



NATIONAL COMPREHENSIVE CANCER NETWORK

FOUNDATION

Guiding Treatment. Changing Lives.

Request for Proposals (RFP)

NCCN Foundation[®]

2027 Young Investigator Award (YIA) Program

NCCN Foundation[®]

3025 Chemical Road, Suite 100

Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

Please Note: The final RFP for the 2027 Young Investigator Award Program has not been released yet. The information below is based on historical NCCN guidelines, as well as changes identified in the most recent RFP for the 2026 funding cycle and is subject to change upon release of the official RFP.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PAGE

ORGANIZATIONAL BACKGROUND.....	3
PROGRAM PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION	3
PROGRAM TIMELINE	4
ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS	5
NOMINATION PROCESS	5
PROPOSAL SUBMISSION PROCESS	6
SUBMISSION	9
PAYMENT OF FUNDS	9
UNSPENT FUNDS	9
GRANT PERIOD	9
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS	9
YIA PROPOSAL REVIEW COMMITTEE.....	9
REVIEW COMMITTEE ATTRIBUTES.....	10
REVIEW COMMITTEE PARTICIPANT	10
PROPOSAL EVALUATION CRITERIA.....	10
AWARD ADMINISTRATION.....	11
RESPONSIBLE CONDUCT.....	11
HELPFUL RESOURCES	11

ORGANIZATIONAL BACKGROUND

NCCN Foundation[®] was established in 2009 by the National Comprehensive Cancer Network[®] (NCCN[®]), a Section 501(c)(3) public charity whose mission is to define and advance quality, effective, equitable, and accessible cancer care so all people can live better lives. NCCN operates as a not-for-profit alliance of 33 leading cancer centers devoted to patient care, research, and education (NCCN Member Institutions). Through the leadership and expertise of clinical professionals at NCCN Member Institutions, NCCN develops resources that present valuable information to the numerous stakeholders in the health care delivery system.

NCCN Foundation strives to continue NCCN's mission by seeking philanthropic support to engage in activities including, but not limited to, developing a research grant program to encourage and assist early career physicians, scientists, nurses, and other investigators in conducting innovative and collaborative research in oncology at NCCN Member Institutions. In order to expand upon the body of knowledge available regarding the diagnosis and treatment of cancer, the NCCN Foundation focuses on funding research projects that further its charitable and educational purposes and support researchers in fields for which it is often difficult to obtain funding.

PROGRAM PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION

Through its Young Investigator Award (YIA) Program, the NCCN Foundation invites proposals from young investigators with innovative ideas and an interest in improving the quality, effectiveness, equity, and accessibility of care provided to patients with cancer. The primary focus of the NCCN Foundation YIA Program is to identify and fund top investigators in the early stages of their careers interested in participating and contributing to cancer research. On average, four to seven grants are awarded per year.

The awards provide two-year grants of \$150,000 for research expenses to promising young investigators across a broad range of oncology specialties and areas of interest. The award may be used to fund salary and benefits of the grant recipient, postdoctoral or clinical research fellows and/or research assistants, data collection and entry, patient costs, analysis, computer costs, necessary purchased services, surveys, and supplies. Within the total budget of \$150,000, indirect expenses will be covered to a maximum of 8%. The award may include funds up to \$3,000 for IRB review and continuing review. In addition to the \$150,000 award, a separate administrative allowance of up to \$575 will be provided for travel, lodging, and registration expenses to attend the 2030 NCCN Annual Conference. Attendance at the NCCN Annual Conference is mandatory in order for the awardees to present their research results at the General Poster Session.

The award is open to physicians, scientists, nurses, and others working in an oncology laboratory, clinical research or clinical setting, or cancer control program in one of NCCN's 33 Member Institutions, who:

- Have a first full-time current appointment as an Assistant Professor, Instructor, or equivalent level, and
- Are MDs, DOs, PhDs or, for nurses and others, have an advanced degree.

Each NCCN Member Institution can nominate one young investigator who may submit a research proposal. Please note the following:

- **Member Institutions that received an NCCN Young Investigator Award during the 2026 cycle are not eligible to apply for the 2027 cycle; and**
- **Those Member Institutions will still be required to appoint a representative to the Proposal Review Committee for the 2027 cycle.**

A hallmark of NCCN's programs has been strong attention to excellent data collection, analysis, and outcomes measures. Successful YIA proposal submissions will be expected to bring this same high level of rigor to their research and clinical practice programs. Successful candidates will identify and work closely with an appropriate institutional mentor for their two-year YIA. Following completion of research, abstracts will be published in *JNCCN—Journal of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network*. Awardees will be expected to present their findings within their own Institution through educational opportunities such as grand rounds and tumor boards. Manuscript submission of funded work is required.

PROGRAM TIMELINE

Date	Description
November 18, 2026	NCCN Member Institution candidate nomination deadline. • Member Institutions may only nominate <u>one</u> candidate. • Member Institutions that received an NCCN Young Investigator Award during the 2026 cycle are not eligible to nominate a candidate for the 2027 cycle.
January 20, 2027	NCCN Member Institution Deadline for mandatory submission of <u>one Proposal Review Committee</u> member. • Member Institutions that received an NCCN Young Investigator Award during the 2026 cycle are required to appoint a representative to the Proposal Review Committee for the 2027 cycle. • <i>Proposal Submissions from Member Institutions that do not contribute a Proposal Review Committee member <u>will not be considered for funding</u>.</i>
January 20, 2027 -5:00 PM (ET)	Proposal Submission Deadline within the NCCN website.
March 5, 2027	Proposal Review Committee will meet via a virtual meeting.
End of March 2027	Award Notifications.

October 1, 2027– September 30, 2029	Award Period: - It is anticipated that eighteen months will be used for the implementation of the scope of work (October 1, 2027 – March 31, 2029) and six months will be used to compile and finalize the study data and comply with all reporting requirements (April 1, 2029 – September 30, 2029). - Draft protocol submission is required one month after award notification. - IRB/IACUC approval (if applicable) and study activation required by October 1, 2026.
October 31, 2029	Final Study Report and Expenditure Report/Financial Reconciliation deadline
October/November 2029	Abstract Submission for the 2030 NCCN Annual Conference – General Poster Session.
March/April 2030	Presentation of research results will occur at the 2030 NCCN Annual Conference – General Poster Session.
<i>Note: All abstracts and manuscripts require NCCN Foundation review prior to submission.</i>	

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Nominees must have:

- Medical degree - MD, DO, or international equivalent; **OR**
- Scientific degree - PhD or international equivalent; **OR**
- Nursing degree – Master level and above or international equivalent; **OR**
- Pharmacy degree - PharmD or international equivalent; **AND**
- Primary affiliation/work site at an NCCN Member Institution where they will remain as full-time faculty **for the duration of the award period; AND**
- First full-time appointment at an NCCN Member Institution and remain in good standing for the duration of the award period; **AND**
- Mentor in the proposed research field; **AND**
- Institutional commitment to support the research project.

NOMINATION PROCESS

Each eligible NCCN Member Institution may nominate one candidate per institution by **Wednesday, November 18, 2026**. Instructions for proposal submissions will be sent directly to nominees by NCCN. 2027 YIA recipients will be announced during the Board of Directors Dinner at the 2027 NCCN Annual Conference.

NCCN Member Institutions may submit the nomination of their candidate via email to foundationproposals@nccnfoundation.org. Please use the subject line: “NCCN Foundation YIA 2027 - Candidate Nomination.”

The following information about the nominee is required to be included in the email:

- Name & Degree
- Academic Appointment or Rank
- Institution
- Title
- Email Address
- Research Area of Interest

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION PROCESS

All proposals must be submitted electronically through NCCN’s website in accordance with the requirements and instructions of this Request for Proposals (RFP). Proposals should provide concise documentation of the research plan and there should be no more than 10 single-spaced pages using 12-point Arial font with 1-inch margins. The 10-page limit does not include the title page, references, support letters, or supporting documentation. The proposal is expected to contain sufficient information for reviewers to fully assess the scientific rigor and feasibility of the proposed study.

Proposals are required to be submitted electronically via the [NCCN website](#).

The proposal should contain details regarding the following areas, as applicable:

I. Cover Page (not to exceed 1 page):

1. **Title:** Please include the full project title.
2. **Personnel/Institutions:** Please list the Primary Investigator, mentor(s), statistician, and all sub-investigators with the names and addresses of their corresponding institutions. Additionally, if applicable, please list the name, address, and Primary Investigator for any proposed subsite(s).
3. **Abstract:** Please include an abstract summary of your proposal including the overall goal, target population, methods and assessment. Please limit this to 250 words.

II. Main Section of the Proposal (not to exceed 10 pages):

1. Concept Information

- A. Planned Enrollment/ Study Design/Phase/Estimated time of completion
 - Please note: all projects must be completed within 24 months total.
- B. Overview/Hypothesis
- C. Background/Rationale/Innovation
- D. Feasibility documentation

2. Detailed Workplan

- A. Primary/Secondary objectives
- B. Primary/Secondary endpoints
- C. Study population

- D. Current Assessment of Need in Target Area
- E. Inclusion/Exclusion criteria
- F. Treatment plan
- G. Outcome measures
- H. Statistical Plan

3. Correlative Study Information

- A. Please provide background information on any planned correlative studies, including the biologic rationale and hypothesis as well as the relevant preclinical and clinical (if available) data.

4. Investigational Product, if applicable

- A. Formulation Dosage/Quantity
- B. Please indicate whether the study treatment includes an investigational agent from a pharmaceutical company, or is an agent used outside of its indication. If a pharmaceutical company is providing the investigational product, the proposal **must** include a letter of drug support from the manufacturer. If the investigational product is to be obtained as standard of care, please document this in your proposal.

III. References (no page limit)

Required Ancillary Documentation

1. Full Budget and Budget Justification (Use NCCN Budget Template)

- A. Nominees must complete and submit the budget in the separate **NCCN budget template**. The budget must include
- B. Amount requested (Cannot be more than \$150,000.00)
- C. Breakdown by major cost categories
- D. Justification of major costs with enough detail to demonstrate how funding for major elements in the study will be allocated
- E. Salaries, which are capped at the current NIH salary cap, fringe benefits, % effort, and responsibilities for each study team member, capped at the current NIH salary-cap
- F. Indirect costs capped at 8%
- G. For combined clinical and correlative studies, separate budgets for each component should be submitted
- H. Travel, registration, and associated incidental expenses for presenting at the NCCN Annual Conference should **not** be included in the study budget, as these expenses are handled separately from the grant.
- I. No publication costs will be covered.
- J. Nominees are required to disclose additional sources of funding for this research and demonstrate that funding does not overlap with this award.
 - a. If applications for additional funding are pending at the time of proposal submission, applicants must disclose the potential funding sources but also demonstrate that completing their proposed project is not contingent on the outcome of the external funding application.

2. Budget Review and Approval Letter

3. CVs

- A. PI CV
- B. Sub-Investigator(s) CV, if applicable
- C. Mentor(s) CV

4. Feasibility Letter, including the following information:

- A. For Clinical Trials:
 - Confirmation that the project can be completed within the 2-year time limit specified above;
 - Projected Accrual Dates (Month/Year)
 - The PI's previous experience conducting trials with a similar patient population, tumor type, study phase, and/or investigational agent;
 - Collaborators' experience, including affiliates;
 - Competing trials - List all active, approved or in-review studies at your institution for which the same patient population is eligible
- B. For Outcomes/Translational and Correlative/Pre-clinical Studies:
 - Confirmation that the project can be completed within the 2-year time limit specified above;
 - Specimen acquisition details;
 - As applicable, collaborators' experience;
 - As applicable, previous experience with studies in a similar tumor type, phase of study, or therapy;
 - As applicable, competing projects for which the same patient population is eligible

5. Required Letter(s) of Support from governing groups of the institution verifying:

- A. Office of Sponsored Research approval
- B. Department Chair or Division Letter of Support and approval
- C. Institutional budgetary review and approval
- D. Mentor's Letter of Support and Mentorship Plan outlining the following
 - Evaluation of applicant's ability to carry out proposed research
 - Mentor's experience training clinical and/or research faculty, as appropriate
 - Goal(s) of mentorship program and details of plan designed to achieve those goals
- E. Subsite collaborator support letter, if applicable
- F. Drug support letter, if applicable

One letter may satisfy multiple requirements if it clearly addresses all components (A-C) listed above. Letters should be addressed to:

Crystal Denlinger, MD, CEO

National Comprehensive Cancer Network
3025 Chemical Road, Suite 100
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

SUBMISSION

All proposals must be submitted electronically via NCCN's website and are due by **Wednesday, January 20, 2027 at 5:00 PM (ET)**. Detailed proposal submission instructions are provided in the supplemental guide. For questions or issues, please contact Nye Smith via email at nsmith@nccn.org with the subject line "2027 NCCN Foundation YIA."

PAYMENT OF FUNDS

The Award total of \$150,000 will be disbursed as follows:

- First payment of \$50,000 will be paid on or after October 1, 2027, subject to receipt by NCCN of all required items, which will be identified in the Study Start-up Letter.
- Second payment of \$50,000 will be paid subject to satisfactory progress and submission of satisfactory finance and progress reports, at the end of the first year.
- Final payment of \$50,000 will be paid upon submission of a final study report and final expenditure report/financial reconciliation.

UNSPENT FUNDS

Any unspent portion of the grant funds must be returned to the NCCN Foundation within sixty (60) days of the expiration of grant end date.

GRANT PERIOD

Whereas the NCCN Foundation is subject to the terms and conditions of the funders' agreements supporting this program, funded projects are required to be completed within two years from October 1, 2027.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Awardees are required to submit an annual financial report for each year of the grant funding and quarterly progress reports. The reporting schedule will be stipulated upon NCCN's notification of the activation of the study.

YIA PROPOSAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

All NCCN Member Institutions, with either an active YIA in 2026 or that nominates a candidate to apply for 2027 YIA funding, must provide the name of a YIA Proposal Review Committee participant by **January 20, 2026**. YIA Proposal submissions from Member Institutions that do not contribute a Review Committee participant **will not be considered for funding**. The Review Committee participant **must complete their assigned proposal reviews and attend the YIA Proposal Review Meeting on March 5, 2027 in order for the YIA nominee from their institution to be considered**.

REVIEW COMMITTEE ATTRIBUTES

The YIA Proposal Review Committee participants must have prior proposal reviewer experience and expertise in oncology with a broad spectrum of research knowledge (clinical, pre-clinical, quality, health equity, etc.) and types of cancer. Individual Review Committee participants will be recused from reviewing/discussing proposal submissions from their own institutions.

In addition, a Review Committee participant must meet the following criteria:

- Must be an Associate Professor or higher;
- MUST be able to review any/all proposals, even if outside of the scope of their expertise;
- Grant review experience strongly preferred;
- Experience working with NCCN preferred;
- May not be a YIA grant recipient with an active YIA project;
- NCCN Clinical Guideline Panel members are permitted to serve; and
- MUST be available to review applications, submit feedback by the identified deadline, and actively participate in the Selection Committee meeting on **March 5, 2027, 12:30 – 4 PM EST**.

REVIEW COMMITTEE PARTICIPANT:

The following information regarding the YIA Review Committee participant must be submitted by the Member Institution to: FoundationProposals@nccnfoundation.org using the subject line NCCN Foundation YIA 2027 - Review Committee.

Review Committee Participant:

- Name & Credentials
- Academic Appointment or Rank
- Area(s) of Expertise
- Institution, address, cell phone number, email address

PROPOSAL EVALUATION CRITERIA

The YIA Proposal Review Committee will select recipients for YIAs based on the following criteria:

- Scientific Soundness
- Study Design
- Feasibility
- Statistics
- Budget
- Mentorship Plan
- Timeline – work **must** be finalized and final reporting submitted within the 2-year grant period

AWARD ADMINISTRATION

The NCCN Oncology Research Program (ORP) will provide oversight for the review, selection, and awarding of the YIAs. ORP standards will be used by the YIA Proposal Review Committee to review and score proposals received in response to this RFP.

RESPONSIBLE CONDUCT

During the Award period, the Investigator must not be absent from participation in the Project or from the Institution for extended periods of time during the Award Period, such as for a sabbatical leave or leave of absence, without prior written approval from the NCCN Foundation.

HELPFUL RESOURCES

- Frequently Asked Questions (attached)
- NCCN Proposal Instructions and Template (attached)



NATIONAL COMPREHENSIVE CANCER NETWORK

FOUNDATION

Guiding Treatment. Changing Lives.

NCCN Foundation – Young Investigator Award (YIA) Submissions Frequently Asked Questions

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION QUESTIONS:

Question: Are proposal submissions due by a certain time on the due date?

Answer: Yes, proposal submissions are due on the due date by 5:00 pm ET.

Question: Does the NCCN Member Institution need to submit the name of the nominee in advance?

Answer: Yes, the name of the nominee must be submitted to the NCCN Foundation in advance of the nominee applying for the YIA.

Question: If the nominee has additional mentors from other institutions, should these mentors be listed?

Answer: All mentors and the name of the institution they are affiliated with should be listed.

Question: If the nominee's study is focused on more than one disease jointly, should they enter just one tumor type on the proposal or list all tumor types?

Answer: All tumor types should be listed.

Question: If the nominee's study is part of an overarching study (umbrella, bucket, etc.), does it need to be disclosed at the proposal stage?

Answer: Yes, it must be disclosed within the proposal. Please note that NCCN will require IRB approval of the YIA nominee's sub-study (if applicable) prior to activation, and the YIA nominee must be explicitly listed on the protocol as the lead investigator for the YIA sub-study.

Question: Does the ten-page limit include references, the budget/budget justification, or supporting documentation?

Answer: No; the page limit applies only to the content of the proposal, not including references or supporting documentation like the budget, budget justification, CVs, or letters of support.

Question: Is the ten-page limit single or double spaced? Is there a word or character limit?

Answer: The page limit is single spaced. Proposals should use 12 point Arial font with 1-inch margins.

Question: The proposed project is not a clinical trial, so a section of the proposal (for example, target audience) is not applicable. What should I do?

Answer: Please feel free to respond "N/A" for any sections of the proposal which are not applicable to the project.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENT QUESTIONS:

Question: Can the letter of support be written by a Division Chief as opposed to the Cancer Center Director, Department Head, or Dean?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Is there a page limitation for the Mentor's letter of support?

Answer: No, there is no page limitation for any supporting documents, including the Mentor's letter of support.

Question: Where in the proposal submission should supporting documents be included?

Answer: Upload the proposal, budget, and all supporting documents including the institutional budget approval letter into the appropriate fields on the proposal submission portal. Detailed instructions for submitting proposals can be found on the [NCCN website](#).

Question: How is the Office of Sponsored Research (OSR) Letter of Support letter different from the Department Chair Letter of Support?

Answer: Each letter identifies a different area of institutional support. A single letter may be submitted but must clearly state that the proposal has support from both the Department Chair and the OSR.

Question: Who should provide the feasibility letter and what should it encompass?

Answer: The feasibility document is a letter from the institution confirming they've reviewed the project plan and believe it can be successfully completed on time with the proposed budget and available resources. This letter usually speaks to the ability to accrue patients if applicable, existing institutional infrastructure (such as lab equipment, biorepositories, databases, etc.), an assessment of the applicant's strengths and previous experience with similar trials, competing trials if applicable, and a discussion regarding the quality of collaboration between the applicant, mentor(s), and sub-investigators. This should come from the Office of Sponsored research, a director, dean, or department chair as appropriate depending on the proposed project. Please refer to the RFP for additional details required in the feasibility letter.

Question: Is a formal mentorship plan required and what details should it include?

Answer: A formal mentorship plan is required. It should include the frequency of meetings with the mentor, objectives of the mentorship relationship, and how the mentor will support the applicant's growth and success.

BUDGET QUESTIONS:

Question: Is it possible to budget a salary for a co-investigator, in addition to the grant recipient, postdoctoral or clinical research Fellows, associates and assistants?

Answer: Yes, co-investigators involved in the study may be included in the budget; all salaries must adhere to the current NIH salary cap.

Question: If funding is already coming from another grant related to the research, but the NCCN Foundation YIA proposal has a different focus, is it possible to apply for the YIA?

Answer: Yes, as long as the focus of the project is different than the funding of the other grant, you may apply for the YIA. Overlapping funding is not allowed and all funding sources must be disclosed at the time of application.

Question: What type of expenses fall under the "clinical budget" category and which expenses should go in the "correlative budget"?

Answer: All costs associated with running the clinical study, i.e. PI cost, IRB and pharmacy fees, patient costs and any costs that are associated with the clinical study should be on the clinical budget. For the correlative studies, there may be PI staff costs as well as research assistant costs if someone other than the PI is performing the tests. Also, include cost of laboratory supplies, reagents, assays, and all costs associated with performing the correlative studies.

Question: What is considered a “non-research related expense”?

Answer: Non-research related expenses are considered indirect costs or funds that are not used directly for research. Within the total YIA budget of \$150,000, non-research related expenses will be covered to a maximum of 8%.

Question: Can a standard budget worksheet be submitted with the proposal?

Answer: No, the NCCN Budget template is required.

Question: What is the total amount of the grant?

Answer: The total amount of the grant is not to exceed \$150,000 or \$75,000 per year for 2 years.

Question: Per the RFP, travel is not an eligible expense for the project. Can mileage reimbursement for the Project Investigator to travel to the study sites be included in the budget?

Answer: Mileage reimbursement for the Principal Investigator to travel to study sites cannot be included in the budget. The Foundation will provide a one-time travel allowance up to \$575 for PIs to attend and present their data at the NCCN Annual Conference. These arrangements and travel allowance for the annual conference will be handled separately from the grant.

Question: Will NCCN cover the cost of poster printing when investigators present their poster at the NCCN Annual Conference?

Answer: No, investigators are responsible for covering the cost of poster printing. This expense is not eligible for reimbursement and cannot be included in the overall study budget.

TECHNICAL QUESTIONS:

Question: Who should I contact if I have issues submitting my proposal?

Answer: If you have questions or technical difficulties during the submission process, please contact Nicole Zion, Senior Manager, Clinical Research, at zion@nccn.org.

ELIGIBILITY QUESTIONS:

Question: What is meant by “first full-time appointment”?

Answer: The NCCN Foundation defers to each institution’s Office of Sponsored Research to make eligibility determinations regarding “first full-time appointments” for their nominees. Interested young investigators should work with their Office of Sponsored Research to determine if they are eligible to receive a nomination based on prior appointments.

Question: Is a nominee who will begin his/her first full-time appointment by the award start date eligible?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Would a project be considered eligible for funding if the protocol is in the beginning stages and the IND is being prepared for submission?

Answer: Yes, the project will be considered for funding as long as the investigator will be able to meet the timeline required for the project.

Question: Is there a limit to the number of years a nominee can be in their first full-time appointment?

Answer: If the institution considers the investigator to be early in his/her career he/she is eligible for this program.

Question: If your institution was granted a YIA in 2026, are you eligible to nominate a YIA for the upcoming 2027 cycle?

Answer: No, for those institutions with an active YIA initiated in 2026 they will not be able to apply the next year (2027). However, they will again be eligible the following year (2028). This will allow more Member Institutions to have an opportunity to receive a Young Investigator Award.

Question: If an investigator receives a YIA grant and leaves their institution during the grant award period, can they continue receiving the grant funding at their new institution or transfer the study to a new principal investigator at the original institution?

Answer: No; YIA grants cannot be transferred to a new institution or a new principal investigator, and study funding cannot extend beyond the investigator's date of departure.

REVIEW COMMITTEE QUESTIONS:

Question: What attributes are required to participate in the YIA Proposal Review Committee?

Answer: Review Committee participants should have the following attributes: they should be an Associate Professor or higher, they must be able to review any/all proposals, even if the assigned proposals are outside the scope of their expertise, they may not be a YIA grant recipient with an active YIA project, and they must be available to review applications, submit feedback by the identified deadline, and actively participate in the Selection Committee meeting. Additionally, previous grant review experience and experience working with NCCN is strongly preferred.

Question: Can NCCN Clinical Guideline Panel members participate in the YIA Proposal Review Committee?

Answer: Yes! NCCN Clinical Guideline Panel members are welcome and encouraged to participate in the YIA Proposal Review Committee.

Question: Can a current YIA grant recipient serve on the Proposal Review Committee?

Answer: YIA grant recipients with an active project are not eligible to serve on the review committee.

Question: Is a representative from each Member Institution present at the YIA Review Meeting?

Answer: In order for a nominee's proposal to be considered, a reviewer from their institution must participate in the review process and be present at the YIA Review Meeting. In addition, Member Institutions with an active YIA will also be required to have a reviewer from their institution participate in the review process.

National Comprehensive Cancer Network Foundation: Young Investigator Award

Internal LOI Submission Instructions

The CU Cancer Center is inviting internal Letters of Intent for the NCCN Foundation's 2027 Young Investigator Award. Because each NCCN Member Institution may nominate only one candidate, the Cancer Center will conduct an internal review to select its institutional nominee.

1. Project Information

- Project title
- Principal Investigator: name, title, and email
- Mentor: name, title, and email
- Project Summary: Provide a brief lay summary of your project

2. Research Summary- This should be no more than 2 pages total and include the sections below:

A. Project Overview

- What problem does the proposed work address?
- What solution or strategy is proposed?
- How is the project innovative, and how will it improve the quality, effectiveness, equity, or accessibility of cancer care?

B. Background and Rationale

- Brief scientific premise and significance
- Existing data supporting the proposed research
- Evidence that the project can be completed within the two-year award period

C. Proposed Research Plan

- Key aims/objectives
- Overview of study design, methods, and analytical approach

D. Mentorship and Institutional Support

- Mentor's role and mentorship plan

E. Funding

- Estimated funding amount requested
- Brief description of how the funds will be used

3. Biosketches

- NIH-formatted biosketch for the PI and mentor
- Limit: 5 pages per biosketch

Submission Requirement

Please combine all LOI materials into one single PDF before submission. LOIs that are not submitted as one complete PDF will not be accepted.

Submission Link

[Please submit your single page PDF here.](#)

Review Criteria

LOIs will be reviewed by a panel with relevant expertise based on scientific merit and innovation, feasibility, budget, mentorship plan, and project timeline.

Important Dates

Internal LOI deadline	Friday, October 2 at 5:00 pm MT
Internal nomination notification	Week of November 9
Anticipated sponsor deadline	January 20, 2027
Anticipated sponsor grant period	October 1, 2027- September 30, 2029

These instructions are also provided in the Smartsheet submission link listed above

If you have any questions, please reach out to Ashley Patterson at CC_FundingOps@cuanschultz.edu.