



Request for Proposals

Propel a Cure for Crohn's Disease invites applications for its Trailblazer Grant.

Propel A Cure is an all-volunteer nonprofit organization that raises funds for innovative research focused on identifying the underlying causes and key biological mechanisms of Crohn's disease, the first step in the development of cures. Funding for projects comes primarily from patients, their families, and friends. Propel a Cure carefully allocates these donations to support promising research that will ultimately lead to cures for Crohn's disease.

Amount: \$100,000, disbursed over two years in equal annual installments. If key milestones are achieved earlier than anticipated, and funding permits, Propel a Cure may, at its sole discretion, accelerate payment of the second installment, in whole or in part.

Application Due Date: April 30, 2026

Project Duration: Two years

Project Overview

Propel a Cure will provide funding for a highly innovative and impactful research project that could ultimately lead to critical discoveries in the quest to cure Crohn's disease. We encourage creativity, which may include a shifting perspective, looking at the existing problem through a different lens, or developing an entirely new paradigm. We welcome early-career and established investigators to pursue novel hypotheses, explore new topics and directions, and generate compelling data that may lead to new external funding.

Applicants will need to justify how the available funding and time frame are adequate to achieve the project goals. The awardee will agree to provide brief written updates on a quarterly basis, including confidential summaries for Propel a Cure and summaries that can be shared publicly with Propel a Cure's supporters, as well as participate in 1-2 video interviews and/or webinars annually during the award's time frame.

Project Goals

The goal of the project is to make a substantial contribution to Crohn's disease research that will help to define the disease etiology and provide meaningful, mechanistic insights that will finally lead us to cures.

Eligibility

Applications are invited from qualified investigators in academic, medical, or commercial research institutions worldwide. Crohn's disease knows no borders and neither do we.

Scope of Work

What is the problem?

A successful application will include a well-written, descriptive analysis of the problem and clearly defined, adequately developed steps that will be taken to arrive at the outcomes.

What will be the outcome?

A successful application will provide a clear description for non-scientists of the potential outcome of the project.

Guidelines for Proposal

The following information must be submitted:

1. Project Title
2. Project Description, including hypothesis, goals, conceptual and/or technical innovation
3. Research Plan, including how project results will be measured. This should follow the NIH R21 format and not exceed 6 pages.
4. Estimated Project Budget - Please note all costs must be directly related to the project (e.g., postdoc/undergraduate stipends, supplies, etc.). Include a budget justification within the estimated project budget. The project budget should be in a table format, with justification following. *Note that no portion of the grant may be applied to institutional overhead.
5. Biographical sketches of key personnel in NIH format

Formatting of the application materials should follow standard NIH requirements (Arial, 11 pt minimum, single-spaced, 0.5-inch page margins).

Please submit questions and final proposals to grants@propelacure.org.