



## 2024 UF Health Cancer Center ACS-IRG Information Session Questions and Answers

- 1. Should an application address multiple ACS Research Priorities?**
  - a. *Applications should address at least one of the ACS Research Priorities. Given the nature of the Priorities and the scope of application, it is likely that multiple Priorities will be addressed by the project. Researchers should select all of the priorities their application addresses.*
  
- 2. Will specific Research Priorities be weighted heavier than others or will applications be evaluated on their cancer relevance and impact to the catchment area.**
  - a. *In addition to scientific merit and the ability of investigators to complete the proposed project, applications will be evaluated on their cancer relevance and their impact to the cancer burden of the catchment area. These will inevitably translate to ACS Research Priorities, but those are being captured for categorization of projects and reporting purposes, not evaluation.*
  
- 3. Should applications seek to address specific vulnerable groups or specific diseases of our catchment area, or is a general disease-process that will benefit our patients enough?**
  - a. *One of the evaluation criteria for the pilot application is the impact to the cancer burden of the catchment area. An application that addresses a general need of our patient population will be sufficient, but an application addressing one of the groups with a significant cancer burden or who is particularly vulnerable will be scored more favorably.*
  
- 4. Should preliminary data be included in the pilot grant application?**
  - a. *While the goal of the ACS-IRG pilot program is to support ESIs to “obtain preliminary results that will enable them to compete successfully for national research grants”, existing preliminary data should be included in such a manner that it supports the proposed research. This data can be described in the background section of the Abstract (limited to 300-500 words) and within the 5-page research project description.*
  
- 5. Is collaboration encouraged?**
  - a. *Scientific collaboration is definitely encouraged. Due to the scope of the budget, such collaboration would need to be limited to within the University of Florida. Within those parameters, collaboration with a colleague whose lab has expertise in a specific technique that would benefit the proposed research is highly encouraged and budgetary support for allowable expenses for that lab could be covered within the budget limit.*
  
- 6. Should letters of support be included for collaborators?**
  - a. *Letters of support are not required for this application, however if an investigator wishes to include a letter of support from a collaborator, they may upload it in the full application under “Other Attachments”.*
  
- 7. Will a funded project have one year from October 1, 2024 even if there are delays with IRBs or IACUCs?**
  - a. *Funded projects will have one year from the project start date. UFHCC Research Administration will work with the study team to determine the best start date based on the individual situations involving human subjects and animal research compliance. For example, if an IRB will take an additional 30 days to get approved, the start date can be adjusted to begin once the IRB is approved and the investigator will have one year from that date to complete the project.*

For additional questions or information, please contact UFHCC Research Administration at  
352.273.5940 or [ResearchAdmin@cancer.ufl.edu](mailto:ResearchAdmin@cancer.ufl.edu) .