

Request for Proposals
Pancreas Pilot Project Funding

This grant mechanism is intended to support innovative translational research related to pancreatic cancer as well as other pancreas disease (e.g., pancreatitis) biology, epidemiology, detection, diagnosis and treatment. This mechanism will fund one project from each of the Brenden-Colson Center's Discovery Science Programs: Population Science; Patient Resiliency; Benign Disease and Early Biology/Detection; Cancer Drivers and Intrinsic Vulnerabilities; and TME and Immune/Stromal Vulnerabilities. Leaders for each Program are listed at the end of this document.

Scope: Projects should be designed such that they can be completed within a 12-month timeframe. Deliverables should include a planned manuscript submission or external-funder grant submission, and if applicable (after a publication window) research data that can be added to the OPTR resources (e.g., sequencing). Milestones for tracking project progress during the funding period must be clearly defined.

Eligibility: Any OHSU faculty, staff scientists or postdoctoral trainees are eligible to apply. Projects may be an extension of other work, but cannot overlap with any of the PI's or mentor's current lab funding (including that from BCCPC) or be used as bridging support for projects for which funding has lapsed.

Budget: Awards will be made for justified direct costs only, for one year, with a cap of \$50,000 direct costs per year. Project budgets must be realistic and apply to the specific scope of the project. No-cost extensions will not be available. Allowable costs: Personnel effort, research supplies and services, publication, and patient procedures if not part of standard medical care. GRA stipend is allowed but not tuition or fees. Appropriate PI effort should be included but may be cost-shared by a non-sponsored account.

Application deadlines:

February 2, 2026: Researchers should start by submitting a one-page pre-submission letter of intent of their project idea. Use form provided on BCCPC O2 site. Approval to submit full applications will be based on review of this precis. Submit to Dove Keith keithd@ohsu.edu

April 6, 2026: Full applications due; submit to keithd@ohsu.edu and cc Sherry Garrelts garrelts@ohsu.edu

Full Application Requirements

- **Title Page** (use form provided on BCCPC O2 site); includes
 - **Check box for applicable program**
 - **Project Summary** (½-pg max)
 - **Lay language summary** (about 3 sentences: specific impact to patient care)
- **Research Proposal** (3-pg max) should include: Specific Aim(s), Hypothesis, Background and Significance, Preliminary Findings (if warranted), Research Approach including statistical analysis, and Next Steps (follow on projects, path to publication or funding, etc.). Format according to standard NIH guidelines.
- **Timeline** including Milestones and Deliverables (use form provided on BCCPC O2 site)
- **Confirmation of specimen availability** (e.g., from the BCCPC OPTR repository, or from collaborating clinic for prospective collection)
- **Literature Cited**
- **Budget** (use spreadsheet provided on BCCPC O2 site)
- **Biosketch/Letters of Support:** Submit Biosketch from PI(s) only. Postdocs, Staff Scientists or Research-prefixed faculty must also submit a Letter of Support from their mentor/lab head.

Review Criteria

- Scientific excellence and relevance to pancreatic biology, disease, diagnosis and treatment will be the key review elements for all applications.
- Reviewers will also consider significance, potential impact to the field, innovation, and likelihood of completion within 12 months.
- Milestones to track progress through the funding period must be identified. These milestones must be specific and measurable. Clear deliverables attainable by the conclusion of the funding period (i.e., completed data set, analysis pipeline, publication, patent, external grant application, subsequent collaboration, etc.) must be included.

Awardee Responsibilities

1. A Proposed Project Questionnaire (PPQ) is not required at the time of application; *awardees* (with the exception of Staff Scientists or postdocs) will be required to route and submit an approved ePPQ and proposal in InfoEd at time of award. Staff Scientists and postdoctoral trainees will work directly with BCCPC.
2. IRB and/or IACUC approval are required prior to release of funds.
3. Specimen and/or data release form(s) must be submitted to BCCPC for OPTR resource access.
4. An interim progress report briefly listing completed steps or milestones (must address initial proposed milestones), any roadblocks encountered, and work remaining. This report is due 6 months after award start date. You may be asked to present the interim progress report at a Brenden-Colson Center research meeting (e.g. monthly seminar, PancTank mini-retreat, etc.).
5. A final progress report describing project findings and accomplishments must be submitted within 30 days of the end date of the grant; failure to provide this report will result in ineligibility for any future funding from the Brenden-Colson Center. In addition to data, the report should include publications, grant applications, INDs or IDEs resulting from the project, and plans to further develop the project.
6. Results from funded studies must be presented at a Brenden-Colson Center research meeting (e.g. monthly seminar, PancTank mini-retreat, etc.) within 18 months of the grant start date.
7. The support of the Brenden-Colson Center for Pancreatic Care must be acknowledged in any publications or presentations of the work, as must use of specimens provided from the OPTR or other BCCPC resources.

Brenden-Colson Center's Discovery Science Program Leaders

- Population Science: Jonathan Brody, Gregory Coté, & Jackie Shannon
- Patient Resiliency: Aaron Grossberg & Teresa Zimmers
- Benign Disease, Early Biology/Detection: Rosalie Sears & Brett Sheppard
- Cancer Drivers and Intrinsic Vulnerabilities: Jonathan Brody, Gordon Mills, & Rosalie Sears
- TME and Immune/Stromal Vulnerabilities: Katelyn Byrne & Lisa Coussens