

Cancer Research Fellowship

Expression of Interest FAQs

What is a Cancer Research Fellowship (CRF)?

It is a Fellowship to support excellent early/mid-career-stage investigators to carry out independent research for up to three years to the value of €300,000. There are two Fellowships available (i) the Cancer Immunology Research Fellowship and (ii) the Metastatic Colorectal Cancer Research Fellowship.

Am I eligible?

- You must have at least five, but not more than ten, years of research experience beyond the year your PhD was conferred, or equivalent, in a field relevant to the CRF.
- You must demonstrate a proven record of internationally recognised research accomplishments, for example, awards, grant success etc.
- You must be **senior author** (first, joint-first or last author) on at least **five** primary research articles (that is, not reviews or other secondary research articles) in international peer-reviewed publications.
- You must have the support of a Host Institute

My research proposal is about a different topic; can I still apply?

To be eligible for this Fellowship your proposed research must relate to Cancer Immunology or Gastrointestinal Cancer, particularly colorectal metastatic disease.

How do I apply?

Applications for funding are submitted using our online Grant Management (GM) system. To begin your application, you must create an account on this system. The CRF application has two phases: firstly, submit an Expression of Interest (EoI). This will be reviewed and, if successful, you will be invited to submit a Full Application.

When is the EoI deadline?

The deadline for the EoI is November 24th at 12 noon, Irish time. Please note, submission of your application on the GM system may take some time. Please ensure you leave enough time to meet the deadline. Applications received after this deadline will not be considered.

How do I know if my EoI was received?

You will receive a confirmation email upon receipt of your EoI; it can take up to ten minutes to arrive in your Inbox and may arrive in your Spam folder so please check both.

What does the asterisk next to some questions mean?

An asterisk beside some sections of the form means that they are mandatory and must be answered. Any mandatory sections which have been missed will be highlighted on the Summary screen. You will not be able to submit the EoI until these are completed.

How do I add an extra line to answer certain questions?

For some sections, you may need to add an extra row(s) to enable you to submit all of your information for review. To do this, please click the green button found below the answer. For example, to add another row to your Publication list, click the 'ADD ADDITIONAL PUBLICATIONS' button.

How do I delete an extra line from the answer to certain questions?

To delete a row, click on the 'X' to the right of the row.

How do I move between screens in the application?

You can move between different sections by clicking on the section-name in the panel on the left side of the screen. You can also press NEXT at the end of each section.

Can I save my application and come back to it later?

Yes, you can by clicking on the SAVE AND EXIT button, found at the bottom of each screen.

I do not have an ORCID number; as this question is mandatory, what should I do?

ORCID provides a persistent digital identifier (an **ORCID** iD) that you own and control, and that distinguishes you from every other researcher. If you do not have an ORCID, either register for one or please enter NA (Not Applicable) in the form.

What is a Host Institute?

A Host Institute is a research organisation that is approved by Breakthrough to receive and administer our grant funding and is responsible for compliance with all general and specific terms and conditions of the award. The host institute must provide you, the applicant, with at least (i) a Contract of Employment for the duration of the award, (ii) laboratory space and related infrastructure necessary for the success of the research programme and (iii) office space and administrative facilities.

I would like to hold this Fellowship at a Host Institute in a European country other than Ireland; is this possible?

Yes, the Fellowship may be held at a Third-Level European Academic Institute, but only if the applicant has strong collaborative links with an Irish Institute and can complete some of the research programme in a Third-Level Irish Academic Institute.

Who can sign the Letter of Support from my Host Institute?

The Letter of Support can be signed by a senior person from your Host Institute's Research Office or Finance Office. This person must also submit a declaration of support on the GM system.

What is a Mentor and why do I need two?

A Mentor is an experienced and trusted advisor; for the CRF you need two, one within the host laboratory and one outwith the host laboratory. Your Mentor within the laboratory will act as an advisor and host but will not play a supervisory role. This Mentor will work with you to ensure that all fiduciary and ethical approvals, where relevant to the award, are managed successfully. The mentor outwith the host laboratory will actively work with you to develop your career trajectory.

I only have one Mentor; what should I do?

To be eligible to apply for this Fellowship you MUST have two Mentors, one from within your Host Laboratory and one from outwith your Host Laboratory.

What is a Collaborator?

A Collaborator is an associate who will work with you on parts of your research application. You can have up to ten Collaborators on your CRF.

I do not have a plan for Public and Patient Involvement (PPI) in my research proposal; what should I do?

PPI is central to Breakthrough Cancer Research's activity, ensuring patient benefit is at the core of our efforts. We strongly encourage Researchers to include PPI in their research.

What is the Summary Screen?

The Summary Screen brings together the answers to all sections of the proposal that you, your Mentors, Collaborators and Host Institute have completed on one screen. If any of the mandatory questions that have not been answered, these are highlighted on the Summary Screen.

How do I know if I've been invited to submit a full application?

If following review of your EoI, the decision is to invite you to submit a full application, you will receive an email inviting you to submit a full application on our GM system. The link in the email will

bring you to the full application questions in the form. Please note, this email may be delivered to your Spam folder; unless you move the email to your Inbox the link will not work.

When is the Full Application deadline?

The deadline for the full application is December 21st at 12 noon, Irish time. Please note, submission of your application on the GM system may take some time. Please ensure you leave enough time to meet the deadline. Applications received beyond this deadline will not be accepted.