

# Masonic Cancer Center Mezin-Koats Colon Cancer Research Award Spring 2021

## Objective

The objective of the Mezin-Koats Colon Cancer Research Award is to support research in the biology, prevention, detection, diagnosis, and/or treatment of colon cancer.

The goal of our spring cycle funding opportunities is to support new research ideas. Research ideas that support the [MCC Scientific Priorities for Growth](#) are highly encouraged and will be given special consideration. In turn, the cancer center expects that these internal awards will lead to nationally peer reviewed funding. Funding priority will be given to those projects that **address a cancer-related challenge unique in the State of Minnesota (e.g., projects relevant to underserved racial/ethnic minorities and/or rural populations or specific exposures to cancer causing compounds).**

## Eligibility and Evaluation Criteria

- This pilot grant is available to Masonic Cancer Center members with faculty appointments at the University of Minnesota.
- Applications must be colon cancer focused.
- Proposed research must be hypothesis-driven and have the goal of using the award as a springboard to obtaining long-term support from federal/external sources.

## Funding Available

Applications with budgets of \$25,000 for a one year term will be considered.

## Proposal Guidelines

Applications are submitted in [InfoReady](#) and will include the following components (follow NIH format guidelines when possible):

- **Demographic information** of proposal PI and collaborator(s)
- **Lay abstract/synopsis** (3 sentences)
- **Funding Mechanism Mission Statement** (Required)  
How does the proposed research fit with the objective of this funding mechanism?
- **MCC Scientific Priority for Growth Statement** (If applicable)  
How does this project address one or more of the [MCC Scientific Priorities for Growth](#)?
- **Catchment Area Statement** (If applicable)  
Address how the project addresses a cancer-related challenge unique to the State of Minnesota (e.g., projects relevant to underserved racial/ethnic minorities and/or rural populations or specific exposures to cancer causing compounds).
- **Research Plan (single-spaced, 3 page maximum) should contain:**
  - **Specific Aims**
  - **Research Strategy** (Significance, Innovation, Approach)
  - **Do not** include preprints, or other forms of freestanding preliminary data as appendices.
- **References (no page limit)**
- **Biosketches for all Key Personnel** (Current NIH format)
- **Detailed budget and justification** (Project period July 1 - June 30, 1 year) See below for guidelines.
- **Other Support** (Active and Pending) for PI and collaborators – indicate if there is overlap (NIH format - instructions are provided)
- **Letters** of collaboration or resource support (optional)

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**Note:** All applicants are required to have proper approvals (IRB/IACUC/IBC) before research may begin. Applicants are highly encouraged to apply for proper approvals at or prior to the time of submission. This will ensure that the study is approved by the start date of the award. A prf is not required unless the project is awarded.

## Budget Guidelines

Allowable Expenses:

- Research personnel (e.g. grad students, lab staff, technicians)
- Research supplies
- Core service expenses (e.g. flow cytometry, tissue procurement)
- Small equipment (less than \$10,000)
- Animal costs

Unallowable Expenses:

- No faculty salary allowed
- No indirect costs

## Review Process

Each mechanism has an internally-selected committee that will review applications. The committee will make recommendations for funding to the Mechanism Lead. De-identified, written reviews/critiques will be sent via InfoReady. Applicants will be notified of the review outcome by mid-June.

## Reporting Requirements

Principal investigators of funded projects will be required to provide final reports that include accounting of all funds expended to date and progress towards milestones. Reports are to be submitted in InfoReady and will be forwarded to the Mechanism Lead. It is expected that all funds will be expended by June 30 with extensions being considered only in exceptional cases and requiring the approval of the Mechanism Lead.

Office of Academic and Clinical Affairs (OACA) and MCC communications staff may reach out to awardees in the process of crafting communications (publications, website, flyers, etc.) for external audiences.

During a period of up to 7 years following the end of the pilot award, if any grants or publications are obtained as a result of this pilot funding, awardees are required to submit this information to the MCC Internal Grants Program Coordinator.

## Grant Program Contacts

Questions related to the application process, requirements, or eligibility should be directed to:

MCC Internal Grants Program Coordinator  
[mccgrant@umn.edu](mailto:mccgrant@umn.edu)

Any questions regarding the applicability of research should be directed to:

Anne Blaes, MD  
[blaes004@umn.edu](mailto:blaes004@umn.edu)