



ARKANSAS BREAST CANCER RESEARCH PROGRAM

SUPPORTING BREAST CANCER RESEARCH

PILOT AND INVESTIGATOR FUNDING MECHANISMS

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FY 2026

Pilot (up to \$50,000) and Investigator (up to \$250,000) Awards; 2-year award period

Applications due: 4:00 p.m., Monday, July 1, 2025

In 1997, through Act 434, The Arkansas Breast Cancer Act, the Arkansas General Assembly authorized monies to, “support research efforts into the cause, cure, treatment, earlier detection and prevention of breast cancer,” through the creation of the Arkansas Breast Cancer Research Program (ABCRP). The goal of ABCRP is to fund research that supports the mission of ABCRP, as defined above, and complements federally funded research.

Eligibility: Applicants must be faculty members based at an academic institution in Arkansas and must have an advanced degree (e.g., MD, PhD, MPH). Graduate students, residents and fellows are not eligible to apply. Applications must propose breast cancer research that will support the mission of ABCRP as defined above.

Awards: Applicants may apply to either the Pilot or Investigator mechanism. ABCRP will fund a maximum of three Pilot research proposals (up to \$50,000) and one Investigator research proposal (up to \$250,000). Funding is for two years beginning September 1, 2025, and ending August 31, 2027. Awards will be announced in late August 2025.

Review: Proposals that do not comply with the application guidelines will be administratively removed and not formally reviewed. Proposals will undergo an initial review by an independent peer-review panel with expertise in basic, translational, and clinical cancer research. Reviewers will consider the significance of the project; the likely impact of scientific results obtained from the project; scientific approach; innovation; ability of the research environment to support the proposed work; experience and expertise of the investigator(s); and the likelihood that the project will lead to subsequent extramural funding. The review panel will make funding recommendations to the ABCRP Oversight Committee, which will then make all final funding decisions at its annual meeting in August 2025.

Allowable expenses and collaborations: Indirect costs are not allowed, this includes subaward indirect costs. If your project includes a subaward, you are highly encouraged to reach out to the program administrator ASAP to discuss budgetary considerations. Restricted but allowable expenses include: maximum 30% salary support for faculty members, maximum \$20,000 equipment budget and maximum \$1,500 travel budget. Out-of-state Co-Is and out-of-state services are allowed, but costs should be kept to a minimum, as this program is funded by the State of Arkansas with the intention of funding breast cancer research efforts within the state. All out of state collaborations should be directly addressed and clearly justified in the proposal.

Applications should be submitted online [via our electronic submission system](#). Full application and submission instructions are below.

ABCRC Pilot and Investigator Grant Application Instructions:

1. Complete the ABCRC Application Cover Page ([download here](#))
2. Provide a brief (3 page) narrative of your proposal that includes the following elements:
 - a. Description of your project
 - b. Significance of your project
 - c. Explanation of how your project supports the mission of ABCRC
 - d. Overview of materials and methods

Please use headings to clearly separate each section. Please include page numbers with the PI's last name on each page. Use Times New Roman font with a minimum 11-point font size. Use standard normal (1" all around) or narrow (0.5" all around) margins for your page setup.

3. For previous ABCRC awardees only: Provide a one-paragraph detailed description of how this newly proposed project will expand upon your previously funded pilot study (1 page, additional).
4. Provide a detailed budget ([download here](#)) and budget justification ([download here](#)) for your project. Please use the provided forms to build your budget and justification. The budget justification should detail all costs. Personnel cost justifications must include the following: name of personnel, role on project, salary, percent effort on project, fringe rate, total cost.
 - a. If your project includes researchers from multiple institutions, you must designate one institution as the primary applicant and the other institution(s) as subawardees. All subawardees must be represented with their own budgets and budget justifications and their total budgets, must be reflected on the primary applicant's budget. As stated previously, indirect costs, including subaward indirect costs are not allowed. If your project includes a subaward, please reach out to the program administrator ASAP to discuss budgetary considerations.
5. Provide a list of "Other Research Support" that contains a list of all of the Principal Investigator's currently active research projects (1 page). Provide the title of the project, funding amount, funding source, award number, period of funding, role on the grant and name of the principal investigator (PI). Describe in 1-2 sentences the objective of each research project and discuss any potential overlaps with the proposed ABCRC project. If no overlaps will exist, please state this.
6. Provide a reference/citation list.
7. Attach the NIH Biosketches of the PI and all Co-Is. (please use the most recent NIH format, found [here](#))
8. Attach a signed letter of approval from the PI's Department Chair expressing support for the PI's time and effort and any additional resources required by the project.
9. Attach signed letters of support from all Co-Is agreeing to participate in this project and describing their role on the project.

Applications should be submitted online [via our electronic submission system](#) as a single PDF.

Applications are due by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, July 1, 2025.

Please contact Petra Stephens (PStephens@uams.edu) with questions.

APPLICATIONS THAT DO NOT COMPLY WITH THE INSTRUCTIONS AND ALLOWABLE EXPENSES WILL NOT BE REVIEWED OR CONSIDERED FOR FUNDING.