

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)



CANARY CENTER
AT STANFORD

CANARY — ACED GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP IN CANCER EARLY DETECTION

APPLICATIONS DUE
October 3, 2022

1. OVERVIEW

The Canary Center for cancer early detection will offer a 1-year graduate fellowship in collaboration with the International Alliance for Cancer Early Detection (ACED). The Canary Center at Stanford is a world-class research facility dedicated to cancer early detection programs. Our mission is to discover and implement minimally invasive diagnostic and imaging strategies for the detection and prognostication of cancers at early, curable stages. The goal of this initiative is to foster a unique interdisciplinary graduate fellowship with a cancer early detection focus combining one or multiple fields including molecular imaging, proteomics, chemistry, cell and molecular biology, and bioinformatics. Synergistic with multiple departments and institutes from [School of Medicine](#), Engineering, and Humanities & Sciences, this program is a unique opportunity to leverage Stanford's outstanding faculty, research, and resources to create a world-class training experience. It supports students currently enrolled in a Stanford graduate program who are seeking to become the next generation of leaders focused on cancer early detection.

Awardees conduct their research in the laboratory of, and under the guidance of a Stanford Canary Center affiliated faculty member. Graduate students working in labs of faculty outside of the Canary Center may apply, but their PI will be required to become an affiliate member of the Center if the student is awarded.

2. FUNDING INFORMATION

One graduate fellowship may be awarded each year to support a graduate researcher conducting research with a focus on cancer early detection. Awards will be for 1 year in the amount of \$50,000.

A graduate researcher receiving one of these fellowships may identify themselves as a "Canary—ACED Fellow" in their curriculum vitae and in publications in which an awardee is a named contributor. Awardees should not use this title to promote commercial services.

3. ELIGIBILITY AND REQUIREMENTS

- Applications in response to this RFP will be solicited from Stanford graduate students who are or who will be working in the laboratory of a Stanford faculty member affiliated with the Canary Center.
- Applicants must be part of a Stanford PhD program.
- A Graduate Fellow may submit only one application.
- The award mechanism will support only the Graduate Fellow. Support for additional individuals (e.g., Investigators, Co-Investigators) is not permitted.
- Applicants are highly encouraged to participate in the ACED curriculum in addition to their Stanford home graduate program.

4. KEY DATES

RFP Release

July 22, 2022

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|------------------------------|------------------|
| Applications due | October 3, 2022 |
| Application review | October 2022 |
| Anticipated award start date | November 1, 2022 |

5. APPLICATION SUBMISSION PROCESS

<https://seedfunding.stanford.edu/apply/C7Q3>

Applications must follow the following formatting guidelines:

- **Document Format:** PDF only
- **Line Spacing:** Single
- **Font Type/Size:** Arial (11 point), Calibri (11 point), or Times New Roman (11 point)
- **Page Size:** 8.5 x 11 inches
- **Margins:** 0.5 inch, all sides
- Submissions not in PDF format and/or received after the submission date will NOT be accepted.

6. APPLICATION COMPONENTS

6.1. Proposal (2 pages)

The proposal should be presented in no more than two pages (Sections 6.1.1, 6.1.2, and 6.1.3). Applicants must respond to each section (and sub-section).

6.1.1. Abstract and Significance

Describe the specific question that will be addressed and the technical approach that will be used.

6.1.2. Research Plan

Background: Briefly describe the rationale behind the proposed study.

Specific Aims: Concisely state the hypothesis and the specific aims of the proposed research.

Technical Approach: Describe the experimental design, methodology, anticipated results, potential challenges, and alternative approaches.

6.1.3. References Cited

Applicants should provide a concise and relevant list of references cited for the proposal.

6.2. Letter of Support (1 page)

Each application must include a letter of support from the Principal Investigator (must be a Canary affiliate member) of the laboratory in which the applicant will complete the proposed research. The letter must state that the proposed work is within the scope of the research laboratory as it relates to the focus areas outlined in the RFP, that the research will be overseen by the laboratory Principal Investigator, and that the applicant will provide an annual report of the work that will be completed under this award. The letter should also describe how this award will contribute to the applicant's career development and list any co-mentors (if applicable).

6.3. Curriculum Vitae (CV)

Applicants should provide a CV that states their education and research training, publications, and presentations. While there is no page limit for the CV, applicants are requested to be appropriately concise.

This component of the application is in addition to the three pages comprising the Proposal (two pages, Sections 6.1.1–6.1.3) and the Letter of Support (one page, Section 6.2).

6.4. Budget

A budget is not required from the applicant at the time of submission of the application.

6.5. Vertebrate Animals and/or Human Subjects

If vertebrate animals and/or human subjects will be used for the proposed work, appropriate approval from the Stanford Institutional Review Board must be obtained prior to the start of the research; documentation is not required at the time of submission of the application.

7. APPLICATION REVIEW

All eligible submissions will be evaluated by the Canary Center Review Committee. Review of application will be based on scored criteria listed below and will evaluate the scientific merit of the proposed work. The review will evaluate and score each criterion and subsequently assign a score that reflects an overall assessment of the application. The overall assessment will not be an average of the scores of individual criteria; rather, it will reflect the overall impression of the application. The selection of awardees who will receive funding will be solely at the discretion of Stanford University.

7.1. Review Criteria

Responsiveness to the RFP: Is the application responsive to the RFP, specifically to the focus areas of interest?

Impact and Innovation: Does the project address a key aspect in advancing cancer early detection? Will new methods, tools, or resources be developed?

Research Plan: Is the proposed project presented as a self-contained study? Is the overall strategy appropriate to accomplish the specific aims of the project?

Applicant: Does the applicant have the necessary training and expertise to conduct the proposed research?

7.2. Selection of Awardees

Applications judged to be most meritorious by the Canary Center Review Committee will be rank-ordered and selected for funding based on portfolio balance across the focus areas.

8. AWARD ADMINISTRATION

Awardees will be required to submit an annual report that will summarize the nature and outcome of the proposed study. Support from the Canary – ACED Graduate Fellowship will be acknowledged in publications and presentations in which the awardee is a contributing author.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions regarding this Graduate Fellowship, contact:

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