

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS: DEADLINE Thursday, January 2nd 2025, 5 PM

Overview: This funding announcement aims to support promising and impactful basic and translational research by fostering collaboration between basic scientists and clinicians. The bench-to-bedside and bedside-to-bench approach is designed to effectively translate innovative ideas into practical applications for patients and the wider population.

Eligible Investigators: Members of the Legorreta Cancer Center, either directly associated with Brown University or affiliated hospital campuses, are eligible to serve as Principal Investigators (PIs) for the grant. Co-investigators and collaborators may include Cancer Center members, individuals from outside academic institutions, or pharmaceutical companies who can meaningfully contribute to the scientific questions or their clinical translation. Non-members are welcome to contact Ms. Shiyoko Cothren to become Cancer Center members before applying for this funding.

Available Support: We anticipate that at least four projects will receive funding for one year, with a minimum of \$25K in direct costs per project. Applicants must clearly justify the need for support and outline the expected impact of their research. Funds will be allocated directly to the research, with no allowance for indirect costs or PI salary support.

Characteristics of the Most Competitive Projects (please highlight these aspects in your application, if applicable):

- **Potential for Impact within 12-24 Months:** Projects with the potential to produce high-impact publications, submit NCI grants, activate clinical protocols enrolling patients, or submit additional grant applications within one year.
- **Collaborative Projects:** Proposals that involve collaborations between Brown University and Lifespan, Care New England, the Providence VA Hospital, the Brown School of Public Health, Engineering, Behavioral Health Programs, or industry partners.
- **Interdisciplinary Research:** Projects that foster cross-disciplinary collaboration and have a high likelihood of leading to multi-investigator grants (e.g., U54, P01, SPORE).
- **Translational Research:** Research involving biomarkers, behavioral or population studies, or therapeutic development.
- **Cancer Relevance:** Projects addressing the etiology, prevention, pathogenesis, or therapeutics of cancers with higher prevalence in Rhode Island, particularly those impacting health disparities, inequities, and racial or ethnic heterogeneity within the state's population.

Submission Guidelines:

Proposals must include the following:

- **Title Page:** Include the proposal title, PI and their affiliation, co-PI(s), and collaborators.
- **Abstract:** A concise summary not exceeding 200 words.
- **Specific Aims:** One page outlining the key objectives.
- **Research Strategy:** A five-page section covering background, significance, innovation, preliminary data, and experimental plan, along with references.
- **Budget and Justification:** One page detailing allowable costs, including personnel (for trainees), supplies, animal research, core facility charges (e.g., pathology, specimen handling, analysis, microarrays, genomics), and clinical research costs not covered by other mechanisms or Cores.
- **NIH Biosketch:** Use the latest template and include other support information for the PI, co-PI(s), and collaborators.

Use Arial 11 font, and submit the entire proposal as a single PDF file. Submissions should be emailed to henri_blouin@brown.edu.

Review Process:

Proposal reviews will be completed by **January 31, 2025**, with an anticipated funding start date of **March 1, 2025**. The Review Committee will consist of senior scientific, clinical, and programmatic leadership, following an NIH Study Section review format. Sendurai A. Mani, Associate Director for Translational Oncology (mani@brown.edu), will chair the review process.

Reporting and Expectations of Funded Investigators:

Funded investigators are required to submit two progress reports: one every six months and another at the end of the award period. Additionally, funded groups will be invited to present their findings at Cancer Center events, including the annual retreat. All publications resulting from the funded research must acknowledge the support by mentioning “Translational Oncology pilot funds from the Legorreta Cancer Center.”