

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.

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) website and [What Works fact sheet](#) as a reference.

Several professional groups have developed 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.

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>

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;
- Demonstrate collaboration among Maine organizations;
- Pilot a new idea (using evidence-based guidelines);
- 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 you have received past MCF grant support for a cancer screening project, please describe the outcomes of your prior project in your application.

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

One or two years. You are not required to apply for two years of funding.

Request amounts

Maximum request amount is \$40,000 per year for two years (\$80,000 total). 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);
- 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 Friday, March 14, 2025**. Awards will be announced by May 31, 2025. 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 implemented a new grants management software in 2024. 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.