

American Cancer Society Institutional Research Grant

CANCER RESEARCH FUNDS AVAILABLE

DEADLINE: Applications due on October 1, 2013. Start date: January 1, 2014.

Eligibility. Qualified faculty from the Penn State University are encouraged to apply for cancer research funds made available through an American Cancer Society Institutional Research Grant (ACS-IRG). These funds are intended to provide seed money to **new investigators** to help them with starting their research programs and to obtain preliminary data in support of more extensive research applications. Applications must have a clear and strong cancer focus.

Faculty at the assistant professor level who are within six year of starting their independent faculty (or equivalent) appointment and have not previously received and ACS IRG award may apply. Eligibility is limited to junior faculty who are not currently the Principal investigator on a national research award.

Investigators whose initial nationally peer reviewed research grant was not renewed and who are still at the level of assistant professor may apply for an individual IRG--provided they are within the first six years of their independent faculty (or equivalent) appointment and have not received funds from the IRG before.

Junior investigators who received an initial one year PSHCI ACS IRG award may apply for a second year of funding for that same project, provided that they still meet the other eligibility criteria. However, competitive renewals **MUST** include a progress report (page limit 5 pages, excluding budget and forms) detailing progress made for each specific aim, justification for a second year of support, and description of interactions with their project mentor.

Investigators who received a previous IRG award are **NOT** eligible to receive a second award for a different project.

Budget requests may not exceed \$30,000 in direct costs. Please carefully review the detailed list of the "allowable budget items" in the "Instructions to Applicants" link below.

The IRG Committee, made up of over 20 experienced cancer investigators, will serve as the study section. The IRG Committee will meet in November and funding decisions will be announced by December 1, 2013. A link to a list of the current IRG Committee is provided below.

Please see the link below to "frequently asked questions." For additional questions, please contact: Thomas J. O'Leary, PhD, 531-1566, toleary@hmc.psu.edu

For Applicants:

- ACS IRG Application (applicants must use this form)
- ACS IRG Instructions for Applicants
- Answers to Frequently asked Questions
- ACS IRG Progress Report to be completed by junior investigators receiving IRG support.
- IRG Review Committee Roster

PSHCI IRG Awards

The first competitive cycle was completed in February of 2013. The IRG Committee, made up of 20 experienced cancer researchers, reviewed twenty-two applications and had funds sufficient to support five applications. We wish to thank Dr. Dan Notterman for providing College of Medicine matching funds that allowed us to make the 5 awards.

The initial five funded investigators include:

Nathan Dolloff, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Division of Hematology Oncology: "IgH Gene Enhances: New Therapeutic Targets for the Treatment of B and Plasma Cell Malignancies." Award \$30,000

Ping Du, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine: "Natural history of HPV infection in Appalachian young women in the vaccine era." Award \$30,000

Todd Fox, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Pharmacology: "Perturbations of sphingolipid metabolism in pancreatic cancer." Award \$25,000

Jussuf Kaifi, M.D., Ph.D, Assistant Professor, Department of Surgery: "Molecular Characterization of Circulating Tumor Cells Isolated during Colorectal Cancer Liver and Lung Metastasectomy." Award \$20,000

Jianxun Song, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology: "Impact of Tumor Ag-Specific CTL from Pluripotent Stem Cells on Cancer." Award \$30,000