

Breast Cancer Alliance (BCA)

Mission Statement:

The mission of Breast Cancer Alliance is to improve survival rates and quality of life for those impacted by breast cancer through better prevention, early detection, treatment and cure. To promote these goals, we invest in innovative research, breast surgery fellowships, regional education, dignified support and screening for the underserved.

To encourage a commitment to breast cancer research, Breast Cancer Alliance invites clinical doctors and research scientists, including post-docs, whose primary focus is breast cancer research and who are at any stage of their careers, to apply for funding for either an exceptional project grant or young investigator grant.

The research project must be directly related to the field of breast cancer and must commence within thirty days of receipt of funds. Areas of relevant research may include, but are not limited to: diagnosis, etiology, immunology, genetics and epigenetics, therapies, prevention and clinical studies.

Exceptional Project Grants (see FAQs below)

Breast Cancer Alliance invites clinical doctors and research scientists at any stage of their careers, including post docs, whose current proposal is focused on breast cancer, to apply for an Exceptional Project Grant. This award recognizes creative, unique and innovative research and is open to applicants at institutions in the contiguous United States. No for-profit institutions may apply. This is a one-year grant for a total of \$100,000.

The term of the Exceptional Project Grant is **one year**, beginning in March 2027.

Applicants will be informed by **mid-May 2026** whether they have been invited to proceed with a formal application. Researchers should coordinate with their institutions, as **BCA will accept a maximum of ONLY TWO LOIs PER INSTITUTION (YIG or XP.) References for the LOI are not required.**

Full applications for the Exceptional Project Grant are due mid-July 2026 and are by invitation only. An Independent External Review Committee reviews and evaluates the applications. Based on their results and subsequent review by the Grants Committee, recommendations will be made to the BCA Board for final approval. Applicants will be notified by **mid-February 2027** of the decision regarding their proposals. Winners must submit a midterm report by August 31, 2027, and a final report within 60 days of February 28, 2028. Failure to submit the midterm report will result in forfeiture of any remaining grant funds. A virtual site visit with BCA staff and supporters is also required.

For questions about the application process email researchapplications@breastcanceralliance.org

For contract questions email researchcontracts@breastcanceralliance.org

For general questions email researchgrants@breastcanceralliance.org

Young Investigator Grants (see FAQs below)

To encourage a commitment to breast cancer research, Breast Cancer Alliance invites clinical doctors and research scientists who are in the early stages of their careers, including post docs, whose current proposal is focused on breast cancer, to apply for funding for the Young Investigator Grant. This grant is open to applicants at institutions in the contiguous United States. No for-profit institutions may apply. This is a two-year grant for a total of \$125,000, with half the grant award being paid out each year.

Applicants for the 2027 award must (i) not have held a tenure track faculty or tenure track research position for more than four years following completion of their training, as of March 1, 2027; (ii) not have been or are not a principal investigator on an NIH R01 or equivalent national/international non-mentored award as of March 1, 2027; and (iii) dedicate at least 50% of their work effort to research. **This grant is intended to help advance the careers of young researchers who do not yet have their own major grant support but who design and conduct their own independent research projects.**

The term of the Young Investigator Grant is **two years**, beginning in March 2027. The grant provides **salary support** and **project costs** for a total of **\$125,000** (distributed over the two-year period as noted above.) Indirect costs, which are included in the \$125,000 award, must be limited to 8% of total direct costs.

Applicants will be informed by **mid-May 2026** whether they have been invited to proceed with a formal application. Researchers should coordinate with their institutions, as **BCA will accept a maximum of ONLY TWO LOIs PER INSTITUTION (YIG or XP.) References for the LOI are not required.**

Full applications for the Young Investigator Grant are due mid-July 2026 and are by invitation only. An Independent External Review Committee reviews and evaluates the applications. Based on their results and subsequent review by the Grants Committee, recommendations will be made to the BCA Board for final approval. Applicants will be notified **by mid-February 2027** of the decision regarding their proposals. Winners must submit a midterm report by August 31, 2027, and a final report within 60 days of February 28, 2028. Failure to submit the midterm report will result in forfeiture of any remaining grant funds. A virtual site visit with BCA staff and supporters is also required.

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LOI's are due by 5pm, Friday, February 6th. [Apply here](#)

****You may only submit one LOI. It is your choice as to which application best suits your experience.**