

CCQ Accelerating Collaborative Cancer Research (ACCR) Grants

Frequently Asked Questions

This document is intended to complement the [ACCR Instructions for Applications](#).

Eligibility

My application is looking at cancer risk rather than treatment, is it still eligible to receive ACCR funding?

Applications must have direct relevance to cancer. Applications with a focus on cancer prevention will be accepted.

My application is based on fundamental cancer research. Is this supported by the ACCR scheme?

CCQ recognises that new discoveries are the basis for new outcomes, so research proposals based on fundamental discovery are eligible for the ACCR scheme. However, it is important that any application contains research that directly tests the potential impact of its discoveries for cancer prevention, management and/or treatment. The multidisciplinary nature of these grants, with significant contributions from clinical practitioners, are designed to encourage this.

Are the ACCR grants targeted towards supporting a specific project or is the intent for the grant to support a program of research?

The aims of the ACCR grants, as set out in the Instructions to Applicants, are to:

- Stimulate innovative, collaborative cancer research to make major advances in areas of need.
- Accelerate the translation of research findings into improved prevention, outcomes, clinical practice or health policy to improve the survival and well-being of cancer patients.
- Develop the capacity of high-quality cancer research groups in Queensland by encouraging effective research collaboration between universities, health services and medical and scientific research institutes.

Provided the research addresses these aims, applications can be either for a specific project or a planned program of research working towards a specific research question or questions. The scheme is not targeted specifically to one or the other. However, successful applications usually have a clearly defined question and goal.

Can CCQ be engaged in the proposal?

ACCR grants have as part of their remit: to develop the capacity of high-quality cancer research groups in Queensland. Members of CCQ's Viertel Cancer Research Centre can be named as Investigators on ACCR grant applications in their capacity as researchers in the Centre.

CCQ would like to emphasise that the ACCR grants are not partnerships with CCQ. Any involvement of CCQ in an ACCR research proposal would need to avoid a perception of a conflict of interest.

Investigator team

Do all investigators have to be based in Queensland?

It is the intent of the ACCR scheme to develop the capacity and impact of Queensland cancer research. However, CCQ appreciates that national or international collaborators may bring necessary expertise that adds impact to the proposed research. Therefore, a minority of CIs may be based outside Queensland.

We ask that the first-named investigator contact CCQ before submission of EOIs if they intend to include national or international collaborators, and identify the collaborator, their institution, and the expertise that they bring.

How do I add investigators in the application?

Details for the first-named Investigator (main contact for correspondence) must be completed in the online application form.

Details for additional Investigators must be completed in the template [here](#) and uploaded as a PDF into the online application form.

The specific contributions and expertise of each Investigator to the research proposal must be clearly outlined in the above.

Is there a limit to the number of investigators that can be included in the application?

There is no limit to the number of investigators that can be listed on an application. However, the contribution of each investigator to the proposal needs to be clearly justified in the box marked "Contribution: justification of investigator role".

My team includes early- and mid-career investigators. As they have less substantial track records than established investigators, should they be included as named Investigators or research staff?

The ACCR scheme encourages the career development of cancer researchers of the future, and they may be included as named Investigators. However, as Investigators they should have independent skills and capabilities that add to the capacity of the team. They would generally have a demonstrable track record of research, consistent with their career stage. The unique expertise and capability that they bring to the team must be identified and justified in the box marked "Contribution: justification of investigator role".

Can a co-investigator be on more than one ACCR grant being submitted?

Yes, a co-investigator can be on more than one application being submitted.

Cash co-contribution

Can the cash co-contribution be made up by multiple participating institutions on the application?

The Administering Institution will be responsible for guaranteeing the required new funding of \$150,000 per annum. The Administering Institution will need to provide a written assurance to Cancer Council Queensland of this. It is an internal matter for the Administering Institution as to whether some or all of the partner institutions contribute to its co-funding contribution.

A letter of support from other partner institutions may be included as part of the application but is not required.

What can count towards the cash co-contribution from the Administering Institution?

The institutional co-contribution must involve new money; it cannot consist of in-kind contributions. However, the co-contribution can include Research Higher Degree scholarships provided by the institution.

Can salary for an existing staff member who would be working solely on the project be included as that contribution?

The co-contribution needs to be new funding, and salary for existing positions cannot be included.

Budget

Is there any flexibility in how much funding that can be applied for, and accordingly the contribution from the institution? i.e. Can you apply for a lesser amount (e.g. \$100,000) with a corresponding lesser contribution from the institution (e.g. \$30,000)?

The purpose of the ACCR grant scheme is to encourage effective research collaboration between universities, health services and medical and scientific research institutes, and to accelerate the translation of cancer research outcomes into practice and policy to improve the survival and well-being of cancer patients.

As such, the funding amounts for this scheme are larger to ensure that the research has a bigger impact and encourages greater collaboration with research groups. There is no flexibility in the amount of funding that can be applied for.

Does expenditure need to be evenly spread over the term of the grant?

For successful applicants, ACCR grant income will be fixed at \$500,000 per annum for a term of four years, made up of \$350,000 from Cancer Council Queensland and \$150,000 from the Administering Institution.

However, there is no requirement specified in the Instructions for Applicants that grant expenditure be evenly distributed across all years, and reasonable variation in project expenditure from year to year is permissible.

Can some of the ACCR grant funds be transferred to an institution outside Queensland?

The funds provided through the ACCR grants are intended to support Queensland researchers; it is therefore not appropriate for these funds to be used outside of Queensland to support personnel.

However, CCQ acknowledges there may be some situations where a research activity (for example, a specialised lab technique) may only be able to be performed in an interstate or overseas laboratory. These will be reviewed by CCQ on a case-by-case basis.

Can overheads be included in the budget?

No, overheads are not able to be included in the budget for these grants.

The budget may only include costs directly related to research activity as outlined in the research proposal; costs related to facility, administrative or other indirect costs that would be provided by an institution in the normal course of undertaking and supporting health and medical research are not to be included.

Am I able to include open access publications in the budget?

Open access publication is an important modern trend and is admissible expenditure. It should be noted that the funding for ACCR grants is a one-line, 4-year, fixed grant. It is up to the project team to decide how to spend the funds (salaries vs other research costs).