

Introduction to the NIH Grants System and NCI's Division of Cancer Biology

Yin Liu Ph.D.

Program Director

NCI/NIH

Overview of the NCI

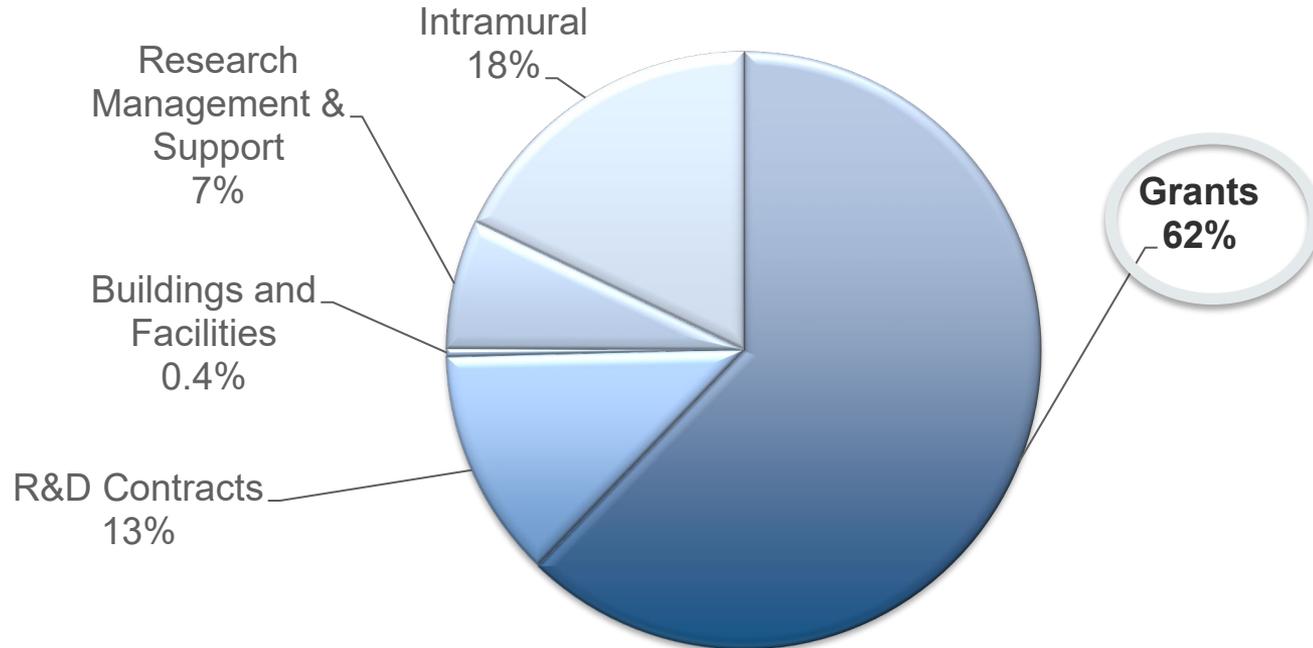
- Created by the National Cancer Act in 1937
- One of 27 Institutes and Centers (ICs) at the NIH
- \$400,000 budget in 1938; \$7.22 billion budget in FY25

NCI Mission:

- The National Cancer Institute leads, conducts, and supports cancer research across the nation to advance scientific knowledge and help all people live longer, healthier lives.
- NCI manages a broad range of research, training, and information dissemination activities that reach across the entire country, meeting the needs of all demographics – rich and poor, urban and rural, and all populations.

NCI: FY 2023 Total Budget (Obligations)

Grants' Share: 62 Percent of Total Budget (Est.)



FY23 NCI Total Appropriation: Approx. \$7.0 Billion
Includes Moonshot (Cures) and Excludes Serology

Organization of the National Cancer Institute



**Director
Anthony Letai,
MD, PhD**

NCI Office of the Director

- Strategic planning and direction
- Budget and administration
- Program evaluation
- Special programs

Advisory Boards

- Scientific guidance
- Approval of funding
- Program evaluation

Extramural Program

- Manages grant funds
- Develops new programs
- Portfolio analysis
- Review of grants

Intramural Program

- Laboratory studies
- Clinical studies

Organization of the Extramural Programs at the National Cancer Institute

Extramural Programs
(~75% budget, ~7000 grants)

Division of
Cancer Biology
(DCB)

Division of
Cancer
Treatment and
Diagnosis
(DCTD)

Division of
Cancer
Prevention
(DCP)

Division of
Cancer Control
and Population
Sciences
(DCCPS)

Division of
Extramural
Activities
(DEA)

DCB (~2000
grants)

Session 1:
Post-Award grant
Administration
Candace Cofie

Office of the
Director: Office
of Grants
Administration
(OGA)

Organization of the Extramural Programs at the National Cancer Institute (cont'd)

- The [NCI Extramural Program](#) consists of five divisions. Four of these divisions coordinate grant activities in [cancer biology](#), [cancer control and population sciences](#), [cancer prevention](#), and [cancer treatment and diagnosis](#).
- The [DEA](#) manages the review process and provides support for funding opportunity development and portfolio analysis.
- The [OGA](#) manages the business aspect of NCI awards and ensures the grantee and the NCI fulfill and comply with all legal requirements, regulations, and administrative policies.

Division of Cancer Biology (DCB)



Office of the Director

Director:

Daniel Gallahan, Ph.D.

Deputy Director (acting):

Sean Hanlon, Ph.D.



Cancer Cell Biology Branch

Chief:

Rihab Yassin, Ph.D.

Cancer Immunology, Hematology and Etiology Branch

Chief:

Kevin Howcroft,, Ph.D.

DNA and Chromosome Aberrations Branch

Chief:

Ian Fingerman,, Ph.D.

Biophysics, Bioengineering, and Comp Sciences Branch

Chief:

Jennifer Couch, Ph.D.

Tumor Biology and Microenvironment Branch

Chief:

Jeff Hildesheim, Ph.D.

Tumor Metastasis Branch

Chief:

Joanna Watson, Ph.D.

DCB Website Provides useful information for Grantees

 Search

- About Cancer ▾
- Cancer Types ▾
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DCB

- Research Portfolio >
- Research Programs >
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- Researcher Resources >
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Division of Cancer Biology

The Division of Cancer Biology (DCB) supports basic research in all areas of cancer biology at academic institutions and research foundations across the United States. As part of the National Cancer Institute, [DCB](#) provides funding for research that investigates the basic biology behind cancer.

- Research Areas
- Funding Opportunities
- Research Programs



Latest Opportunities and Events

[Fueling Cancer Progression by the Nervous System Webinar Series](#)

This webinar series is exploring the neuroscience of tumor invasion and metastasis.

[Tumor-Draining Lymph Nodes Virtual Forums](#)

This series is exploring the current state of the science of tumor-draining lymph nodes in cancer progression and metastasis.

[Upcoming DCB Events](#)

Learn about upcoming public workshops, webinars, and other events related to fundamental cancer research.

Funding Resources

[Guidance for the NIH DMS Policy](#)

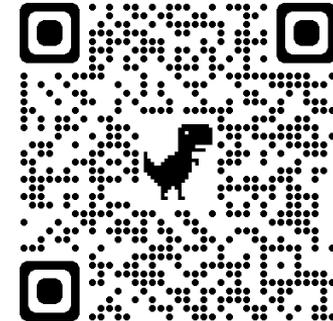
DCB provides information and guidance about NIH Data Management and Sharing (DMS) Plans.

[Funding and Grants-Related Resources](#)

Public resources, including slides and webinar materials related to the DCB New Grantee Workshop, notices of funding opportunities (NOFOs), and NCI grant policies.



Claire McCarthy, PhD



DCB Staff and Their Responsibilities/Interest Areas on DCB Websites

Talk to your program director!

Session 1:
Communicating
with your
program director

Tumor Metastasis Branch

The Tumor Metastasis Branch plans, develops and directs the Division's research program in tumor metastasis, focusing on mechanisms of metastasis and metastatic niches, circulating tumor cells, dormancy, and angiogenesis and vasculogenesis.

More information on research supported by this branch is available in the [Research section](#).

Phone: (240) 276-6220

Fax: (240) 276-7866

Name & Position	Email	Areas of Expertise
Joanna Watson, Ph.D. <i>Chief</i>	watsonjo@mail.nih.gov	Circadian rhythms, cancer cachexia, circulating tumor cell biology, and mechanisms of metastasis
Grace Ault, Ph.D. <i>Program Director</i>	aultg@mail.nih.gov	Cell invasion and migration, epithelial-mesenchymal transition, metabolic adaptation to the microenvironment, and growth factor signaling
Justin Benavidez, Ph.D. <i>Program Director</i>	justin.benavidez@nih.gov	Biological sciences, developmental biology, and cancer metastasis
Bruniide Gril, Ph.D. <i>Program Director</i>	grilbrun@mail.nih.gov	Brain metastases, blood-brain/tumor barrier, experimental therapies for metastasis, and receptor tyrosine kinase signaling
Christine Nadeau, Ph.D. <i>Program Director</i>	christine.nadeau@nih.gov	Mammalian models of cancer, Notch signaling, breast cancer, and systemic immunity
Elizabeth Snyderwine, Ph.D. <i>Program Director</i>	snyderwe@mail.nih.gov	Xenobiotic and cellular metabolism, metastasis, aging biology, and the bone microenvironment



Cheryl Cero, PhD

DCB Funding Opportunities on DCB Websites

NOFO: Notice of Funding Opportunity

Session 4:
Additional
funding
opportunities

 Search

About Cancer ▾ Cancer Types ▾ Research ▾ Grants & Training ▾ News & Events ▾ About NCI ▾

Home > About NCI > NCI Organization > DCB > Funding > DCB Funding Opportunities



DCB

- Research Portfolio >
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DCB Funding Opportunities

Notices of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs)

Title	Announcement Number	Opening Date	Expiration Date	Activity Code
Forecasted: Metastasis Research Network (U54 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)	RFA-CA-25-031	02/24/2026 (Estimated Post Date)	05/15/2026 (Estimated Due Date)	U54
Mechanisms that Impact Cancer Risk after Bariatric Surgery (R21 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)	PAR-25-044	01/16/2025	01/08/2028	R21
Mechanisms that Impact Cancer Risk after Bariatric Surgery (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)	PAR-25-043	01/05/2025	01/08/2028	R01
NIH Research Software Engineer (RSE) Award (R50 Clinical Trials Not Allowed)	RFA-OD-24-011	11/04/2024	12/05/2026	R50
Support for Research Excellence – First Independent Research (SuRE-First) Award (R16 - Clinical Trial Not Allowed)	PAR-25-415	08/09/2025	09/08/2028	R16
Support for Research Excellence (SuRE) Award (R16 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)	PAR-25-414	08/29/2025	09/08/2028	R16



Sharmistha Ghosh-Janjigian, PhD
Program Director

NCI Training Awards Opportunities for Early Career Researchers

 Search

- About Cancer ▾
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Home > Grants & Training > Training > Funding for Cancer Training



Training

Cancer Training at NCI >

Funding for Cancer Training

- NCI F30 Award
- NCI F31 Award
- NCI F32 Award
- NCI F99/K00 Award
- NCI K01 Award
- NCI K08 Award
- NCI Calabresi K12 Award
- NCI McCaskill-Stevens K12 Award
- NCI K22 Award
- NCI K25 Award
- NCI K32 Award
- NCI K99 Award
- NCI Early K99 Award
- NCI R25 Award
- NCI T32 Award

Early-Stage Surgeon Scientist Program

Funding for Cancer Training

The National Cancer Institute (NCI) supports fellowships, research career development awards, and training/education research in all areas of cancer research, including cancer prevention, control, behavioral sciences, population sciences, and translational research, at universities and institutions across the country. The Cancer Training Branch manages the training and education awards listed below.

[Download the Funding for Cancer Training Flyer](#)
[Download the PDF "The Grants Process, Lifecycle of a Grant"](#)
[Find Recent NIH Policy Statements and Notices](#)

Email: ncictbfoa@mail.nih.gov



The career stage indicated is when an applicant is eligible to apply for each award.



Session 2:
Awards to
support
trainees



Nas Zahir, PhD
Acting Director,
Center for Cancer Training

DCB Supported Resources

- DCB supports a variety of [resources](#) that are available to scientists studying cancer to aid in research.
- DCB/NCI communication resources

Session 2:
DCB/NCI
Research
Resources



Cindy Kyi, PhD
Program Director



Claire McCarthy, PhD
Office of the Director, DCB

Session 2:
Outreach
Activities

- NCI is dedicated to building upon the critical impact sharing data has on accelerating treatment for cancer

Session 3: NCI
requirement
regarding data



Justin Benavidez, PhD
Program Director



Dmitrijs Lvovs, PhD
University of Maryland

Session 3:
Importance
of Sharing
Resources
and Data

Grant Application life cycle



YOU STARTED HERE!

YOU ARE HERE

Administrative review
by Program & Grants
Management Staff

2nd tier of review:
Advisory Board/Council
Institute Director

1st tier of review:
Study Section

Division of Receipt and Referral (**DRR**)
Center for Scientific Review (**CSR**)
assigns application to a Review Group
and an NIH Institute

When to talk to your Extramural Team

Session 1:
Communicating
with your PD

Session 1:
Post-award grant
administration

Candace Cofie
Grants Management Specialist



Cheryl Cero, PhD
Program Director

Session 4:
Peer
Review

Session 4:
Program
perspective of
review



Michael Weinreich, PhD
Program Director



Joanna Watson, PhD
Chief, TMB/DCB

Keynotes

Keynote I: Day 1- 11:20 am



Michael Shen, PhD
Arthur J Antenucci Professor of Medical Sciences
Columbia University

Keynote II: Day 2- 10:10am



Anthony Letai, MD, PhD
Director, National Cancer Institute

The objectives of this workshop:

- Better understanding of the roles of the extramural staff
- Gain insight about grant processes and opportunities
- Establish connection with program, grants officials, and other PIs
- Understand your responsibilities as an NCI funded investigator
- Ways to promote your science and participate in outreach activities

Congratulations, New Grantees!

Welcome to the New Grantee Workshop!



Thank You



**NATIONAL
CANCER
INSTITUTE**

cancer.gov

cancer.gov/espanol