

2026 SEED GRANTS FOR EARLY-STAGE RESEARCH

OBJECTIVE	Provide seed funding for early-stage research focused on discovering early detection diagnostics and developing innovative therapies for the treatment of gastric cancer.
AMOUNT OF GRANT	One-time grant up to \$100,000 (inclusive of maximum 10% utilized for indirect costs) Two grants will be awarded in 2026.
APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently working in a faculty position at an academic, medical or research institution in the United States • While there are no citizenship requirements, the applicant must have the legal right to work in the U.S. for the duration of the award • Have independent laboratory space as confirmed by their institution • Seed grants in this program will not be awarded to the same institution in consecutive years. <p>Applications are open to all eligible researchers, with a special emphasis on junior faculty who have earned their final degree (MD or PhD) within the last ten years.</p>
APPLICATION PROCESS & DEADLINES	<p>By April 24 Letter of Intent Submit by email to: grants@gastriccancer.org</p> <p>Project title and one-page summary project description which clearly explains the focus of the investigation and its importance to gastric cancer. Please provide a concise overview of planned research activities, desired outcomes, and credentials of the investigators. The applicant’s NIH Biosketch must accompany the LOI.</p> <p><i>We recognize that there may be additional funding sources. Please articulate why this particular grant is important, and what the funding will enable that might not otherwise be possible.</i></p> <p>By May 15 Invitation to Submit Application After review of LOIs, select projects will receive invitations to submit full applications. (Note: No more than one project per institution will be invited to submit an application)</p> <p>By June 19 Grant Application Deadline Submit by email to: grants@gastriccancer.org</p> <p>Applications will be reviewed and rated by scientific advisors. The GCF Board of Directors will make final grant decisions.</p> <p>Grant awards will be announced no later than September 30. Funds will become available in October 2026 following mutual acceptance of grant agreements.</p>

<p>GRANT APPLICATION</p>	<p>If LOI is selected, the full application should follow the format of the R21 NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Award and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project title • Summary of research project, why it is important and future implications • How will this project improve treatment options for patients and help in developing a cure for gastric cancer? • Project timeline • How a grant will help the project • Budget for full project and description of how GCF funds will be utilized • Other funders (committed and being pursued) • Reference letter from Dean/Department Chair • Investigator CVs
<p>OTHER REQUIREMENTS</p>	<p>Grant recipient is expected to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a summary report of the use of funds, research results and next steps at conclusion of project. If project timeline is longer than a year, then annual summary report(s) should be provided. • Pursue the presentation/publication of results from the project. Notify the Gastric Cancer Foundation of published research. • Acknowledge support of the Gastric Cancer Foundation in presentations/publications.
<p>QUESTIONS</p>	<p>Contact harrietpatterson@gastriccancer.org with additional questions</p>