



Clinical Transformation Program 2026 Research Grants



Overview

The Clinical Transformation Program will fund projects that focus on the application of clinical research methodology to discover breakthroughs and new treatments, tools, and processes that will improve health care in the future. This program supports the concepts of clinical research with specific attention to emerging and cutting-edge discoveries that align with current movements in healthcare.

The application window is open Monday, Jan. 19, through Sunday, March 1, at 11:59 p.m.

The grant program is looking to support projects that include, but are not limited to:

- Clinicians, physicians, and researchers with new approaches and innovations in care.
- Programs that encourage and foster current UPMC focused initiatives, including those with aggressive approaches to cancer, heart diseases, and neurosciences.
- Research that incorporates the concept of embedded and adaptive designs, rapid translation of science to care, and/or novel applications of zz

Funding Guidelines

- Individual grant requests may range between \$50,000 and \$200,000.
- Applicants must be employed by UPMC. Applicants who are solely employed by University of Pittsburgh may apply, but they must partner with a UPMC employee. The UPMC employee must serve as the project owner and complete and submit the application.

Continued on back

Clinical Transformation Program 2026 Research Grants



- Applicants must be endorsed by a UPMC chair, senior physician, or executive leader. If the project will take place within a specific department and/or hospital, the appropriate leadership at that hospital should be engaged (i.e. hospital president). The purpose of this requirement is to insure that, if funded, the applicant has approval to pursue the proposed research project within UPMC. The person's name and email address will be required to complete the application. This person may be contacted by The Beckwith Institute's administration at any point during the application process or grant cycle.
- Applicants are encouraged, but not required, to provide matching funds and/or in-kind support.
 - **Matching funds** are actual dollars allocated toward the project's budget from an entity other than The Beckwith Institute (example: Money from your UPMC department).
 - **In-kind support** refers to resources besides money. In-kind resources, or non-cash contributions, might be things that you would otherwise pay for (examples: an employee's donated time, equipment, or supplies).
- Additional funding may be sought from outside sources including, but not limited to, venture capitalists, private investors, nonprofit foundations, and research institutes.
- Grant money may be used to support operating and salary expenses.
- Applicants will be required to provide a general budget at the time of application. If funded, the project owner will be required to submit an itemized budget and specific timeline for spending.
- If funded, project owners will be required to sign an official funding agreement, stating that the project owner agrees to the terms and conditions that apply to the grant.
- If funded, project owners will be required to submit their project to UPMC's Quality Improvement Review Committee.

Application and Review Process

- Apply between **Monday, Jan. 19, and Sunday, March 1, at 11:59 p.m.**
- The review process will consist of:
 - **Initial Review** – This review will be conducted by Institute staff to ensure all application requirements are complete, and that the request falls within the Institute's funding guidelines.
 - **Selection Committee Review** – Applications will be reviewed by a committee of Institute Board members and UPMC physician leaders from various service lines who will take a deeper, more specialized look at the research and requested funding.
 - **Final Review** – Finalists will be selected from the Selection Committee stage and asked to provide a 3-6 slide PowerPoint presentation of their grant request. The platform and requirements for the presentation will be determined and communicated to finalists by early May, 2026.
- Funding decisions will be made and approved in May and all applicants will be notified after June 1, 2026.

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