

About Maine Cancer Foundation

Vision & Mission

Our vision is a Maine where every person is empowered with the knowledge, resources, and support to minimize the effects of cancer, promoting healthier individuals and communities statewide.

MCF leads a statewide effort to reduce the impact of cancer in Maine. We invest in the most promising and effective programs that advance cancer prevention, increase screening, and improve access to care for all Maine people.

Values

- **Equity:** Promoting fair and just access to reduce cancer-related health disparities for all Maine people.
- **Community-Centered:** Empowering communities to develop and implement solutions that will work best for them.
- **Collaboration:** Working together with partners to accomplish our shared goals.
- **Adaptiveness:** Embracing and supporting new and emerging needs.
- **Compassion:** Transforming lives and communities through empathy and action.
- **Evidence-Informed:** Using data and lived experience to guide our approaches.

Funding Criteria

Screening is a cornerstone of cancer control. Cancer screening tests increase the chance of finding cancer early, when treatment is likely to work best. With some cancers, including colorectal and cervical, screening can even prevent the occurrence of cancer.

Maine Cancer Foundation is now accepting applications for evidence-based interventions to increase the number of and/or improve the quality of cancer screening in Maine.

Screenings that will be considered in this Request for Proposals include breast, cervical, colorectal, lung, prostate, and skin cancer screenings.

Proposals should utilize evidence-based practices endorsed by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. We encourage you to visit The Community Guide (www.thecommunityguide.org) and the Community Preventive Services Task Force's [findings for cancer prevention and control](#).

Several professional groups publish evidence-based cancer screening guidelines defining the types of screening, the best age to start, and the frequency. Apart from the requirement of being evidence-based, Maine Cancer Foundation does not recommend specific screening guidelines, and it is up to the applying institution's discretion to determine preferred screening guidelines.

Health Equity

To achieve health equity, we need to reduce the differences in health due to systematic social or economic disadvantage. Health equity is the “attainment of the highest level of health for all people.”¹ Maine Cancer Foundation is committed to addressing health inequities, ensuring all Mainers have access to critical cancer prevention, screening, and treatment resources. Proposals that address social determinants of health will be prioritized.

Areas of Focus

Maine Cancer Foundation is most interested in providing funds for programs that do one or more of the following:

- Implement policy, systems, and environmental (PSE) changes (ex. The creation of patient reminder system)
- Include clearly defined goals and measurable results
- Implement best practices related to cancer screenings
- Include interventions implemented in the primary care setting
- Increase the number and quality of cancer screenings in geographically underserved regions of Maine and with underserved populations. Such populations can include, but are not limited to, uninsured or underinsured individuals, rural populations, racial and ethnic minorities, and/or the LGBTQ+ community.

If your organization has received past MCF grant support for a cancer screening project, please describe the outcomes of the prior project in your application. Organizations may request funding for new or existing programs. The Foundation encourages but does not require collaboration among Maine organizations.

Grant Term & Request Amount

Applicants may request a 1- or 2-year grant. Request amounts up to \$40,000 per year will be accepted. The maximum request over two years is \$80,000.

What We Will Not Fund

- Organizations that are not a 501(c)3 tax-exempt charitable organization, educational institution, government entity or other public, non-profit entity (e.g. health department, university)
- Business investments or loans
- Programs that do not benefit the people of Maine
- Capital campaigns or contributions to endowments

¹ The Way Health Should Be: Social Determinants of Health in Maine 2019. Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/phdata/MaineCHNA/documents/SDOH-Report-11-15-2019.pdf>

Application Process

Draft Applications

We recommend applicants contact Maine Cancer Foundation to discuss your proposal prior to submission or if you have any questions about your eligibility. **To ensure your application is complete and meets the requirements of this RFP, we strongly encourage you to submit a draft application for review and feedback.** Please send questions and drafts to Tricia Jamiol, Program Coordinator, at tricia@mainecancer.org.

Deadlines

Applications must be completed by **5pm on Wednesday, February 25, 2026**. Awards will be announced by May 15, 2026. Funds are distributed upon receipt of a signed contract provided by Maine Cancer Foundation. All applicants who receive awards will be required to report on their grant results to Maine Cancer Foundation during the grant period.

How to Apply

Applications will be accepted online only. [Click here to open the application](#). Completed applications will be reviewed by a grant review committee and applicants may be contacted for additional information.

Additional Information

Geographic distribution of grants will be considered and multiple grants to the same institution or system may be limited.

Maine Cancer Foundation will not knowingly support projects that discriminate on the basis of race, creed, religion, sex, national origin, disability, marital status, or sexual orientation.

A grant recipient's work must support MCF's mission. Funds may not be diverted to benefit any individual. The results or benefits of any Foundation-supported initiative or program are required to remain in the public domain for the benefit of Maine people.