

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

Cancer remains a leading cause of death in Maine, impacting thousands of Mainers each year. Fortunately, there are many ways to reduce cancer risk and prevent certain types of cancer, ultimately reducing the burden of the disease in our state.

To support cancer prevention efforts, Maine Cancer Foundation is now accepting applications for evidence-based interventions to reduce the risk of cancer in Maine.

Cancer Prevention Focus Areas that will be considered include:

- Alcohol Use
- Environmental Factors that Impact Cancer (Arsenic, PFAs, Radon)
- HPV Vaccinations
- Obesity Prevention
- Sun Safety
- Tobacco Use Prevention and/or Treatment

Proposals should utilize evidence-based practices in preventing cancer. Please be prepared to provide quantitative and/or qualitative data to support your proposed strategies throughout an application.

New in 2026: To broaden access to funding, organizations that received a 2025 Cancer Prevention Grant are ineligible to apply for the 2026 Cancer Prevention Requests for Proposals. If you have questions about your eligibility, please contact Tricia Jamiol, Program Coordinator, at tricia@mainecancer.org.

Health Equity

Health equity is the state in which everyone has a fair and just opportunity to attain their highest level of health. Achieving this requires focused and ongoing efforts to address historical and contemporary injustices; overcome economic, social, and other obstacles to health and healthcare; and eliminate preventable health disparities.

Maine Cancer Foundation is committed to addressing health inequities, ensuring all Mainers have equitable 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
- Include clearly defined goals and measurable results
- Implement best practices related to cancer prevention
- Demonstrate collaboration among Maine organizations
- Pilot a new idea (using evidence-based guidelines)
- Increase and improve cancer prevention practices in geographically underserved regions of Maine and with people 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.

If you have received past MCF grant support for a cancer prevention project, please describe the outcomes of your prior project in your application.

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. Please note, requests do not have to meet the maximum amount. Smaller, pilot projects are also encouraged.

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)
- Organizations that received a 2025 Cancer Prevention Grant (see page 1)
- Business investments or loans
- Programs that do not benefit the people of Maine
- Capital campaigns or contributions to endowments

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, April 1, 2026**. Awards will be announced by June 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.