

New American Cancer Society Research Grants

Awards Announced in August 2026



New grants announced during the summer of 2026 can be found below, organized by grant mechanism. All of the applications for the awards listed below were received as part of the Winter 2026 or Summer 2025 application cycles. Additional information about all of the current research grants funded by the American Cancer Society can be found using our [Extramural Research Grants Database](https://cancer.org/research/currently-funded-cancer-research.html) which can be accessed at cancer.org/research/currently-funded-cancer-research.html.

ACS Accelerator Awards

Note: ACS Accelerator grant applications are reviewed on a rolling basis. The grants listed here were reviewed between January 2026 and May 2026.

Todd Aguilera, M.D.

University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center

“Selecting T Cell-Activating Nanobodies to Modulate Tumor Immune Responses”

Isaac Chan, M.D.

University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center

“Treating liver metastases using AAVs targeting SerpinE2”

Additional information about the Accelerator grant mechanism can be found [here](#).

American Cancer Society – Cancer Research UK Biology to Prevention Award

Luigi Perelli, Ph.D.

University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

“Targeting Early Events in Kidney Cancer - Integrating metabolism and immune surveillance for prevention”

***This grant was awarded jointly to **Samra Turajlić, Ph.D.** at the Francis Crick Institute in a grant managed by Cancer Research UK.*

Additional information about the ACS-CRUK Biology to Prevention RFA can be found [here](#).

American Cancer Society Catalyst Awards

Will Bailis, Ph.D.

Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia

“Enhancing Stress Adaptive Signaling in CD8 T-cells for Cancer Therapy”

Darko Barisic, Ph.D.

Weill Medical College of Cornell University

“Role of Chromatin Remodeling Complexes in Clonal Evolution of Blood Cancers”

M. Andrés Blanco, Ph.D.

University of Pennsylvania

“Combinatorial inhibition of LSD1 and MENIN to induce therapeutic differentiation in acute myeloid leukemia”

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Nicholas Boddicker, Ph.D.

Mayo Clinic - Rochester

“Genetic Epidemiology of Lymphoma: Risk and Heterogeneity”

Acadia Buro, Ph.D.

University of New Mexico Health Science Center

“A Community-Engaged Quantitative Study of Stressors, Health Behaviors, and Intervention Preferences in Adolescent and Young Adult Cancer Survivors”

Betsy Cliff, Ph.D.

University of Chicago

“Development of Strategies to Study Medical Debt Relief: A Feasibility Study”

Carla Concepcion, Ph.D.

Columbia University

“Identifying drivers of SWI/SNF-mutant lung adenocarcinoma progression”

Xia Gao, Ph.D.

Baylor College of Medicine

“Understanding Lac-Phe, an exercise-induced metabolite, in cancer treatment”

Christine M. Gunn, Ph.D.

Dartmouth College

“Tailoring the Implementation of a Multi-Level Intervention to Support Environmental Cancer Risk Counseling”

Leslie Lamb, M.D., M.Sc.

Massachusetts General Hospital

“Radiomics and Genomics - An Integrated Approach with Artificial Intelligence to Predict Patients with Germline Mutations Associated with Breast Cancer”

Ignaty Leshchiner, Ph.D.

Boston University

“Clone-specific expression as a determinant of disease growth and treatment response in vivo”

Sidharth Mahapatra, M.D., Ph.D.

University of Nebraska Medical Center

“Activating Ferroptosis Through Iron Overload Mitigates Medulloblastoma Aggressiveness”

Maria Mihalova, Ph.D.

The Ohio State University

“Metabolic Dependencies as Therapeutic Vulnerabilities in Colorectal Cancer”

Alexandra Miller, M.D., Ph.D.

University of Chicago

“Development of a Novel Ultrasensitive CSF Liquid Biopsy Assay for Clinical Decision Making in High-Grade Glioma”

Panagiotis Mistriotis, Ph.D.

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Auburn University

“The Role and Predictive Implications of Downstream Migration in Breast Cancer”

Archana Radhakrishnan, M.D.

University of Michigan

“Patient perspectives on transitioning from active surveillance to observation in prostate cancer”

Sangeetha Reddy, M.D.

University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center

“Enhancing CD8 T cell immunity by targeting mature DCs enriched in immunoregulatory molecules”

Carl G. Streed, M.D.

Boston Medical Center Corporation

“Assessing receipt of cancer prevention services for transgender adults”

Amy Whitaker, Ph.D.

Fox Chase Cancer Center

“Regulation of KRAS expression in PDAC via promoter DNA structural dynamics”

Christian Young, Ph.D.

University of Colorado Denver, AMC and DC

“Role of myeloid cells in regulating epithelial cell antigen presentation in oral cancer progression”

Additional information about the ACS Catalyst RFA can be found [here](#).

American Cancer Society Professors

Stephen M. Ansell, M.D., Ph.D.

Mayo Clinic - Rochester

“Optimizing Immunological Therapy in Lymphoma”

Joann Elmore, M.D.

University of California, Los Angeles

“Building the Future of Cancer Care with AI”

Elaine Fuchs, Ph.D.

Rockefeller University

“Understanding Cancer's Roots and Their Link to Inflammation”

Mary Beth Terry, Ph.D.

Columbia University

“Early onset cancers, improving prevention and risk assessment”

Additional information about ACS Professor Awards can be found [here](#).

Cancer Health Research Center (CHERC) Awards

Miller School of Medicine of the University of Miami

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The Sylvester Cancer Health Equity Research Center (CHERC)

Principal Investigator: Frank Penedo, Ph.D.

University of California, San Francisco

Asian American Cancer Health Equity Research Center

Principal Investigator: Salma Shariff-Marco, Ph.D.

Virginia Commonwealth University

Cancer Health Engagement and Action Research (CHEAR) Center

Principal Investigator: Monica Baskin, Ph.D.

Additional information about the CHERC mechanism can be found [here](#).

Clinician Scientist Development Grants (CSDGs)

ASTRO-CSDG Awards:

Jie Deng, M.D., Ph.D.

University of California, Los Angeles

“Activating Lymph Node Immunity to Enhance Radiation Therapy”

*This award has been designated the [Felix Feng ASTRO-CSDG award](#) in honor of Dr. Felix Feng.

David Yang, M.D.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

“ASTRO: Advancing Biomarker Discovery in Prostate Cancer Through Computer Vision-Driven Profiling of Tumor and Microenvironmental Heterogeneity”

Traditional CSDG Awards:

Benjamin Diamond, M.D.

Miller School of Medicine of the University of Miami

“Minimally Invasive Prediction of Response and Resistance to BCMA-directed T-Cell Redirecting Therapy in Multiple Myeloma”

Ijeoma Eche-Ugwu, Ph.D.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

“The African American Childhood Cancer Multiprong Psychosocial Nurse Intervention to Promote Equitable Psychosocial Outcomes in Pediatric Cancer Care”

James Godfrey, M.D.

Beckman Research Institute of the City of Hope

“Improving outcomes of CNS lymphoma with T cell-based immunotherapy”

Ahmed Rattani, M.D., D.Phil.

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

“APC Loss Rewires Cholesterol-Driven Metabolic Signaling in Colorectal Cancer”

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Additional information about the CSDG grant mechanism can be found [here](#). Additional information about the ASTRO-CSDG grant mechanism can be found [here](#).

Discovery Boost Grants (DBGs)

Alan Cantor, M.D., Ph.D.

Boston Children's Hospital

"Development of Programmable RNA sensors to Treat Oncofusion and Oncofetal Protein Associated Cancers"

Alberto Ciccia, Ph.D.

Columbia University

"Mapping Cancer Vulnerabilities Through Combinatorial Genome Editing of DNA Repair Networks"

Alejandra H. de Mendoza, Ph.D.

Georgetown University

"SOLAR: Promoting Skin Cancer Prevention among Hispanic Outdoor Workers"

Ruli Gao, Ph.D.

Northwestern University – Chicago Campus

"Long read single cell transcriptomic approaches for resolving complex evolutionary fate dynamics in multi-focal lung metastasis"

Minah Kim, Ph.D.

Columbia University

"Unraveling a Novel Therapeutic Target for Metastasis and Resistance to Antiangiogenic Therapy in PanNETs"

James N. Odom, Ph.D.

University of Alabama at Birmingham

"Brief Distress Support for Family Caregivers of Persons with Advanced Cancer: The FamilyStrong Pilot Randomized Trial"

Sharon Stack, Ph.D.

University of Notre Dame

"Oncoaging and Ovarian Cancer Metastatic Success"

Lucas B. Sullivan, Ph.D.

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center

"Understanding Tissue Specificity of Metabolic Mutations in Cancer"

Lindsay Talbot, M.D.

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Inc.

"Leveraging a unique patient-derived immune humanized mouse platform to enhance CAR T cell therapy for pediatric osteosarcoma"

Additional information about the Discovery Boost Grant mechanism can be found [here](#).

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Mission Boost Grants (MBGs)

Mission Boost Stage I Grants

Elisabeth M. Battinelli, M.D., Ph.D.

Brigham and Women's Hospital, Inc.

Mission Boost Stage I Grant

"Targeting Platelets to Enhance Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor Responses in Breast Cancer"

Pietro Genovese, Ph.D.

Boston Children's Hospital

Mission Boost Stage I Grant

"Manufacturing an Immunotherapy-Resistant Hematopoiesis to Treat Acute Myeloid Leukemia"

Cigall Kadoch, Ph.D.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Mission Boost Stage I Grant

"SMARCA4/2 Inhibition as a Therapeutic Strategy for POU2F3-positive Small Cell Lung Cancer"

Sita Kugel, Ph.D.

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center

Mission Boost Stage I Grant

"Targeting lineage plasticity in intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma"

Mission Boost Stage II Grants

Fred Tabung, Ph.D.

The Ohio State University

Mission Boost Stage II Grant

"Low-insulinemic dietary pattern for breast cancer prevention among high-risk women: A phase II randomized-controlled dietary pattern intervention"

Additional information about the Mission Boost Grant mechanism can be found [here](#).

Postdoctoral Fellowships

ACS – Lisa Dean Moseley Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowships

Nofar Erlichman, Ph.D.

George Washington University

"Adipocyte PD-L1 mediates the promotion of mammary tumor growth by the sympathetic nervous system"

Fujing Ge, Ph.D.

University of California, Irvine

"YTHDF2 Controls T9 Cell Identity and Its Targeting Enhances EGFR-CAR Activity in Glioblastoma"

Abhisha Sawant Dessai, Ph.D.

University of Pennsylvania

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"Epigenetic Reprogramming During Mitotic Exit Drives Tumor Heterogeneity in Liver Cancer"

Traditional Postdoctoral Fellowships

Liberalis D. Boila, Ph.D.

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center

"Mechanistic Dissection and Pharmacologic Reactivation of PP2A in IDH1-Mutant Intrahepatic Cholangiocarcinoma"

Alberto Bueno-Costa, Ph.D.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

"Uncovering the intrinsic mechanisms of B7-H3 upregulation in Ewing sarcoma to enable next-generation CAR T cell therapy"

Morgan Dasovich, Ph.D.

University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center

"PARP16-mediated regulation of nucleocytoplasmic transport in endometrial cancer"

Alexander Edwards, Ph.D.

University of Pennsylvania

"Defining the tumor cell intrinsic and extrinsic effects of combined RAS and TEAD inhibition in PDAC"

Noah J. Goff, Ph.D.

University of Pennsylvania

"Assessing the functional relevance of ovarian cancer-identified RAD51D variants of unknown significance"

Sabeen Ikram, Ph.D.

Leland Stanford Junior University

"FAM86A-eEF2K525me3 Axis Driven Translational Control Promotes Lung Adenocarcinoma"

Yujin Jeong, Ph.D.

Van Andel Research Institute

"Impact of high fat diet-induced lipotoxic stress responses on pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma therapy"

Natalie Jones, Ph.D.

Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory

"Molecular mechanisms of transuridylyltransferase activity and substrate specificity"

Yasuhiro Kikuchi, M.D., Ph.D.

Johns Hopkins School of Medicine

"Role of SPP1 positive macrophages in the tumor immune microenvironment of pancreatic cancer"

Su Hyun Kim, Ph.D.

University of California, San Diego

"Mitochondrial Dysfunction-Induced PKA Signaling in Hepatocellular Carcinoma"

Suyeon Kim, Ph.D.

Columbia University

"Therapeutic resistance to multi-RAS inhibitors in KRAS-mutant lung cancer"

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Jiwandeep Kohli, Ph.D.

University of California, San Diego

“Identifying neurofunctional signatures of radiotherapy induced cognitive decline in glioma”

Yang Liu, M.D., Ph.D.

Cleveland Clinic Foundation

“Targeting Glycoprotein-NMB-mediated macrophage reprogramming in glioblastoma”

Guibing Liu, Ph.D.

University of Utah

“Signal transduction from the cell surface to the nucleus in Hedgehog pathway-dependent cancers”

Sneha Mitra, Ph.D.

Sloan-Kettering Institute for Cancer Research

“Decoding epigenetic and transcriptional programs of immune cells in colorectal cancer using multi-omic and spatial analysis”

Alessandro Mauro Mozzarelli, Ph.D.

NYU Grossman School of Medicine

“RIT1 Stabilization as a Driver of Resistance to MAPK Pathway Inhibition”

David Y. Nie, Ph.D.

Yale University

“Rewiring Epigenetics Using Proximity-Inducing Drugs for Cancer Therapeutics”

Vasiliki Pantazopoulou, Ph.D.

Salk Institute for Biological Studies

“Intercepting RAS inhibitor resistance in pancreatic cancer”

Jinho Park, Ph.D.

Leland Stanford Junior University

“Navigating the Challenges and Opportunities Presented by PrimPol in Cancer - Dissecting the Mechanism of Repriming during DNA Damage Response”

Florencia Picech, Ph.D.

Columbia University

“Elucidating mechanisms of bone metastasis in prostate cancer”

Sathyen Prabhu, Ph.D.

University of Pittsburgh

“LARP1 as a critical node for integrative signaling in cancer”

Arunachalam Sekar, Ph.D.

Jackson Laboratory

“Therapeutic targeting of ZBP1 in cardiomyocytes to mitigate chemotherapy-induced cardiac dysfunction”

Heather M. Wurtz, Ph.D.

University of Southern California – Keck School of Medicine

“Understanding disparities in fertility counseling during cervical cancer treatment”

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Jiawen Yang, Ph.D.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

“Genomic instability after telomere crisis shapes viral integration and Merkel cell carcinoma evolution”

Additional information about the Postdoctoral Fellowship mechanism can be found [here](#). Additional details about the ACS-Lisa Dean Moseley Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship Fund can be [here](#).

Research Scholar Grants (RSGs)

Praveen Agrawal, Ph.D.

Albert Einstein College of Medicine

“ST3GAL1-Mediated α-2,3 Sialylation and Its Target CD98hc (SLC3A2) as Therapeutic Strategies for Melanoma Survival”

Chaitra Badve, M.D., M.B.B.S.

University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center

“Synergistic Utility of MRF and FET-PET in Recurrent Glioblastomas: Mapping Fractional Tumor Burden and Predicting Therapeutic Response”

Anup K. Biswas, Ph.D.

Columbia University

“Identifying mediators of brain metastasis in EGFR-mutant lung cancer”

Robert Bowman, Ph.D.

University of Pennsylvania

“Investigating the role of IL6 signaling in FLT3-inhibitor persistent acute myeloid leukemia”

Mohamed Elsaid, Ph.D.

The Ohio State University

“Access Equity and Causal Effects of Glucagon Like Peptide 1 Agonist on HepatoCellular Carcinoma Prevention and Survivorship in Patients with Cirrhosis”

Erin Giles, M.D.

University of Michigan

“Understanding the impact of new-generation incretin-mimetic weight loss agents in breast cancer”

Velvet Journigan, Ph.D.

University of Pittsburgh

“Discovery of TRPM8 Antagonists for chemotherapy-induced peripheral neuropathy”

Genevieve C. Kendall, Ph.D.

The Research Institute at Nationwide Children’s Hospital

“Biological Consequences of Neural Signatures in Fusion-Positive Rhabdomyosarcoma”

Lingyin Li, Ph.D.

Arc Research Institute

“Enhancing cGAMP’s anticancer immune activation by inhibiting its hydrolysis and T cell toxicity”

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Babak Moghimi, Ph.D.

Children's Hospital Los Angeles

"Circuit-Tuned CAR-T Cells for Safer and More Durable Immunotherapy in AML"

Justin X. Moore, Ph.D., M.P.H.

University of Kentucky Research Foundation

"Systemic Discrimination, Cumulative Stress, and Cancer Disparities among LGBTQ populations"

Peter Mullen, Ph.D.

University of Southern California

"The impact of aging on bladder cancer"

Daniel Semlow, Ph.D.

California Institute of Technology

"Mechanisms of the replication stress response"

Jessica Silva-Fisher, Ph.D.

Washington University in St. Louis

"Identifying and characterizing RNA modifications in relapsed or refractory multiple myeloma"

Xiaotian Zhang, Ph.D.

University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

"Characterizing the mutant NPM1-hijacked transcription condensate regulation in acute myeloid leukemia initiation and maintenance"

Additional information about the Research Scholar Grant mechanism can be found [here](#).