



Request for Research Proposals

Prostate Cancer Foundation Challenge Awards

The Prostate Cancer Foundation (PCF) is pleased to announce a new mechanism for supporting transformational prostate cancer research. We hope to accomplish this through funding cross-disciplinary teams of investigators in strategic areas that advance translational research. The Challenge Award proposals PCF currently seeks represents the implementation of a new scientific strategic plan for 2008-2012. Our new strategic plan incorporates the concept that longer term funding of milestone-driven research is needed in our field with the potential to reduce death and suffering from prostate cancer.

We seek proposals from teams of at least three highly experienced investigators capable of providing unique scientific expertise to the solution of a significant problem in prostate cancer research. A team may be assembled from one institution, or from several institutions. PCF Challenge Awards are intended to accelerate progress towards the reduction of death and suffering due to recurrent or advanced prostate cancer and reward high risk-high return research ideas. Although potentially high-impact basic science projects will be carefully considered, translational research projects will be given the strongest consideration, particularly if they manifest originality, innovation, and attention towards clinical translation and ultimate patient benefit. These awards will cover direct costs of the research and will range from \$300,000 to \$1,000,000 per year for 3 years. The period of support may be extended based on ability of PCF to raise additional philanthropic funds for programs making exceptional progress.

The expectation of a PCF Challenge Award is not the same as a Program Project Grant, where significant infrastructure is often mandated (cores in reagents, biostatistics, etc.). Rather, PCF is interested in funding a team that will use the award to perform research in ways that existing grants and awards are NOT now available to address challenging research problems. The application of novel biotechniques and inclusion of new research expertise to a challenging problem in prostate cancer basic or translational research is strongly encouraged from applicants. Partnerships of investigators doing "first in field" cancer research currently working outside the field of prostate cancer are encouraged to join with established prostate cancer investigators in these teams.

Application Guidelines

- 1. Eligibility:** Investigators representing non-profit academic research centers worldwide are eligible to apply. Investigators from for-profit companies and government-sponsored institutions, i.e., NIH, are ineligible.
- 2. Research Proposal:** Proposal should be no longer than ten (10) text pages total including preliminary data in support of the proposal. Include one (1) paragraph describing how, if successful, this research will impact patients with advanced prostate cancer at the conclusion of the proposal. Write it with a voice and style a prostate cancer patient might understand.
- 3. One page statement of synergy:** This statement should justify the cross-disciplinary composition of the research team. It should describe how together this team will collaborate to accelerate solution to the significant problem identified by the investigators. One (1) paragraph of your one (1) page statement on synergy should address experience of the team or team member(s) in addressing challenging problems in the past. Current grants in place that will be leveraged by a PCF Challenge Award should be listed. Existing grants are an asset for PCF research funds to leverage upon.
- 4. Budget:** Include an annual budget for the proposal. PCF will only cover direct costs.
- 5. Research Plan and Milestones:** Create a research plan based on annual milestones. These milestones will be reviewed by the PCF Peer Review Panel and will form the basis of annual refunding decisions. One mandatory milestone is an annual presentation by a team member at the PCF Scientific Retreat.
- 6. CV and supportive publications:** Submit NIH short form CV for each investigator. Include list of relevant publications.
- 7. Data Sharing Policy:** All applicants are expected to include a ½ page plan for sharing research data in their application. This ½ page plan is in addition to the ten (10) page research proposal. The NIH data sharing policy is available at http://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/data_sharing. All investigators responding to this funding opportunity should include a flexible description of how final research data will be shared, or explain why data sharing is not possible. This ½ page is a part of the 10 page proposal. The cogency of the data sharing plan or the rationale for not sharing research data will be assessed by the reviewers. However, reviewers will not factor the proposed data sharing plan into the determination of scientific merit or the priority score. PCF Executive Vice President for Discovery and Translation's office will be responsible for overseeing the data sharing policy and for assessing the appropriateness and

adequacy of proposed data-sharing plans. Applicants are encouraged to discuss data sharing plans with the PCF EVP for Discovery and Translation (hsoule@prostatecancerfoundation.org) prior to submitting their application.

- 8. Format:** 1 – 7 above should be submitted as a single pdf file. Font should be at least 11 point.

The focus of the PCF Challenge Awards is eight (8) unique areas which are considered potentially transformational to the field of prostate cancer research. They are delineated below. Each will have its own Peer Review Panel advising PCF.

Detailed Requests for Proposals in each area can be found on the PCF website at www.prostatecancerfoundation.org and accessed using the topic area links provided in the table below.

Topic Area	Range of Annual Funding Magnitude
1. Discovery, Validation, and Kinetics of Progression Biomarkers	\$500,000 - \$750,000
2. Novel Therapeutic Targeting of ETS Gene Fusions and Lethal Prostate Cancer Signal Transduction Pathways	\$750,000 - \$1,000,000
3. Targeting Intracrine (intra-tumoral) Androgens and Novel Androgen Receptor “Cross-Talk” in Prostate Cancer Cell Survival Pathways	\$750,000 - \$1,000,000
4. New Predictive Research Models of Prostate Cancer Clinical Biology	\$500,000 - \$750,000
5. Basic and Clinical Investigation of Prostate Cancer Patient Metabolism, Quality of Life, Nutrition, and Survivorship	\$300,000 - \$500,000
6. Epigenetic- and Epigenomic-Informed Therapeutic Targets in Prostate Cancer	\$750,000 - \$1,000,000
7. Molecular and Mechanism Based Immunotherapy for Advanced Prostate Cancer	\$500,000 - \$750,000
8. Prostate Cancer Stem Cell Biology and Treatment Research	\$500,000 - \$750,000

Submit proposal online to: <http://www.pcfscience.org>

Please direct questions to applications@prostatecancerfoundation.org

Phone: 310-570-4699

Dr. Howard R. Soule
Executive Vice President for
Discovery and Translation
Prostate Cancer Foundation

**THE DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF THESE APPLICATIONS IS
MARCH 14, 2008; 11:59PM Pacific Standard Time.**

**IN FAIRNESS TO ALL THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS
DEADLINE**

Funding decisions will be made in May, 2008