

1. Introduction to the Collaboration Catalyst Awards

Meaningful and productive researcher collaborations are critical in enabling the transformational advances that are needed in pancreatic cancer research. We recognise that developing new, or fostering existing, collaborative relationships can be challenging without sufficient investment and support. Pancreatic Cancer UK's Collaboration Catalyst Awards will enable researchers to establish and/or develop collaborations and networks to explore a research challenge or question within the field of pancreatic cancer.

Up to £7000 is available per award and is intended to fund activities relating to:

- Participation in research visits, including secondments to collaborating research groups
- Hosting researcher workshops and/or discussion-style type meetings to build collaborations and networks

2. Eligibility

2.1. Who can apply?

These awards are available for researchers wanting to contribute to, or organise, activities that bring researchers together, with the intention of either fostering existing, or developing new collaborations in pancreatic cancer research. Funding is available for clinical and non-clinical researchers based at a UK host institution. Applicants can be at any stage of their career, including PhD students.

Applicants must be using the funding within the context of pancreatic cancer.

The award can be used to build and develop international collaborations, but the lead applicant must be based at a UK host institution.

2.2. What costs are eligible for funding?

These awards will not support costs for attending existing conference or meetings. There may be an exception to this if attendance is required for the specific collaborative activity e.g. organising an additional researcher meeting at an existing conference. This can be justified in your application.

Eligible costs:

- Travel, accommodation and subsistence for research visits (including international)
- Venue hire, including catering, AV equipment hire for workshops/researcher meetings
- Participant expenses for workshops/researcher meetings
- Essential consumables required to generate pilot data to explore the feasibility of collaboration
- Cost associated with dissemination of the collaborative activity
- Any other essential expenses that are reasonably justified

Ineligible costs:

- Costs for meetings to solely disseminate research findings
- Salary costs
- Publication costs
- Social excursion costs (i.e. catering costs not required for the collaborative activity)
- Internal flights within the island of Great Britain

3. Timelines

Key dates	
Funding call opens	14 th May 2025
Deadline for applications	25 th June 2025
Applicants notified of funding decision	5 weeks after Pancreatic Cancer UK's Research Team confirm receipt of the application
Award duration	Collaboration activity must be started before March 2026

4. How your application will be assessed

4.1. Governance

In our bid to support research and researchers of the highest quality, we have a robust and rigorous review process for each grant that we fund. Pancreatic Cancer UK is a member of the Association of Medical Research Charities (AMRC), the membership organisation for the leading medical and health research charities in the UK. As a member, our overall strategy and funding schemes comply with best practice for research funding, monitoring and governance policies. Funding decisions for this scheme are overseen by Pancreatic Cancer UK's Board of Trustees based on the recommendations by our Scientific Advisory Board, which has membership drawn from world-leading pancreatic cancer researchers from across the globe. The Board includes a diverse range of expertise to ensure that we fund only the highest quality research. The Board also includes people with personal experiences of pancreatic cancer as 'lay' members to ensure that the research we fund is relevant and important to people affected by pancreatic cancer. All members of our Scientific Advisory Board adhere to a Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest policy which is in place to protect and preserve the board when discussing and reviewing research funding applications.



4.2. Application and review process

To apply for the 2024-2025 Collaboration Catalyst Awards, you must complete an application form and send it to research@pancreaticcancer.org.uk. The Research Team will review the application to ensure it is eligible ahead of review by a member of Pancreatic Cancer UK's Scientific Advisory Board in accordance with the guidelines set out by the Association of Medical Research Charities (AMRC). Referee comments will be made available to applicants in an anonymous format. Both successful and unsuccessful applicants will be notified via email within 5 weeks of their application.

Applications must be received in a timely manner reflecting the review timeline set out above i.e. applications will not be accepted if the proposed collaborative activity is less than 5 weeks from point of submission.

Applications must be submitted to the Research Team in the form of a single pdf document containing all relevant appendices.

4.3. Assessment criteria

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Guidance for Applicants

Your application will be assessed against the following key criteria:

- **Strategic relevance:** The proposed activity should be based around a timely and relevant challenge or research question in pancreatic cancer. Applicants should indicate what the expected outcomes or impacts could be if funding was awarded.
- **Case for collaboration:** Applicants should clearly articulate why this collaborative activity is necessary, what each collaborator will contribute and what the scope for longevity of collaborative relationship will be.

Contact Information

For further guidance on completing this form or any other queries, please email the [Research Team](#).