



Cancer Research Engagement Awards 2021

Frequently Asked Questions

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General

1. Can the application be submitted by non-academics?

Yes, once there is a lead co-applicant who is associated with a [HRB approved host institution](#) and who fulfils all other eligibility criteria.

2. Is the award tenable for host institutions in Northern Ireland?

The award is only tenable for applicants who carry out cancer research in institutes in the Republic of Ireland. This is because the money raised for the Irish Cancer Society is raised in the Republic of Ireland only.

3. Is the award tenable for engagement activities in Northern Ireland?

The award is only tenable for applicants who will conduct their engagement plans in the Republic of Ireland. This is because the money raised for the Irish Cancer Society is raised in the Republic of Ireland only.

4. Can the host institution be a hospital?

No. The host institution must be one of the [HRB's approved host institutions](#).

5. Can the funding be used to fund the continuation of an existing engagement activity?

No. The engagement activity must be a novel one.

Who can apply?

6. I am a Master's student. Can I apply as lead-applicant?

Yes. However, you must carry out cancer research and have a suitable mentor.

7. I am a clinician, nurse or allied health professional. Can I apply as lead-applicant?

Yes, you can apply provided you fulfil all other eligibility criteria and are actively involved in the cancer research field.

- 8. I am a principal investigator, postdoctoral fellow or PhD student but do not work in cancer research, can I still be the lead-applicant?**

No, the lead-applicant must be actively working in the area of cancer research.

- 9. I am an established researcher, but have no experience in cancer research. Can I still apply as a co-applicant?**

Yes. It is not a requirement that the co-applicants have experience in cancer research. Rather, it is expected that the co-applicants can substantially contribute to the application and the planned engagement activities. The lead applicant must be active in cancer research.

- 10. Myself and a second academic wish to apply to the role of lead-applicant, can we split the role?**

Yes, joint lead-applicants are acceptable. However, at least one lead applicant must be associated with a [HRB approved host institution](https://www.hrb.ie/funding/funding-schemes/before-you-apply/all-grant-policies/approval-of-host-institutions/): <https://www.hrb.ie/funding/funding-schemes/before-you-apply/all-grant-policies/approval-of-host-institutions/>.

- 11. What if I am still unsure of my eligibility?**

If you have any questions please contact grants@irishcancer.ie.

Is my engagement plan eligible?

- 12. Does the engagement plan have to be cancer research-specific?**

Yes. The engagement activities must aim to promote awareness and understanding of the importance and relevance of cancer research, support formal and informal learning about cancer research, or stimulate interest and excitement about cancer research.

- 13. Can the engagement plan be specifically organised for the general public only?**

No. The Cancer Research Engagement Awards are specifically for researchers to organise engagement activities to promote cancer research to people affected by cancer. Although, activities which specifically focus on promoting cancer prevention may be eligible. If you have any questions please contact grants@irishcancer.ie.

14. The target audiences in my engagement plan are mixed: people affected by cancer and the general public, is the plan eligible?

Yes. Once it can be shown that the inclusion of the patient population is not tokenistic and will have real impact on this population.

15. Patient and public involvement (PPI) doesn't seem necessary for my engagement plan. Is it necessary to involve stakeholders?

Yes, patient and public involvement (PPI) is a requirement for this award. You are required to have involvement from stakeholders who have been affected by cancer in the planning and organisation of the engagement plan. General public stakeholders can also be included but are not a requirement.

16. What if I am still unsure about the eligibility of my engagement plan?

If you have any questions please contact grants@irishcancer.ie

Funding

17. Is there an overall limit for the amount of funding granted?

The total value of the award will be €2,500 for a maximum of 24 months. While there are no upper or lower limits on any individual budget category, all costs should be appropriate and justified. Approval of all proposed costs are at the discretion of the Irish Cancer Society.

18. I have an external funding source that has indicated that they can provide an additional e.g. €3,000 to this award. Is this acceptable?

Additional funding is acceptable once it is below €2,500. Please contact grants@irishcancer.ie for more information.

19. Does the grant cover host institute overheads?

No. As a charity, the Irish Cancer Society is not in a position to pay for host institution overheads for its research funding.

Application deadlines and dates

20. When do applications need to be in by?

*Applications must be submitted online through [Gateway Grant Tracker](#) <https://grants.cancer.ie> by **3pm Wednesday 8th September 2021**.*

21. Do co-applicants have to approve the application by the 8th September 2021 deadline?

Yes. All co-applicants have to approve the application by this deadline. They can do this through their online portal. It is the responsibility of the lead applicant to ensure that their application is approved by all co-applicants before the deadline. Please ensure that the application is submitted with sufficient time allowed for co-applicant approval.

22. Does the mentor have to approve the application by the 8th September 2021 deadline?

Yes. Once the application is submitted and approved by all co-applicants (if applicable), the application will then need to be approved by the mentor. The mentor must approve before this deadline.

23. When will applicants find out if they have been awarded the Cancer Research Engagement Award?

Applicants will find out the outcomes of the review process in October 2021. This is subject to change.

How will proposals be assessed?

24. Who will review my application?

*Applications go through a number of review steps. In the first instance, the Research Team at the Irish Cancer Society will check applications to ensure they meet eligibility criteria. Eligible applications are then sent for review. The review will be conducted by lay **and** PPI representatives. All reviewers get an equal vote.*

25. Will lay and PPI reviewers all assess the same sections?

Yes. All reviewers will see the same sections.