



2026
Fight Colorectal Cancer (Fight CRC)
And
Collaborative Group of the Americas on Inherited Gastrointestinal Cancers
(CGA-IGC)
Early Career Research Award

Request for Applications

- ❖ **FOCUS:** Early Career Award in Hereditary or Familial CRC in the United States
- ❖ **DEADLINE EXTENDED:** Friday, JULY 17, 2026, at 5:00 PM PACIFIC TIME
- ❖ **APPLY:** cgaigc.com/grant-opportunities
- ❖ **Award Amount:** \$15,000
- ❖ **Award period/length of award:** January 1st 2027 – December 31st 2027

Fight CRC and CGA-IGC's joint **vision** is to improve the lives of those with hereditary and familial colorectal cancer syndromes.

Fight CRC and CGA-IGC's joint **mission** is to advance the care of patients and family members with hereditary and familial colorectal cancer syndromes by ensuring that cutting-edge clinical care paradigms inform patient support tools and policy change in an equitable and inclusive manner.

Please review this document carefully prior to submission to ensure you have all parts of the application needed to complete the online submission. A checklist is provided at the end of this document.

OBJECTIVE

- The Collaborative Group of the Americas on Inherited Gastrointestinal Cancer (CGA-IGC) and Fight CRC are offering an award to early career investigators for research projects that directly promote the joint mission of our organizations. **Proposals submitted for consideration may address** research, quality improvement, or patient engagement projects that improve the lives of patients with hereditary colorectal cancer syndromes or familial colorectal cancer. **The project should have a specific focus on colorectal cancer.**

DESCRIPTION

- An award of up to \$15,000 for 1 year will be given to unique and creative projects based on competitive review. Projects do not necessarily require previous work or preliminary data. These awards are not designed to fund existing or ongoing activities. Grants submitted with matching funds will receive special attention. Each award will be for one year; however, a no-cost extension may be considered with appropriate justification and approval by the CGA-IGC Grant Review Committee.

Funding for this research grant comes from the generosity of FightCRC.



ELIGIBILITY & AWARD PROVISIONS

- The proposed research or activity must be investigator-initiated and conducted within the United States.
- The principal investigator must be a member **in good standing** of CGA-IGC at the time of grant submission and during the award period.
- Applicant must be early career, defined as:
 - Trainees with strong mentor letter of support attesting to oversight and commitment to project completion.
 - Early career investigator within 5 years of completion of terminal training.
- Members who have not been awarded previous grants are prioritized by the committee.
- Established investigators are not eligible (defined as those who hold an NIH grant (R01, R29), a VA HSR&D Merit Award, or equivalent).
- Members of the CGA Grant Review Committee are ineligible to receive funding from this award; however, can be co-investigators or advisors.
- Investigators may submit one application per CGA mechanism, per funding cycle.
- Applications not funded may be considered for other CGA grants, at the discretion of the Grant Review Committee.

****Important! Full CGA-IGC membership in good standing is required. To Join CGA-IGC, [click here](#).***

- The awarding of this grant is at the discretion of the Grant Review Committee and can be suspended from year to year.
- The scope of the proposed project should match the grant budget. All or part of a submitted proposal cannot be funded by another institution or agency, either local or national other than in the form of a matching grant.
- The submitting investigator and mentor, if applicable, agree to complete the project based on the specific aims and budget submitted. Changes in specific aims or scope of the proposed project may be allowed with appropriate justification and approval by the CGA-IGC Grant Review Committee.
- Funds may be used for research personnel support (excluding PI salary), supplies, laboratory assays, statistical support, and other direct project-related costs. All expenditures must be directly aligned with the approved scope of work. Salary support for the investigator(s), travel funds or institutional indirect costs are not allowed.
- A final report will be submitted to the Grant Review Committee within three months of completion of the grant period. A template for this report will be provided by the CGA-IGC.
- Awardees will be asked to participate in Fight CRC/CGA-IGC webinars and/or interviews to promote funded work.
- Successful applicants must agree to acknowledge Fight CRC and CGA-IGC support in any publications or presentations that result from the research or project, with the following text: "Supported by a grant from Fight Colorectal Cancer and the Collaborative Group of the Americas on Inherited Gastrointestinal Cancer."
- All awards will be recognized at the CGA-IGC annual meeting. Awardees must be present at the 2026 CGA-IGC annual meeting to receive the award.
- One or more of the investigators participating in the project are required to present their findings or outcomes of the project to the CGA-IGC membership at a future annual meeting.
- Awardees may have further opportunities for collaboration with FightCRC (e.g. participation on research advocacy groups)



REVIEW CRITERIA

In evaluating the merits of an application, the Committee will consider the following:

1. The nature and clarity of the project as a discrete, well-defined activity that can be completed within the proposed study period.
2. Clinical or scientific significance or relevance of the project as it pertains to the field of inherited colorectal cancer syndromes, early-age onset, or familial colorectal cancer.
3. Overall impact of the proposal (e.g., number of individuals or institutions that will benefit).
4. Availability of other resources to complete the proposal.
5. Ability of the investigator(s) to complete the Specific Aims or objectives of the proposal.
6. Project feasibility (including the availability of adequate resources, personnel, and facilities) and measures of outcome.



INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMISSION

- Documents should be formatted using 1" margins and a font no smaller than 11 point. The scientific proposal (Specific Aims + Research Plan/Strategy) must be no more than 3 pages TOTAL.
- Applications must be submitted through the CGA-IGC Grant Portal. All requested fields must be completed. A PDF copy of the grant application can be submitted through this portal. Please email info@cgaigc.com with any questions or for technical assistance.
- All parts of the application must be submitted by 5.00 PM PT on July 10, 2026, to be considered for review.

ALL sections below are counted in the 3-page-limit

1. Abstract
2. Background/Significance/Innovation
 - Include details of how this proposal promotes the mission of CGA-IGC and Fight CRC
3. Specific Aims & Hypotheses
4. Pilot Data/Preliminary Work (not required, but can be included)
5. Project Plan/Strategy
 - Include project design, planned analysis and statistical considerations, expected outcomes, and a timeline for completion

ALL sections below items are excluded from the 3-page-limit

6. References Cited
7. Institutional Review Board (IRB) status (*if applicable*)
 - If the proposal involves the participation of human subjects, this section should include institutional review board status (approved, submitted, pending submission). Please note IRB approval is not required at the time of proposal submission, but approval or submission raises the feasibility of project.
8. Conflict of interest (*if applicable*)
 - All applications should consider and address conflict of interest issues regarding copyright materials (device and drug patents).
9. Budget
 - A detailed proposal budget should be included. Indicate how the funds will be allocated and justify each budget item. If matching funds are available, include them in the budget proposal.
10. Supporting Letters (*if applicable*)
 - Mentor letters of support are required for Trainee applicants
11. Biographical Sketch for Principal Investigator and Co-investigators (NIH format)
12. Current and pending other support for the Principal Investigator and mentor, including information about matching fund sources (*if applicable*).

KEY DATES

- **July 17, 2026** - Applications due
- **August 28, 2026** - Awards announced
- **November 1, 2026** - Recipients recognized at the CGA-IGC Annual Meeting Awards ceremony
- **January 1, 2027** - Funding start date

Please carefully review the checklist on the next page. Any questions, please contact us on info@cgaigc.com

CHECKLIST

All grant applications must be submitted through the CGA-IGC Grant Portal. If you have a Google account, the progress in your application will automatically save for 30 days so you can work across devices or take a break without losing entered data. If you do not have a Google account or plan to take more than 30 days to complete your application, we recommend collecting all needed documents/information and entering your application in one session. **Please review the grant requirements and checklists in detail prior to submission.**

APPLICATION ELIGIBILITY CHECKLIST:

- ☐ Confirm that you are a CGA-IGC member in good standing. This will be verified before your application is reviewed.
- ☐ Available to attend the CGA-IGC award ceremony on November 1, 2026, and the annual meeting, November 2-4, 2026, in Denver, Colorado
- ☐ The proposed project and team are located in the United States.
- ☐ The proposed project is investigator-initiated.
- ☐ The proposed project is focused on colorectal cancer research.
- ☐ There is no award overlap: CGA does not provide duplicate funding (if part of a larger study, the budget explains how funds are not duplicated).
- ☐ The principal investigator is an early-career researcher, defined as:
 - Trainee (with mentor attesting to support).
 - Within 5 years of training completion.
- ☐ Members of the Grant Review Committee are not eligible to receive funds (but can serve as co-investigators or advisors)