

About Maine Cancer Foundation

Our Mission

Maine Cancer Foundation is dedicated to reducing cancer incidence and mortality rates in Maine. 100% of funds raised by the Foundation are used to benefit the people of Maine.

Our Goals

Foster Prevention Practices: The best cancer is the one that never occurs. Prevention strategies have a proven impact on reducing cancer incidence rates.

Increase Cancer Screening: Early detection saves lives. Cancer screening tests can detect cancer in its earliest stages, when it is most treatable.

Improve Patient Outcomes: Maine Cancer Foundation supports efforts to improve patient outcomes by increasing access to care and ensuring the best cancer care is available for all Mainers.

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.

Funding Criteria

Patient Navigation is a proven strategy that improves patient outcomes from cancer screening through survivorship. Cancer patient navigators help patients navigate cancer care by connecting patients with support and resources, reducing any barriers patients may face, and ensuring all patients have access to quality cancer care.

To increase access to navigation services throughout the state, Maine Cancer Foundation is currently accepting applications for capacity-building Cancer Patient Navigation grants.

Proposed navigator projects can include clinical or community navigators, and employ nurses, social workers, community health workers, or a combination of the above. It is up to the applying institution to determine what type of navigator will best suit the needs of the community.

In 2024, reimbursement for patient navigation of active cancer patients has become an option and we encourage applicants to learn more about reimbursement opportunities and required credentials. Possible resources to consider include:

- [Academy of Oncology Nurse and Patient Navigators](#)
- American Cancer Society - [Leadership in Oncology Navigation](#)
- Journal of Oncology Navigation & Survivorship - [CMS Payment for Principal Illness Navigation: How Do I Credential My Navigators?](#)

Areas of Focus

Navigation programs should focus on:

- Cancer prevention, early detection, or treatment
- Efforts that will reduce cancer incidence and mortality rates in Maine
- Projects that support geographically underserved regions of Maine and individuals who are marginalized and/or have an increased risk for cancer. Such populations can include, but are not limited to, uninsured or underinsured individuals, rural populations, racial and ethnic minorities, and/or the LGBTQIA+ community.

Please note, organizations that have not previously received a Patient Navigation Grant from Maine Cancer Foundation will be prioritized in this funding opportunity.

We recommend that you contact Maine Cancer Foundation to discuss your proposal prior to submission or if you have questions about your eligibility. MCF is willing to discuss project concepts and review draft applications up until one week ahead of the deadline. We highly encourage applicants to submit a draft application for review and feedback. Please contact Tricia Jamiol, Program Coordinator at tricia@mainecancer.org to discuss your eligibility and/or project.

Grant Term and Request Amount

- Year One: Up to \$80,000
- Year Two: 70% of year one
- Year Three: 35% of year one

It is expected that the applicant organization will commit to providing an increasing level of support during the grant period with the intention of maintaining the position thereafter. Please note, applicants are not required to request the maximum amount (\$80,000 in Year One).

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);
- Direct support to individuals;
- Business investments or loans;
- Programs that do not benefit the people of Maine;
- Capital campaigns or contributions to endowments.

Application Process

Deadlines

Applications must be completed by **5pm on Wednesday, July 31, 2024**. Awards will be announced by September 30, 2024. 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.

Please note, MCF is using a new grants management software in 2024. All new and existing grantees must create a new account by clicking the link above. If you need to reference a prior grant, please contact Tricia Jamiol, Program Coordinator at tricia@mainecancer.org.

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.