



Request for Scientific Grant Applications

Proposals Now Being Accepted

Thanks to all the continuing support of Floridians in purchasing the End Breast Cancer specialty plate as well as in the Florida Breast Cancer Foundation's network of breast cancer supporters, survivors and activists fighting to end breast cancer, we have invested over \$5M to fulfill our goal of dedicated funding for education and research programs in the state of Florida.

The Florida Breast Cancer Foundation (FBCF), along with those who generously support us with their talent, time and resources, is working to better the lives of those facing Breast Cancer in the Florida community. Grants are awarded in support of innovative education and research programs throughout Florida.

The Florida Breast Cancer Foundation is currently offering scientific grants for Pilot Program research projects, priority given to new Investigators, with a maximum of \$100,000 for a one year project. Preference will also be given to research applications that are a reflection of a collaborative and integrated multidisciplinary approach. The committee reserves the right to place limitations on awards.

Innovative projects can be in the areas of: basic, clinical, and translational breast cancer research and involve epidemiological studies of breast cancer, research on possible links between breast cancer and the environment, and Psycho-immunological, research as examples.

Important Note

All requests for scientific research funding should be directed to the Florida Breast Cancer Foundation Scientific Committee. More information on funding opportunities is available at www.FloridaBreastCancer.org.

Application Deadline is August 1, 2017.

Applications must be postmarked by this date to be accepted.

**2017 Priority Areas:**

This year's designated Scientific Research Grant themes are:

1. Basic, clinical, and translational breast cancer research.
2. Understanding the links between environmental factors and breast cancer in Florida.
3. Novel epidemiological studies to provide insight on opportunities for improving breast cancer detection and treatment in Florida.
4. Psycho-immunologic mechanisms and breast cancer progression: implications for improving outcomes.
5. Innovative awards and idea grants

All applications must cover at least one of the priority areas.

2017 Statement of Need:

The Florida Breast Cancer Foundation supports unique research projects or ideas (from small- to large-scale) that specifically focus on scientific and clinical breast cancer issues, which, if successfully addressed, could ultimately revolutionize the understanding and/or treatment of breast cancer and move closer to the goal of eradicating the disease. The critical components of this award mechanism are as follows:

Impact: The most important aspect of the grant is the potential of the proposed research to have a radical, revolutionary impact on an area of paramount importance in breast cancer. The potential impact may be near-term or long-term, but it must be transformative. It is the responsibility of the applicant to clearly and explicitly articulate the potential impact on breast cancer, including how it would be transformative.

Research Question: Research proposed under the grant must address an underexplored issue of critical significance in breast cancer. The FBCF particularly encourages applications that focus on less explored or poorly understood areas that are of high importance in breast cancer, such as those related to prevention, susceptibility, protection, recurrence, and metastasis. The proposed work must be based on a sound overall research strategy and may be from any discipline or combination of disciplines.

New Investigators and multi-disciplinary research teams: New investigators are considered to be in the first three years of a tenure-track position, or an equivalent independent research appointment, at their institution. Multi-disciplinary research teams can be composed of investigators from all levels but should involve expertise from at least two or more different disciplines, such as a basic cancer biologist teamed with a medical oncologist or a chemist.



Guidelines and Instructions for Applicants FBCF 2017-2018 Scientific Grant

Important Dates:

May 1, 2017	Announcement of RFP
August 1, 2017	Proposal Due
September 2017	Announcement of Grant Award Recipients
October 1, 2017	Grant Cycle Begins
September 30, 2018	End of Grant Cycle

Qualifications:

Only Florida non-profit community-based organizations that are tax-exempt under Internal Revenue Code section 501(c)(3) and Florida governmental entities are eligible to apply for funding, e.g., Florida tax-exempt non-profit organizations, Florida tax-exempt educational institutions, Florida governmental agencies, and Indian tribes within the State of Florida. US citizenship or residency is not required. Applications must be submitted in English. Applicant organizations must be providing services in Florida.

Restrictions:

- Research must be conducted in the State of Florida.
- Funds will be limited to \$100,000 for 1 year with a maximum of 20% for indirect costs.

Review:

Applications received complete, and meeting compliance with all guidelines, will be submitted for review by a panel established through the FBCF Scientific Grants Committee. Applicants will be given 5 working days to respond to any questions from the review committee. Any questions will be addressed to the project director as indicated on the application.

Each grant application will be reviewed by at least three independent reviewers, including scientists, clinicians, and consumer advocates. During the review and scoring they will consider each of the following selection criteria:

- Research Strategy and Feasibility
 - How the scientific rationale supports the research and its feasibility, as demonstrated by a critical review and analysis of the literature and/or the presentation of preliminary data.
 - How well the hypotheses, aims, experimental design, methods, and analyses are developed and integrated into the project.

- How well the Principal Investigator (PI) acknowledges potential problems and addresses alternative approaches.
- Whether the proposal includes an appropriate statistical plan with power analysis, if applicable.
- Research Question
 - Whether the project addresses a critical yet underexplored area of paramount importance to breast cancer.
- Impact
 - How the proposed research, if successful, would revolutionize the understanding and/or treatment of breast cancer.
 - The potential for the proposed research to ultimately have a radical, transformative impact on breast cancer.
 - How the proposed research would move closer to the goal of eradicating breast cancer.
- Personnel
 - How the research team's background and expertise are appropriate to accomplish the proposed work and how multi-disciplinary teams are effectively addressing the goals of the research project.
 - Appropriateness of the levels of effort for successful conduct of the proposed work.
 - How applications from new investigators meet the criteria for this designation.
- Environment
 - How the scientific environment is appropriate for the proposed research.
 - How the research requirements are supported by the availability of and accessibility to facilities and resources (including collaborative arrangements).
 - How the quality and extent of institutional support are appropriate for the proposed research.

The grant application process is competitive, whether or not an organization has received a grant in the past. Funding in subsequent years is never guaranteed.

Agreements: A grant agreement will be the legal mechanism for funding. Grant Agreements will be executed between FBCF and the PI's institution. The primary institution will serve as the administrator of the grant funds and will hold responsibility for the disbursement of the funds to other participating institutions, management of the budget, and submission of all required documents and reports.

Grant period: Grant period begins October 1, 2017 and will conclude on September 30, 2018.

Payment and Reporting: The payment will be made no later than thirty (30) days after receipt of the fully executed agreement. A progress report is due at the end of six (6) months of the agreement. A final report is due within sixty (60) days of completion of the grant period.

Confirmation of receipt of application: Application receipt confirmation will be mailed to the project director following review for compliance to guidelines. If immediate confirmation of receipt is requested, please include a self-addressed, stamped postcard that will be returned to you immediately upon receipt of the application. Please do not contact The Florida Breast Cancer Foundation regarding the status of the application during the review period as information cannot be provided.

Announcement: Announcement of grants awarded will be made in September 2017. Project directors will be notified of the outcome of the review in writing.

Number of grants to be awarded: The actual number of awards will depend on the amount of funding granted per project.

Applications should include and be ordered as follows:

1. Cover Page (Form Attached):

Signature of approving institutional personnel, other than project director, required. If appropriate, should include information that the application is from a new investigator or multi-disciplinary team.

2. Abstracts:

- Lay abstract (maximum 300 words): Summarize the research so that is understandable to the lay public, explaining how the findings from the proposed research will lead to improvements in the prevention, detection, diagnosis or treatment of breast cancer.
- Scientific abstract (maximum 500 words): Summarize the research to include every major aspect of the proposed project, such as objectives, hypothesis and methods to be used as well as the innovation of the research design.
- Research Significance and Clinical Impact (maximum 500 words): Summarize the research issue(s) that will be addressed and describe the clinical impact and significance in terms of incidence and/or mortality reduction. Applicants should address the following points:
 - How the overarching research question(s), if successfully answered, will lead to new insight into prevention, detection, diagnosis or treatment of breast cancer.
 - How the outcomes from the proposed research plan will advance our knowledge of breast cancer in an important way and/or contribute to the way that we conduct breast cancer research.

3. Project Description (Narrative):

The full application narrative is restricted to no more than 7 pages. Below is a description of the narrative content that must be included in the full application and the recommended page length for each section. Applicants may exceed the recommended page length for a given section provided that the total narrative is no more than 7 pages, including figures and tables. The following sections are required content in the full application narrative, and more detailed descriptions of content to include in each section are provided below:

- **Research Questions, Hypothesis, and Specific Aims (1 page recommended)**
 - Outline the overarching research questions to be addressed, the hypothesis that will be tested in order to address these research questions, and the specific aims that will be necessary to address the stated hypothesis.
- **Background (1-2 pages recommended)**

Describe the scientific premise for the proposed work. Include the following:

 - Detailed description and citation of any related preliminary data and existing research findings

- How the preliminary data and existing research findings support the hypothesis and specific aims proposed in the application
- Data validating any existing animal models that are proposed to be used in the studies
- Applicants are reminded that the State of Florida maintains a complete data list of all cancer incidence and recurrence. For more information on how to access this data refer to the Florida Cancer Data System (FCDS).
- **Innovation (1 page recommended)**
Provide a narrative that describes how the proposed work is paradigm shifting or involves new or emerging hypothesis, approaches, methods, instruments, or interventions that could influence basic, translational or clinical practice. The following components can be considered:
 - A description of the status quo or current research through citations.
 - A specific statement of how the proposed research is innovative and challenges or is different from the status quo.
 - A description of new research/clinical directions, preferably relevant to the mission of FBCF, that will be attained through the innovations of the project.
- **Approach (3 pages recommended)**
Provide details about the approach that will be taken to accomplish the proposed research. Be sure to include the following:
 - Rationale for the proposed aims and underlying hypotheses.
 - Description of the experimental design and methodology in sufficient detail to demonstrate feasibility and expertise.
 - Discussion of potential problems or limitations with the research design and the steps that will be taken to prevent and/or solve these problems
 - Detailed plan for statistical analysis and reproducibility of results.
 - Plan for accessing any biospecimens, animal models, and/or data necessary to successfully complete the proposed research.
 - Research timeline that demonstrates thoughtful consideration of the variables involved in conducting the research, including plans for securing IACUC or IRB approvals in the event that animal use or human specimens are involved.

4. Research Biosketches (Limited to 4 pages each)

Research biosketches, using the NIH biosketch format, are required for ALL key research personnel, including the PI/Applicant, Co-PI (as applicable), and any other key persons named in the application.

- For new investigator applications, include in Part A (Personal Statement) a description of how receiving the award from FBCF will advance the growth of their research program in breast cancer.
- For applications from multi-disciplinary teams, include in Part A (Personal Statement) how each investigator contributes their unique expertise to the success of the proposed work.

5. Letters of Support from Collaborators (as applicable):

Letters of support must be provided from any collaborators critical to the successful conduct of the proposed research. These letters are NOT required from the Applicant or the Co-PI. Letters of

support from collaborators should acknowledge their participation in the proposed research and confirm their contribution and availability.

6. Letters of Institutional Support:

Letters of institutional support must be provided from the applicant institution, institution of the Co-PI (if different from applicant institution, as applicable), and any other institutions that will be involved in subcontracts. The letters of institutional support should confirm institutional support of the research, including the availability of laboratory space, equipment and other resources necessary for the successful conduct of the research, and the willingness of the institution to accept the 20% indirect costs.

- For new investigators, a letter is required from their department chair or institutional official that includes the information requested above and also attests to their date of hire, rank in the institution along with the amount of protected time available to conduct research.

7. Facilities/Resources (limited to 4 pages):

A description of facilities, equipment and resources available to each investigator conducting the proposed research is required and should confirm the availability of and access to all drugs, biospecimens, animal models, equipment and/or data needed for successful completion of the proposed research.

8. References:

List publications cited in the application narrative. There is no limit to the number of publications that can be cited.

9. Financial Information

- Budget for requested funds.
- Budget Justification.
- List of other sources of current funding for the project.

10. Proof of non-profit and tax-exempt status for applicant institution.

All grant applications MUST be submitted in Electronic form.

Electronic Submission: When submitting the grant application electronically, please email the proposal to Jessica Parker-Kerr at : Jessica@FloridaBreastCancer.org and Assistant@FloridaBreastCancer.org

Important: Failure to meet the above criteria will automatically exclude the grant application from being considered for review and hence, funding. Any applications submitted after the deadline will **NOT** be considered.

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Advocacy, Education, Research

Cover Sheet

Breast Cancer Research Grant Request for Funding

Project Director & Title:

Institute/Organization:

Address:

Phone:

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Fax:

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Email:

Title of Project:

New Investigator:

Yes _____

No _____

Multi-team

Yes _____

No _____

Total Amount Requested:

Grant Period:

October 1, 2017 - September 30, 2018

Date:

Signature & Title of Approving

Personnel: (Other than Program Director)

Name & Title of Approving

Institutional Personnel: (Typed)

Applications Must Be submitted By August 1, 2017

(Photocopies of this form are acceptable)

Any applications submitted after the deadline will NOT be considered.

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Lay Abstract Sheet

Project Director: _____

Organization/Institution: _____

Target Population: _____

In the space below, please provide a short lay abstract, not to exceed 300 words, written in lay terms for release to the general public should this application be chosen for funding.

Permission to Publish:

Permission is hereby granted to Florida Breast Cancer Foundation to publish the above abstract should this application be selected for funding.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Name: (Typed) _____

Phone Number: _____

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Scientific Abstract Sheet

Project Director:

Organization/Institution:

Target Population:

In the space below, please provide a scientific abstract, not to exceed 500 words, that summarizes the objectives, hypothesis and methods to be used as well as the innovation of the research design.

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Clinical Impact Abstract Sheet

Project Director:

Organization/Institution:

Target Population:

In the space below, please provide an abstract, not to exceed 500 words, that details the Research Significance and Clinical Impact.

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Budget Sheet

Detailed Budget for Entire Grant Period from <u>October 1, 2017</u> through <u>September 30, 2018</u>	Total Requested Amount:
Personnel: (Detail in Budget Justification Sheet on next page)	
Supplies:	
Equipment: (Not to exceed 30%)	
Travel:	
Other Expenses:	
Subtotal - Direct Costs:	
Indirect Cost Allocation: (Not to exceed 20%)	
Total Funding Request:	

Budget Justification Sheet

Personnel:

Name	Role on Project	Type of appt. (months)	% Effort on Project	Base Salary	Salary Requested	Fringe Benefit	Total

(List additional personnel, if necessary)