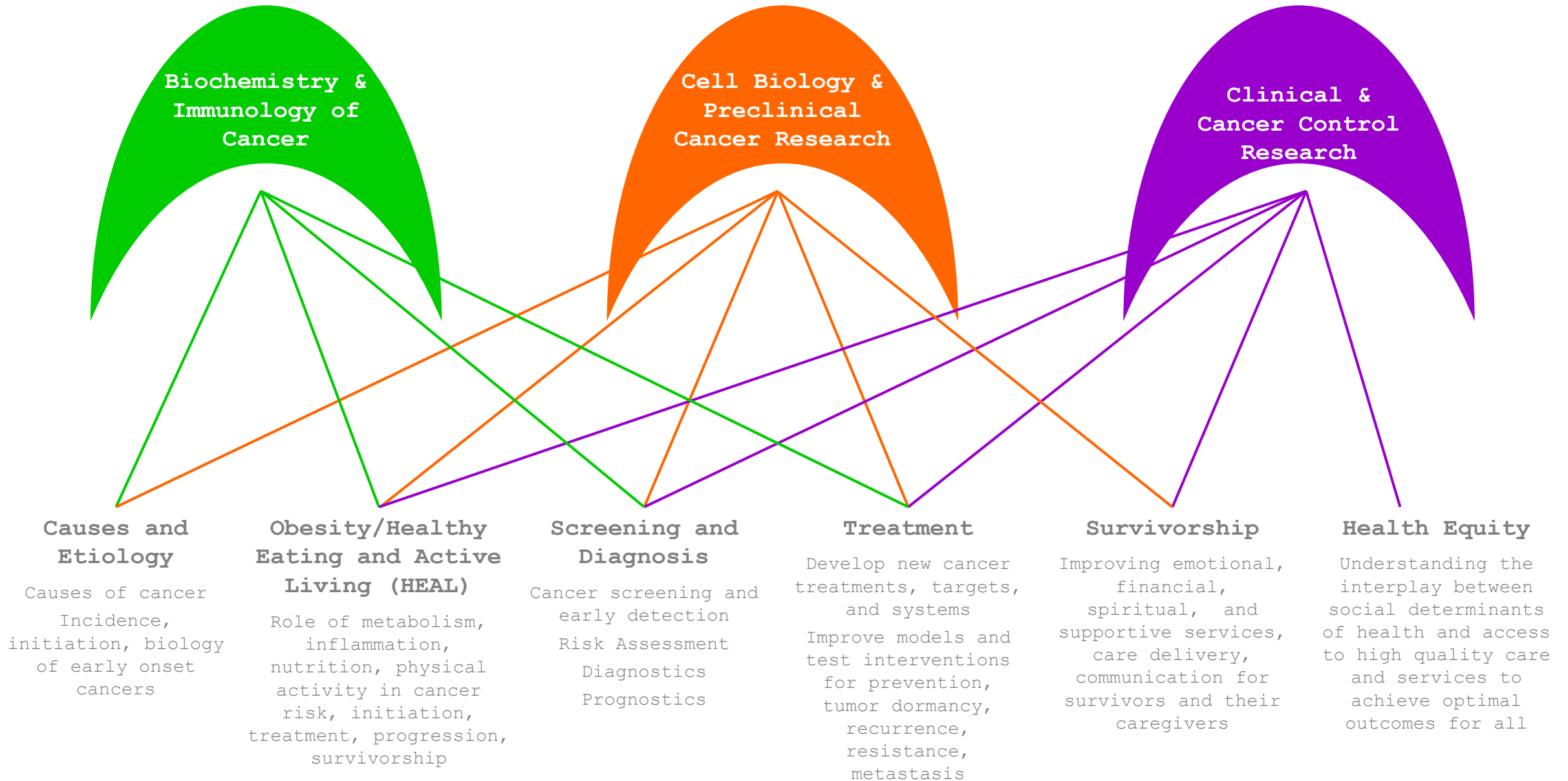
Cancer Cell Biology
Cancer Detection &
Progression
Experimental Therapeutics
Metastasis &
Microenvironment

Cancer Prevention, Screening &
Health Promotion
Cancer Trx, Palliative Care &
Survivorship
Clinical Studies & Clinical
Trials
Health Outcomes, Policy &
Systems Research
Health Equity Focus
Institutional Research Grants



**ACS has six
research priorities
that span the
cancer continuum**

Extramural Discovery Science Research Priorities





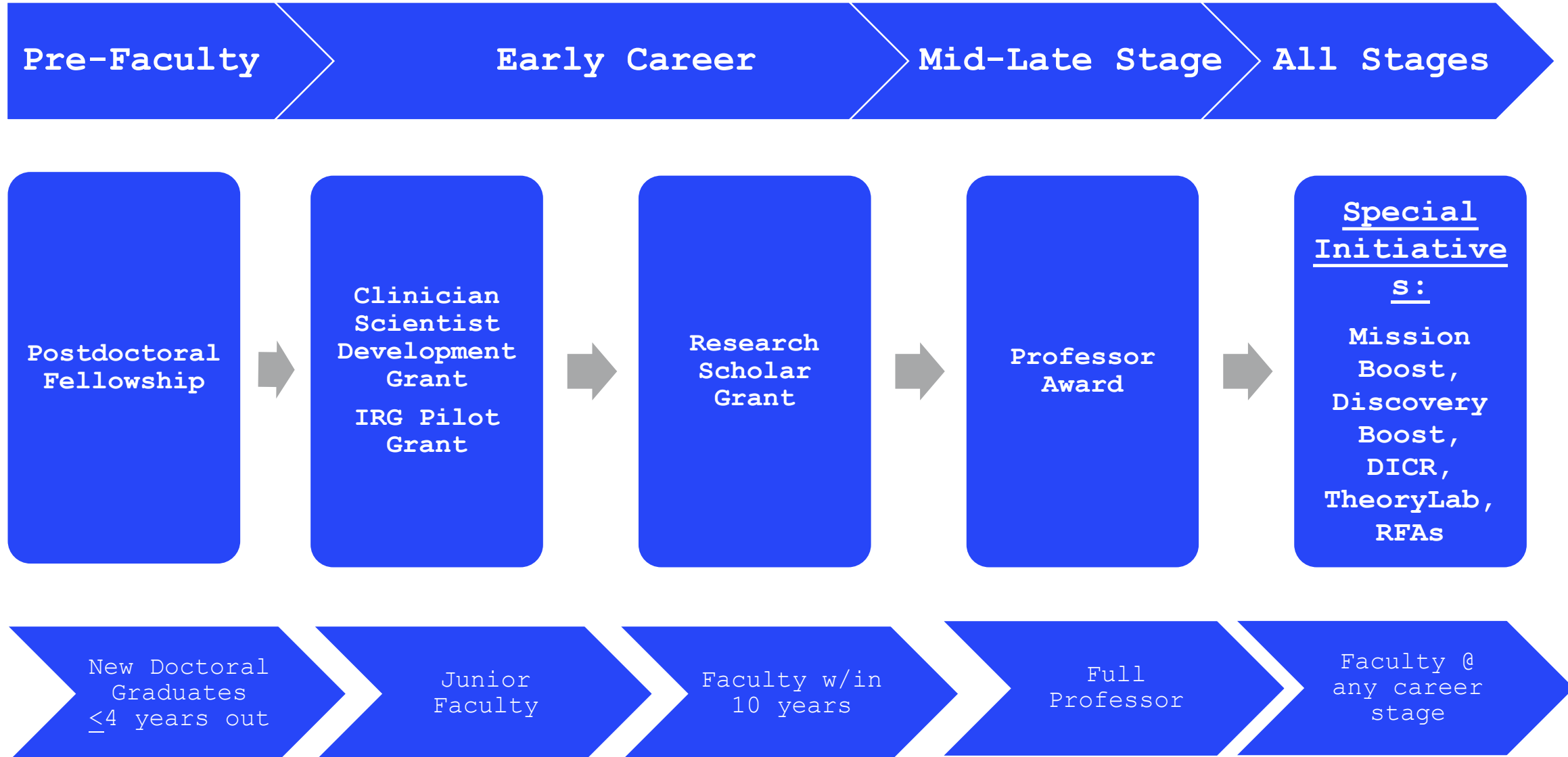
Why apply for
ACS funding?

ACS is the largest non-governmental funder of cancer research in the US



- 30,000+ grants since 1946
- Three programs covering all aspects of cancer research
- Focus on innovative, early-career investigators, but also increasing investments for researchers at later stages in their career
- 50 Nobel Laureates funded prior to their award
- ~70% of current NCI Cancer Center Directors received ACS funding
- We are committed to helping ESIs succeed
- Being a part of the ACS ecosystem has many perks (e.g., conferences, mini-symposia, special funding opportunities)

ACS Grant Mechanisms and Stage of Career



Standard Research Grant Mechanisms

Standard Grant Mechanisms	Intent	Eligibility	Max Term	Max Award	Percent Effort
Postdoctoral Fellowship (PF)	Provide salary support for new doctoral graduates participating in post-doctoral cancer research, to receive mentoring, training, and partake in research	Training at a US institution; within 4 years of receiving a doctoral degree	3 years	\$217,500 (\$66,68,000-\$70,000/year, direct cost only) Plus: 4K discretionary stipend, 1.5K travel to Jiler Conference	100% non-clinicians 80-100% clinicians
Clinician Scientist Development Grant (CSDG)	Provide support to allow/protect time for new clinical faculty to receive mentoring, research training, and conduct cancer research	Licensed clinician with a role in patient care	3-5 years	\$729,000 (\$135,000/year +8% Indirect cost)	50% minimum
Research Scholar Grant (RSG)	To support both innovation launch and career launch to research independence for early-career investigators	Within 10 years of 1 st faculty appointment*	4 years	\$960,000 (\$200,000/year +20% indirect cost)	Varies
Discovery Boost Grants	Test feasible and collect pilot data to inform future research	Full-tie faculty at US institution	2 years	\$300,000 (100,000/year directs +20 % indirect)	No minimum
Mission Boost Grants (MBG)	Move preclinical research to first in human studies	Select current and former ACS research grantees	Phase 1: 24 months Phase 2: 18 months	Stage 1: \$240,000 Stage 2: \$600,000	No minimum

Applications accepted April 1 and October 15 annually

See <https://www.cancer.org/research/we-fund-cancer-research/apply-research-grant.html>



Research Scholar Grant (RSG)

Purpose

Provide support for independent, self-directed researchers

Eligibility

Investigators within first 10 years of initial independent research career or full-time faculty appointment

Term and Budget

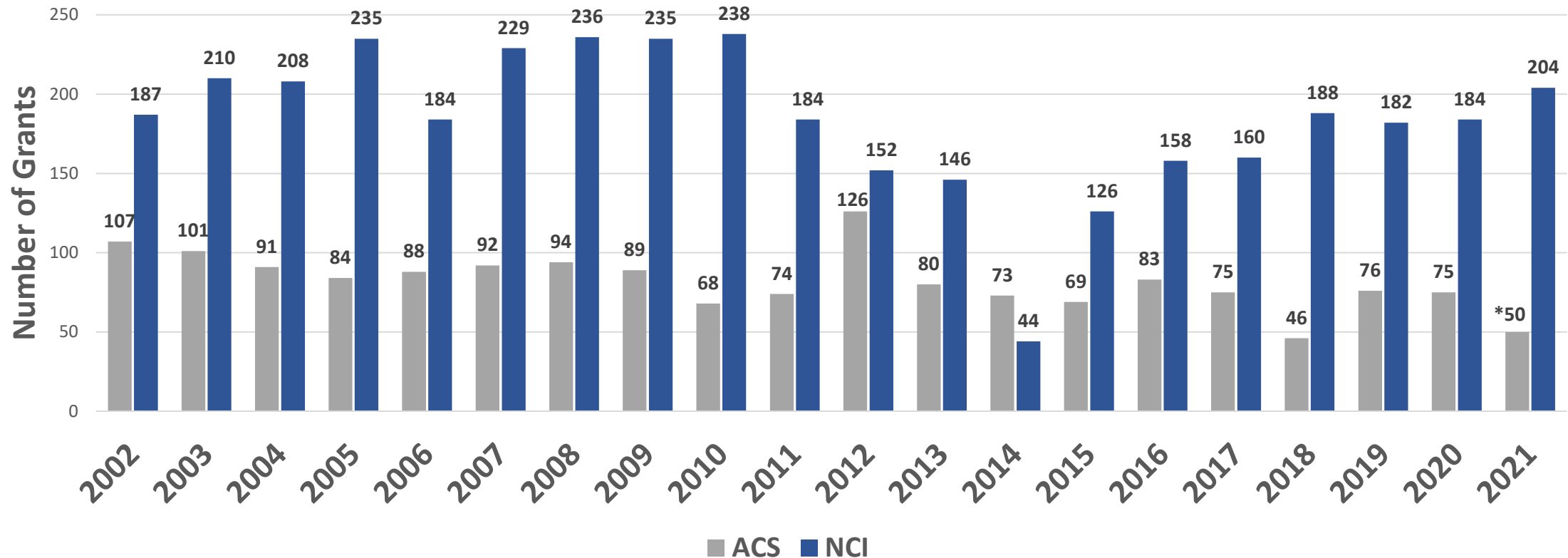
Up to 4 years and \$165,000 per year in direct costs, plus 20% allowable indirect costs

Percent effort

> 0%



ACS Funding of First Time Research Scholar Grants vs. NCI Funding of First Time R01s



Despite having only, a small fraction of the budget, ACS funds nearly ½ the number of early-career investigators as the NCI.

*FY2021 grants reflect a reduced number of application cycles due to covid

Discovery Boost Grant (DBG)

Purpose

To fund exploratory research to develop research methodologies, establish feasibility, or pilot test high-risk/high-reward research across the research continuum

Eligibility

Independent investigators at any career stage

Term and Budget

Two years and \$125,000 per year direct costs, plus 20% allowable indirect costs (\$300K total)

Can resubmit once



Mission Boost Grant (MBG)

Purpose

To support select current and past ACS grantees specifically for the translation of their research to human testing

Innovative, high-risk/high-reward projects

Eligibility

Current and past ACS grantees, including former ACS Postdoctoral Fellows

Term and Budget

Stage I: Two years and \$100,000 per year direct costs, plus 20% allowable indirect costs

Stage II: 18 months, maximum of \$500,000 direct, plus 20% indirect costs

Can resubmit once



Clinician Scientist Development Grant (CSDG)

Purpose

Support junior faculty members in becoming independent investigators as clinician scientists

Designed for people trained primarily as clinicians

Eligibility

Full-time, board-certified junior faculty who see patients

Cannot be PI of an R-level grant or a comparable mentored award

Term and Budget

3 to 5 years and \$135,000 per year in direct costs, plus 8% allowable indirect costs; PI must justify years of training

Percent effort

50% minimum



Postdoctoral Fellowship (PF)

Purpose

Support a program of research training to position a new investigator for an independent career in cancer research

Eligibility

Have had your doctoral degree for **LESS than 4 years** (time spent in clinical-only training is not counted)

Open to US citizens **and non-citizens** holding an appropriate visa when application is submitted

Term and Budget

2 or 3 years with progressive stipends of **\$66,000, \$68,000, and \$70,000** per year, plus \$4,000 per year fellowship allowance; \$1,500 travel allowance in last year to present at a conference, such as the biannual Jiler conference

Percent effort

100%

- Can resubmit once
- Generous parental leave policy

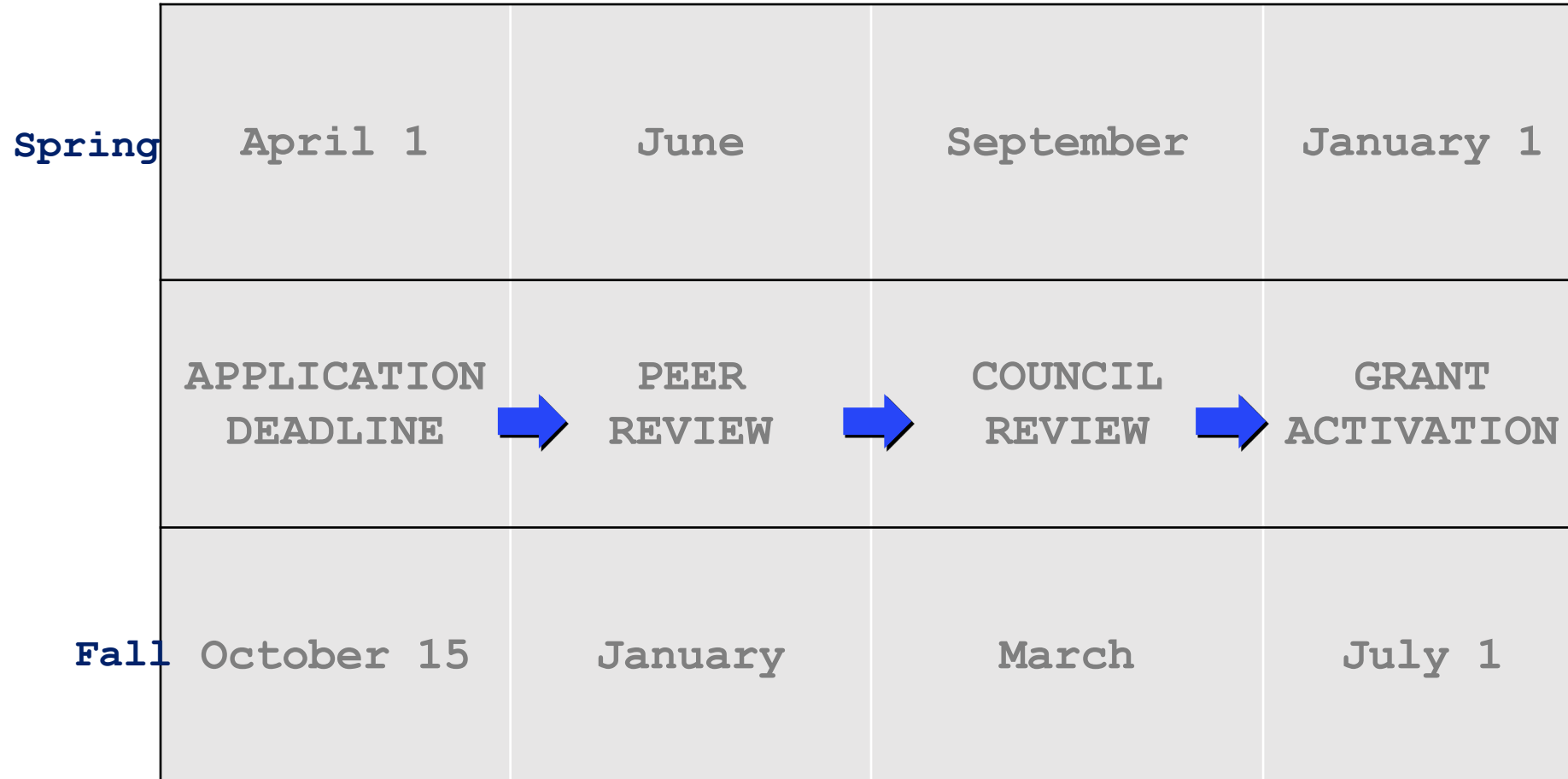


See [Cancer.org](https://www.cancer.org) for these and other special initiatives

- ACS Professor Awards
- Priority Area of Screening
- Priority Area of Health Equity (CHERCs)
- AHEAD Discovery Boost Awards
- TheoryLab Collaborative (TLC) Pilot Grants

<https://www.cancer.org/research/we-fund-cancer-research/apply-research-grant.html>

Peer Review Process - Timeline



Paylines



All Investigators					
ACS Mechanism	FY 2022 Payline	5-Year Average Payline	NCI Mechanism	FY 2022 Payline	5-Year Average Payline
Research Scholar Grant (RSG)	21%	15%	R01	9%†	12%†
Discovery Boost Grants (DBG)	12%	*No 5-year average because this is a new mechanism as of S22	R21	9%†	10%†

Young Investigators*					
ACS Mechanism	FY 2022 Payline	5-Year Average Payline	NCI Mechanism	FY 2022 Payline	5-Year Average Payline
Research Scholar Grant (RSG)	21%	15%	R01	14%†	16%†
Discovery Boost Grants (DBG)	13%	*No 5-year average because this is a new mechanism as of S22	R21	9%†	10%†
Postdoctoral Fellowship (PF)	20%	18%	F32	15%	22%
Clinician Scientist Development Grant (CSDG)	24%	16%	K08	31%	33%

* Young Investigators are either post doctoral fellows or investigators who are within 10 years of receiving their first faculty appointment

† Actual success rates for 2022 R01 and R21 grants are not yet available, so announced paylines were used for these figures



Thank you!

See cancer.org for more info.

Lynne.Elmore@cancer.org
Grant.Eligibility@cancer.org

Grants@cancer.org

Inside the AHA's Research Enterprise: Grant Funding and Other Opportunities

Jessica M. Biddinger
National Senior Director
Research & Grants Administration



American
Heart
Association.



American
Heart
Association®

BRIEF OVERVIEW

- **Grant Funding Opportunities at AHA**
 - Across the career stage
 - Application expectations and timelines
 - The peer review process
- **Service and Career Development Opportunities**



American
Heart
Association.

MISSION AND GOALS

AHA Mission

To be a relentless force for a world of longer, healthier lives.

2024 Impact Goal

Every person deserves the opportunity for a full, healthy life.

As champions for health equity, by 2024, the American Heart Association will advance cardiovascular health for all, including identifying and removing barriers to health care access and quality.

RESEARCH: The Foundation of our Work



- **\$5 billion since 1949**
- 1,440 active awards
- \$462 million committed
- 1,850 volunteer reviewers in 2021-22
- >3,000 proposals and approx. 700 awards in 2021-22



American
Heart
Association.

AHA RESEARCH AWARDS



- Open to all academic and health professionals
- Broadening our reach - engineers, psychologists, computer scientists, etc.
- Clinical, translational, population, behavioral, and basic science
- Strongly encourage applications by women, those from groups under-represented in research, those with non-traditional career trajectories
- Strong interest in health equity, social determinants of health, structural racism
- Research across the lifespan

FOUNDATIONAL RESEARCH FUNDING

<https://professional.heart.org/en/research-programs/aha-funding-opportunities>

In a typical year, the AHA offers research funding largely based on career stage:

- Predoctoral Fellowship - Sept. 6
- Postdoctoral Fellowship - Sept. 7
- Institutional Award for Undergraduate Student Training - Sept. 13
- AHA Institutional Research Enhancement Award (AIREA) - Sept. 14
- Career Development Award - Dec. 6
- Collaborative Sciences Award
- Innovative Project Award
- Transformational Project Award
- Merit Award - LOI due July 13 (required for full proposal submission)



WEBINARS

Special Sessions For
Most Programs

Listed on
Application
Resources page

Next General Session
To be announced

- AHA Research award offerings
- Application tips
- Review process
- Q & A session

<https://professional.heart.org/en/research-programs/application-resources>

All are invited



American
Heart
Association®

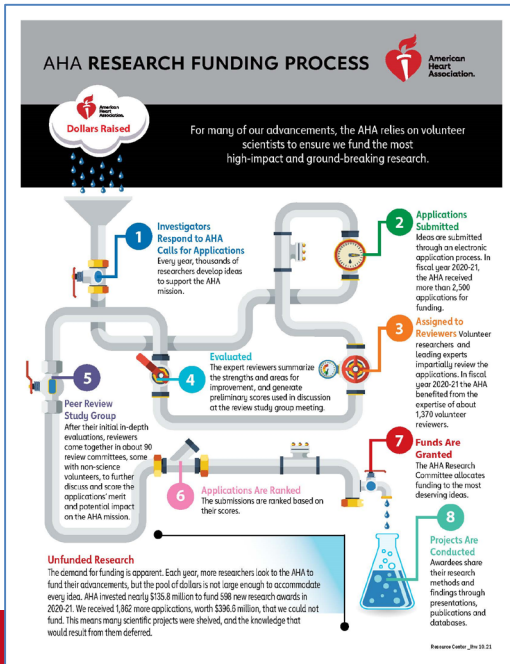
OPTIMIZE YOUR CHANCE OF FUNDING

Application Resources

<https://professional.heart.org/en/research-programs/application-resources>

Internal and external tools: Fact sheets, articles, videos, online tools

- AHA Research Application & Award Process
- Step-by-step application instructions
- Lay summary
- Career development plan
- Biosketch
- Writing a proposal
- Peer Review & Scoring





American
Heart
Association.

APPLICATION TIPS



- ✓ Some require pre-proposal (LOI)
- ✓ Follow the instructions on ProposalCentral screens & AHA Application Instructions document
- ✓ Apply@Heart.org



Institutional Eligibility and Transferability

American Heart Association research awards are limited to U.S.-based non-profit institutions, including medical, osteopathic and dental schools, veterinary schools, schools of public health, pharmacy schools, nursing schools, universities and colleges, public and voluntary hospitals and others that can demonstrate the ability to conduct the proposed research, except for applications specifically related to the AHA's Institute for Precision Cardiovascular Medicine.

Applications will not be accepted for work with funding to be administered through any federal institution or work to be performed by a federal employee, except for Veterans Administration employees.

AHA project awards are fully transferable to make the awardee a "free agent" who is empowered to move to another qualified institution while retaining the award.





Academic Disciplines

AHA awards are open to **all academic and health professionals**. This includes but is not limited to all academic disciplines (biology, chemistry, mathematics, technology, physics, engineering, data science, etc.) and all health-related professions (physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, pharmacists, physical and occupational therapists, statisticians, nutritionists, etc.).

The extent to which the focus of the project is related to cardiovascular and/or cerebrovascular diseases and/or brain health is an important factor that will be considered, though an applicant is not required to be a part of a cardiovascular/cerebrovascular-oriented laboratory, clinic or department.





Multiple Awards

An individual may hold more than one AHA award concurrently but may only hold one career development/recognition award (Career Development Award, Established Investigator Award, Merit Award) at a time. Strategically Focused Research Network personnel may also hold individual AHA awards.



Percent Effort and Rebudgeting

Unless specified in the Request for Proposals (RFP), no minimum percent effort is required; however, the Principal Investigator must demonstrate that adequate time will be devoted to ensuring successful completion of the project.

Unless specified, award budgets are unrestricted among allowable categories (salary/fringe of PI and essential personnel, supplies, equipment/computers, travel, human subjects, etc.), funds may be re-budgeted between categories without prior AHA approval.





Visa Types

- U.S. citizen
- Permanent resident
- Pending permanent resident
(must have filed Form I-485 for permanent resident status and obtained an I-797C Notice of Action that the application has been received by USCIS and case is pending)
- E-3 Visa - specialty occupation worker
- F-1 Visa - student (predoctoral and postdoctoral fellows only)
- G-4 Visa - family member of an international organization employee
- H1-B Visa - temporary worker in a specialty occupation
- J-1 Visa - exchange visitor (except for pre- and postdoctoral fellowships, awardees must obtain an H-1B or equivalent by the award activation date)
- O-1 Visa - temporary worker with extraordinary abilities in the sciences
- TN Visa - NAFTA Professional
- DACA - Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals



MUST BE A MEMBER TO APPLY

- All applicants -- including predoctoral and postdoctoral fellows -- must be an American Heart Association professional member (memberships start at \$109).
- Applicants may renew or join membership during the application process
- Join or renew by phone at 800-787-8984 (inside US) or 301-223-2307 (outside US)

There is a 3-5 day waiting period to process membership, so do not wait until the application deadline to renew or join.



GRANT DEADLINES SUMMER/FALL 2023

Program

Proposals Due

Merit Award

LOI due July 13th, 2023

Predoctoral Fellowship

Sept 6th, 2023

Postdoctoral Fellowship

Sept 7th, 2023

Institutional Undergraduate Student Award

Sept 13th, 2023

AHA Institutional Research Enhancement Award

Sept 14th, 2023

Career Development Award

Dec 6th, 2023

Other programs in late Fall and Early 2024: Subscribe to Research Insider, watch the website

<https://professional.heart.org/en/research-programs/aha-funding-opportunities>



RESEARCH PROGRAM OFFERINGS FY24

Program	Description/Target	Award Amount	Duration
Institutional Undergraduate Student Award	To institutions that can offer a meaningful research experience to undergraduate college students.	Total Award Amount: \$160,000 Deadline: Sept. 13th	3 Years Jan 1 start
AHA Predoctoral Fellowship	Enhances the training of promising students in pre-doctoral or clinical health professional degree training programs and who intend careers as scientists, clinician-scientists, or related careers. Supports non-citizen, non green card holders.	Total Award Amount: Approx. \$70,000 for 2 years Mirrors NIH Scale Deadline: Sept. 6th	1 or 2 Years Jan 1 start (flexibility)
AHA Postdoctoral Fellowship	Enhances the training of postdoctoral applicants who are not yet independent. The applicant must be embedded in an appropriate investigative group with the mentorship, support, and relevant scientific guidance of a research mentor. Supports non-citizen, non	Total Award Amount: Approx. \$150,000 for 2 years Mirrors NIH Scale	1 or 2 Years Jan 1 start (flexibility)

RESEARCH PROGRAM OFFERINGS FY23-24

Program	Description/Target	Award Amount	Duration
Research Supplement to Promote Diversity in Science	Under the mentorship of a current AHA awardee, this mechanism supports predoctoral and postdoctoral fellows from underrepresented racial and ethnic groups in science.	Total Award Amount: matches NIH scales as per other AHA fellowships Deadline: TBA	1 or 2 Years April 1 start
Career Development Award	Highly promising investigators who are newly in or are transitioning into their first non-training position (must have faculty/staff appointment at time of award activation).	Total Award Amount: \$231,000 Deadline: Dec. 6th	3 Years April 1 start
AHA Institutional Research Enhancement Award (AIREA)	Supports researchers at institutions that have not been major recipients of NIH support. Goals: support meritorious research; expose students to research; enhance research environment.	Total Award Amount: \$154,000 Deadline: Sept. 14th	2 Years

RESEARCH PROGRAM OFFERINGS FY23-24

Program	Description/Target	Award Amount	Duration
Innovative Project Award	High risk/high reward type projects. <i>Preliminary data is not accepted.</i> However, a solid rationale for the work must be provided.	Total Award Amount: \$200,000 Deadline: TBA	2 Years
Transformational Project Award	Supports next logical step of an investigator's previous work. Should be suggestive of a high probability of success in new avenue; should include preliminary data.	Total Award Amount: \$300,000 Deadline: TBA	3 Years
Collaborative Sciences Award	Two or more primary investigators from disparate disciplines to work on a project that is achievable only with combined efforts. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• At least one investigator at early or mid-career stage	Total Award Amount: \$750,000 Deadline: TBA	3 Years

RESEARCH PROGRAM OFFERINGS FY23-24

Program	Description/Target	Award Amount	Duration
Established Investigator Award	Mid-career investigators (Associate Professors) with great promise, established records, demonstrated commitment.	Total Award Amount: \$400,000 Deadline: TBA	5 Years
Merit Award	Exceptional scientists with established track records, who propose novel approaches to major research challenges, potential for high impact.	Total Award Amount: \$1,000,000 LOI due July 13th	5 Years



AHA'S SUPPORT OF UNDERREPRESENTED INVESTIGATORS



\$100M Toward Health Equity, Structural Racism Research

Drive systemic public health change focused on removing barriers to equitable health for everyone, everywhere



New scientific research programs & grants focused on health inequities & structural racism



Expand diversity-research opportunities for underrepresented racial & ethnic groups

Circulation

AHA PRESIDENTIAL ADVISORY

Call to Action: Structural Racism as a Fundamental Driver of Health Disparities

A Presidential Advisory From the American Heart Association

ABSTRACT: Structural racism has been and remains a fundamental cause of persistent health disparities in the United States. The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic and the police killings of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and multiple others have been reminders that structural racism persists and restricts the opportunities for long, healthy lives of Black Americans and other historically disenfranchised groups. The American Heart Association has previously published statements addressing cardiovascular and cerebrovascular risk and disparities among racial and ethnic groups in the United States, but these statements have not adequately recognized structural racism as a fundamental cause of poor health and disparities in cardiovascular disease. This presidential advisory reviews the historical context, current state, and potential solutions to address structural racism in our country. Several principles emerge from our review: racism persists, racism is experienced, and the task of dismantling racism must belong to all of society. It cannot be accomplished by affected individuals alone. The path forward requires our commitment to transforming the conditions of historically marginalized communities, improving the quality of housing and neighborhood environments of these populations, advocating for policies that eliminate inequities in access to economic opportunities, quality education, and health care, and enhancing allyship among racial and ethnic groups. Future research on racism must be accelerated and should investigate the joint effects of multiple domains of racism (structural, interpersonal, cultural, anti-Black). The American Heart Association must look internally to correct its own shortcomings and advance antiracist policies and practices regarding science, public and professional education, and advocacy. With this advisory, the American Heart Association declares its unequivocal support of antiracist principles.

Keith Churchwell, MD, FAHA, Chair
 Mitchell S.V. Elkind, MD, MS, FAHA
 Regina M. Benjamin, MD, MBA
 April P. Carson, PhD, MSPH, FAHA
 Edward K. Chang, BS
 Willie Lawrence, MD, FAHA
 Andrew Mills, MPH
 Tanya M. Odom, EdM
 Carlos J. Rodriguez, MD, MPH, FAHA
 Fatima Rodriguez, MD, MPH, FAHA
 Eduardo Sanchez, MD, MPH
 Anjali Z. Sharief, MD, MPH, FAHA
 Mario Sims, PhD, MS, FAHA
 Olajide Williams, MD, MS
 On behalf of the American Heart Association

Downloaded from <http://ahajournals.org/> by on April 22, 2021



Research Supplement to Promote Diversity in Science

- Support a predoctoral or postdoctoral fellow from a racial or ethnic group underrepresented in science
- Up to two additional co-mentors permitted, but not required
- Awards match existing AHA predoc/postdoc fellowships
- Two-year award (can ask for 1 year)
- 3-page research plan, 3-page training plan





Additional Initiatives

- SURE (Supporting Undergraduate Research Experiences) Program
- Diversity is required for AHA's large, team science-oriented research programs (SFRNs & HERNs)
 - At least one institution focused on serving persons under-represented in medicine (e.g., HBCUs, HSIs)
 - At least 25% of core research team & at least 50% of trainees
 - Score-driving criteria
- Strong participation of underrepresented investigators in peer review, committee service

FOCUSED RESEARCH PROGRAMS



American
Heart
Association.

STRATEGICALLY FOCUSED RESEARCH TOPICS

Board-directed - past examples:

- COVID-related grants
- Health Equity Research Networks
 - Prevention of Hypertension
 - Disparities in Maternal-Infant Health Outcomes
 - Rural Health Disparities
- End Nicotine Addiction in Children and Teens



Watch application information page

Sign up for monthly Research newsletter from our main web page:

professional.heart.org/research





HEALTH EQUITY RESEARCH NETWORKS

The RESTORE Network: Addressing Social Determinants of Health to Prevent Hypertension

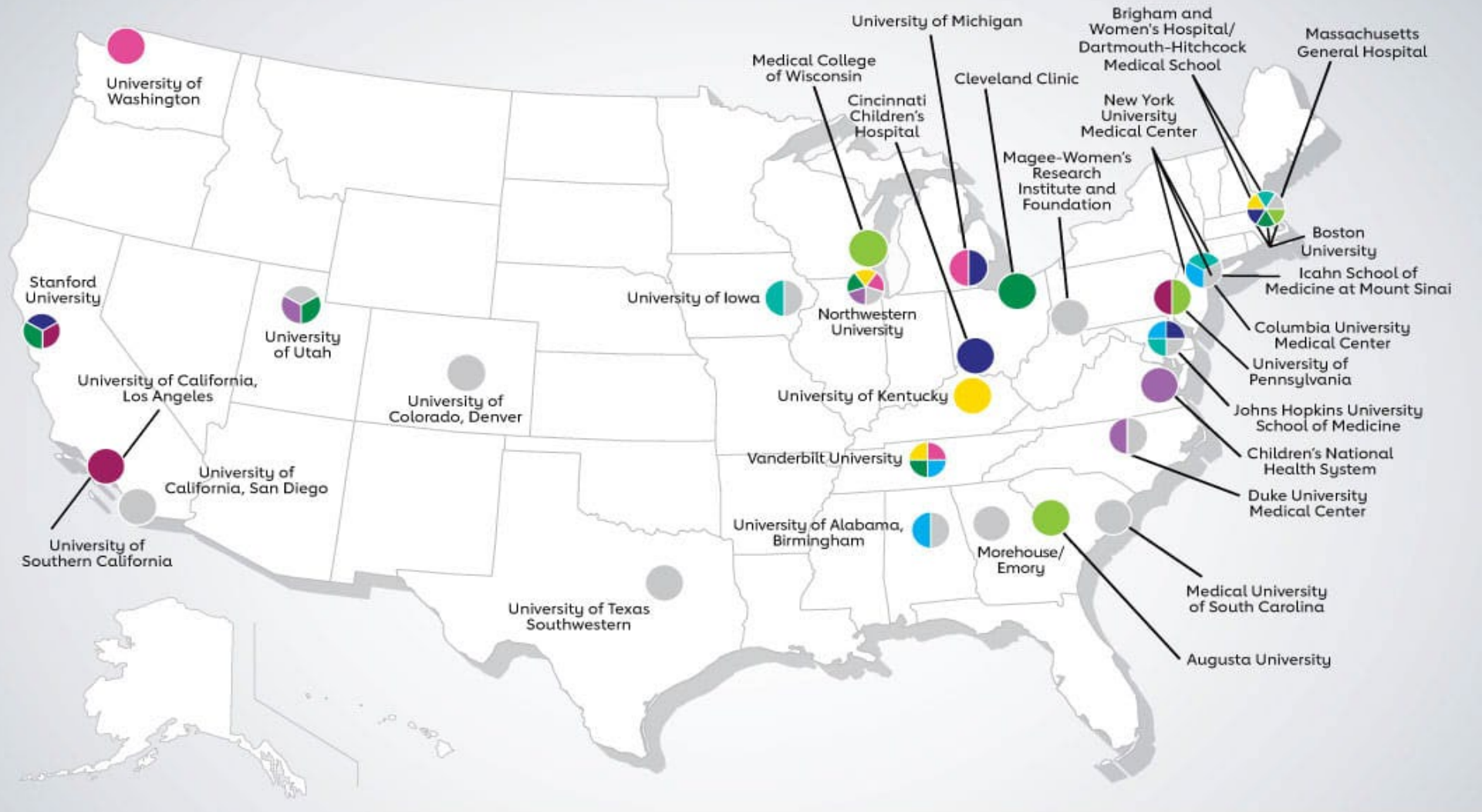


NEXT HERN:
Improving access
to care and other
health inequities
in rural America

The P3 EQUATE Network: Pregnancy, Postpartum, and Postnatal Health (P3): Enhancing Quality and Access to Achieve Equitable Maternal and Infant Health



STRATEGICALLY FOCUSED RESEARCH NETWORKS



Newly awarded:
 Mechanism(s) of
 psychosocial stress
 and cardiovascular
 disease



- | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| ● Obesity | ● Atrial Fibrillation | ● Health Technologies & Innovation | ● Networks Completed:
Prevention
Hypertension
Disparities in CVD & Stroke
Go Red For Women
Heart Failure |
| ● Children's | ● Arrhythmias & Sudden Cardiac Death | ● Disparities in Cardio-Oncology | |
| ● Vascular Disease | ● Cardiometabolic Health | ● Diversity in Clinical Trials | |

FOCUSED RESEARCH TOPICS

Funding Partner Organizations - 2023

Research focused on

- congenital heart defects
- effects of walnut consumption on health-related outcomes
- Barth Syndrome

Early Career Researchers in

- clinical vascular science
- anesthesiology
- cerebrovascular research related to vascular neurology, stroke and neurocritical care



PEER REVIEW



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The Peer Review Process

Assigned to committee, reviewers (3)

NIH-style review, NIH scoring

- Mix of face-to-face and teleconference
- Triage process
- Review criteria (general)
 - The science: Innovation, Impact, Significance, Approach, Investigator, Environment
 - Fellowships: 1) the Applicant; 2) Sponsor/Training Plan and Environment; 3) the Proposal
 - Similar for CDA

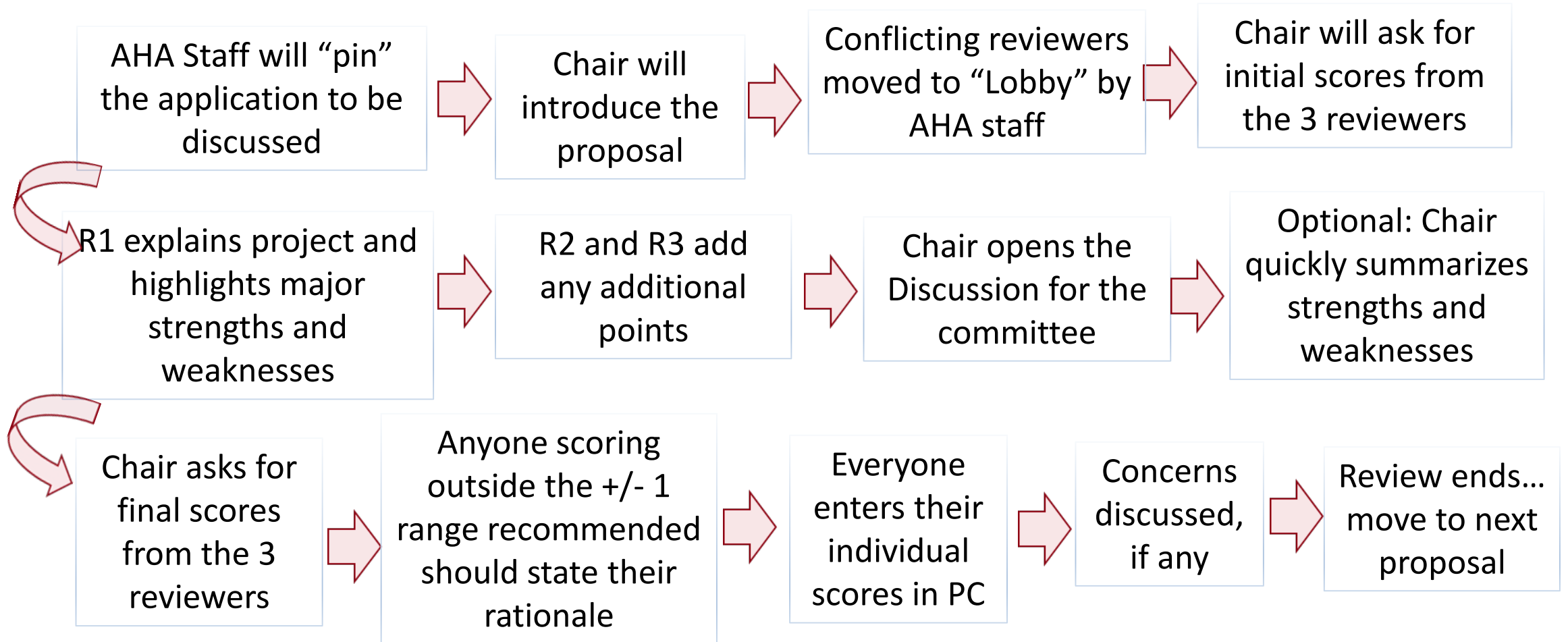
SCORE SCALE

Scale	Evaluation of Program Peer Review Criteria
1	Exceptional, no weaknesses
2	Outstanding, minor weaknesses
3	Excellent, more strengths than weaknesses
4	Very Good, minor weaknesses
5	Good, strengths and weaknesses are equivalent
6	Satisfactory, weaknesses are greater than strengths
7	Fair, weaknesses are greater than strengths
8	Marginal, too many weaknesses
9	Poor, little to no strengths

Best approach is to review each grant assuming each criterion will start at 5 “in the middle”, then adjust your score for each criterion accordingly based on strengths and weaknesses. AHA, like NIH, expects that scores of 1 or 9 will be used less frequently than the other scores. A score of 5 correlates to a good, medium-impact proposal and should be considered an average score.

Meeting process

All members will work in ProposalCentral (PC) throughout the meeting



CAREER DEVELOPMENT/SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES



American
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American
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Peer Review Opportunities - *AHA-Funded* Postdoctoral Fellows

- 2nd year postdoctoral fellows eligible
- Approval of sponsor
- Training sessions
- One specifically for fellows, one attended by all reviewers
- Assigned up to 3 grants (Fellowship applications currently)
- Prepare full written critiques and assign preliminary scores (won't submit final scores)



American
Heart
Association

Consider Becoming an AHA Peer Reviewer

JOIN OUR TEAM

- All ranks
 - Basic, clinical and population research expertise
 - Research experience needed (funding, publication record)
-
- Excellent experience
 - Scientifically stimulating, see the newest science, important academic service, establish new colleagues, collaborations, potential leadership opportunity



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Peer Reviewer Home Page

[Peer Review - Professional Heart Daily | American Heart Association](#)

.....

Peer Review Contact

AHAPeerReview@heart.org

<https://professional.heart.org/en/research-programs>

.....
QUESTIONS?

apply@heart.org



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Thank You.

Q&A

Please put your questions into the Zoom Q&A function

- *Please indicate if your question is for a specific panelist or all panelists.*
- *Be ready to clarify your question, if needed.*



Scan here to access our past webinars in this series.

The webinar recording and slides will be available on ASBMB's On-Demand Webinar soon.