Georgia Cancer Coalition
GCC Cancer Research Awards

Coordinator: Traci Cobbs-Palmer
Website: N/A (full announcement attached)
Agency Deadline: November 1, 2011
Internal Deadline: October 11, 2011

Submission Limitations: Emory University may submit only 2 applications for this program.
Internal Competition Guidelines: Interested applicants must submit an abstract of their proposed projects (not to exceed 2 pages) and an NIH-style biosketch to Traci Cobbs-Palmer via e-mail (tcobbsp@emory.edu) by no later than the internal deadline above for consideration. Please put GCC Cancer Research Awards – Candidate Name in the subject line of the e-mail. Please note that written reviews or summary statements from the internal review and selection process will not be available.

PLEASE NOTE THAT CURRENT GCC DISTINGUISHED CANCER CLINICIANS & SCHOLARS AND CURRENT GCC CANCER RESEARCH AWARDEES ARE INELIGIBLE TO APPLY TO THIS PROGRAM

The purpose of the Cancer Research Awards is to stimulate research of scientific importance by Georgia investigators. The fund promotes the development of novel or conceptually creative ideas that are scientifically sound and may advance progress toward detecting, treating or curing cancer. Georgia investigators (researchers, clinicians, fellows) are encouraged to develop a sound, innovative research plan based on the goals of the Georgia Cancer Coalition, and wherever possible, to incorporate the research priorities of the National Cancer Institute. All areas of cancer research are eligible for this funding mechanism.

Priority will be given to new-to-the-field investigators who utilize research results to develop and secure national peer-reviewed funding. Similarly, priority will be given to established investigators who have an innovative idea of a translational nature, which requires seed funding to achieve proof-of-principle leading to an application for peer-reviewed funding. A plan for seeking additional funding from the National Cancer Institute, American Cancer Society, Veterans Administration, Department of Defense or other peer-reviewed source is required for all applications. Minority and women investigators are encouraged. Collaboration also is encouraged with other researchers, academic institutions, or cancer-related private or nonprofit organizations.

For full information, please see the attached announcement.

Abstracts should be sent to:
Tracy Cobbs-Palmer
Senior Program Associate
Winship Cancer Institute
tcobbsp@emory.edu
(404) 778-1728
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Eligibility

Grants are awarded to organizations and not to individual investigators; however, the principal investigator must reside in Georgia. Grants are transferable only with the written consent of the Georgia Cancer Coalition. If the principal investigator leaves the state, the sponsoring organization must notify the Georgia Cancer Coalition. No grants will be made for studies that have scientific or budgetary overlap with grants supported by other agencies. All applicants will be required to comply with local and federal requirements for protection of human subjects, animal welfare, recombinant DNA and inclusion of children and minorities.
Funds Available

Funds generated from the Georgia state income tax returns totaling $263,328.00 will be distributed for cancer research awards. A total of five (5) awards of approximately $50,000 are expected to be made. All areas of cancer research are eligible.

Additionally, private funds in the amount of $50,000 are available for one award to be used for a researcher to develop guidelines to help Cancer Patient Navigators assess the reliability of Integrative Oncology methods. Integrative Oncology is an evolving evidence-based specialty that uses complementary therapies in concert with medical treatment to enhance its efficacy, improve symptom control, alleviate patient distress and reduce suffering of cancer patients.

No indirect costs may be requested. Grants will not be renewed in subsequent years as these grants are intended to provide one year of pilot phase funding. Grants will be paid in two installments: 50% at the time of the award and 50% with the submission and satisfactory review of a 6-month progress report. The GCC reserves the right to withhold the second installment if it is determined that satisfactory progress has not been made and appropriate resolution of the situation cannot be made. A closing progress report (twelve months after the project begins) is also required.

Institutional Responsibilities

A successful applicant institution is expected to provide the salary and facilities for the principal investigator. Matching funds provided by the institution must equal or exceed the amount of the grant request and may include salaries and infrastructure.

Upon acceptance of a grant award, the applicant organization assumes legal and financial responsibility for awarded funds and the conduct of supported activities. It is the responsibility of the applicant institution and principal investigator to assure the accuracy and validity of all fiscal, scientific, and administrative information pertaining to the awarded grant.

Researchers’ Responsibilities and Acknowledgement of Support

All grant recipients will be required to acknowledge support from the Georgia Cancer Coalition in presentations and publications which result from the funded research. The Georgia Cancer Coalition shall be provided with a copy of all publications and notified of all presentations and poster sessions. Researchers are expected to participate in Coalition-sponsored/supported meetings and symposia.

Review Criteria and Considerations

Successful proposals will support the mission and goals of the Georgia Cancer Coalition and be judged as innovative and of high scientific merit by the reviewers. Applications will be reviewed for:

A. Innovation: Novelty or originality of approach, method, technology, experimental design (including presentation, organization, analysis or application of data), conceptual framework, or the insight provided into complex systems. The ability of the applicant to eventually secure peer-reviewed funding will also be assessed.
B. Investigator: Appropriateness of the training, background, and expertise of the principal investigator and key personnel to achieving the specific aims and overall goals of the proposed project. Adequacy of the principal investigator’s ability to lead and coordinate the activities and develop and implement the research plan is required for the project’s success. Adequacy of the level of effort of key personnel.

C. Environment: Adequacy of the environment and resources available, including space, equipment, services, infrastructure, and facilities. Degree to which the proposed research plan, experiments, and organization takes advantage of unique features of the community if applicable. Degree of institutional commitment, including any needed expansion of facilities, improvement of infrastructure, and relief from other duties where necessary. Environment for training or educational activities, especially for under-represented minorities.

Review Process

Proposals will be measured against the goals of this initiative which include (A) enhancing clinical oncology research within the state, (B) increasing the number of Georgia professionals participating in academic medicine in the field of oncology; and, (C) bringing new peer-reviewed funding opportunities to state investigators. Reviewers will be asked to rate the overall application in order to judge the likelihood that the proposed programs will have a substantial impact on the pursuit of these goals. Each proposal will receive a staff and peer review. Clarifying questions of applicants may be made during this review period.

How to Apply

Abstract:

You are required to provide both a technical abstract and a lay abstract using clear, simple language that is understandable to the general public.

Proposal Narrative:

The body of the application should include the following:

- Specific Aims
- Significance
- Preliminary Studies (if appropriate, though not required)
- Experimental Design and Methods
- Literature Cited
- Projected Funding Plan Post Award (should include plans for peer reviewed funding)
- Publication Plan

* Clear, simple and understandable to the public

* The combination of ALL of the above parts (abstracts, proposal narrative, funding and publication plans) should not exceed 10 pages. Applications are to be submitted as a PDF file. NOTE: Literature Cited does not count against the ten page limit.
Supporting documents should include the following (and do not count against the ten page limit above):

- Grant Request Budget (template provided as Excel file; convert to PDF for submission)
  - The budget form will also be used to submit expenditure reports at six and twelve months.
- Budget Narrative
- Sources of Matching Support (1:1 required, direct and in-kind support are acceptable)
- CV of Principal Investigator

Please do not submit letters of support.

Complete application materials should be submitted electronically as a PDF file to Dr. Amy Moore at amoore@georgiacancer.org no later than 5:00 pm EST on November 1, 2011.

Direct program inquiries to the following:

  Dr. Amy Moore  
  Director of Research Programs  
  Georgia Cancer Coalition  
  Phone: 404-584-0654  
  Email: amoore@georgiacancer.org

Contract Term and Award

The contract term will begin upon execution of the contract and will continue for one year unless extended as provided in the contract.