

Women Scientists Innovation Award for Cancer Research

V Scholar or Translational

2024 Request for Applications

PURPOSE OF AWARD:

Sustaining the careers of women in research and preventing the loss of women from academic careers focused on cancer is paramount to accomplishing the V Foundation's mission. Women are underrepresented in many STEM fields and this disparity becomes more pronounced further along the career continuum. To make significant progress towards Victory Over Cancer, we need all voices at the table. The V Foundation's Women Scientists Innovation Award for Cancer Research helps promote inclusion for women in cancer research while supporting the most cutting-edge proposals.

SPECIAL FOCUS AREA:

This request for applications is specifically to fund women cancer researchers and is restricted to **adult** cancer research. This year, we have special interest and funding for **colorectal cancer research** and welcome projects in this area. Please note that research areas **not** included in this scope for any grant type are *epidemiology, behavioral science, and health services research*.

V Scholar – supports young tenure-track faculty early in their cancer research career by funding projects that are **either laboratory-based fundamental research or translational research**. Emphasis for this grant mechanism is on supporting exceptional early career investigators at the Assistant Professor stage to be better positioned to leverage large R01 or similar sustaining grants.

Translational – applicants can propose cancer research that moves a novel strategy from the laboratory into a human clinical trial or uses specimens from a clinical trial to develop biomarkers or mechanisms. The research should apply in some direct way to human beings within the time frame of less than 3 years from the end of the grant. If biomarker research is undertaken, a validation set, or independent clinical trial is essential. A plan for biomarker validation, if applicable, must be included in any proposal. The endpoint of the project should be the planning or initiation of a new clinical trial.

GRANT SPECIFICS:

V Scholar: A three-year, \$600,000 grant, paid in annual installments. No indirect costs allowed.

Translational: A four-year, \$800,000 grant, paid in annual installments. Indirect costs up to 10% of direct costs allowed.

WHO MAY APPLY?

- Each invited institution may submit **one nominee** to apply for this Women Scientists Innovation Award.
- The **SOLE** nominee may apply in **either** the V Scholar **or** Translational grant type.

INSTITUTION ELIGIBILITY:

Only research institutions that received this invitation may submit a single nominee for consideration. Other affiliates of the institution that did not receive the email are not eligible to nominate an applicant.

Applicants may apply to EITHER V Scholar OR Translational

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY:

V Scholar

Inclusion: Nominee must meet **all** the following criteria by the nomination due date.

- Self-identify as a woman.
- Nominated by their Cancer Center Director or similar high ranking research official.
- Employed at a non-profit research institution (e.g., 501c3, Section 170).
- Must be either a US Citizen or have permanent legal residency in the US. This requirement does not apply to invited Canadian institutions.
- Possess at least 2 years post-doctoral (MD or PhD) fellowship training. For MDs, a minimum of one year is acceptable if only one year is required for their specialty.
- Clinical scientists are eligible if the research institution demonstrates that it will fully support the research applicant (e.g., dedicated lab space, committed research time, start-up funds).
- Must be in a full-time tenure track or tenured faculty position (for e.g., must be eligible to apply for PI status on an R01 at your institution).
- Must have been appointed to their first full-time tenure track Assistant Professor position **no more than 5 years prior to the nomination due date**, and not yet promoted to Associate Professor.
 - Extensions to the 5-year limit may be given to nominees who took parental leave during this window. Please contact us at grants@v.org with the following for approval BEFORE submitting the nomination form:
 - Appointment start date
 - Length of leave
 - Institutional tenure clock stoppages/extensions, if applicable
 - Other types of leave may be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Exclusion: By the nomination due date, nominee must:

- NOT be a previous or current V Foundation V Scholar awardee.
- NOT have accepted or received notification of an R01 award by the nomination due date.
- NOT have accepted or received award notification of any peer-reviewed, non-mentored ***single grant*** that totals or exceeds \$750K in total direct funding at ANY point in their professional career. This calculation should **exclude** indirect costs.
- NOT have accepted or received award notification of any peer-reviewed, non-mentored funding that exceeds \$1M in ***aggregated*** total direct funding at ANY point in their professional career. This calculation should **exclude** indirect costs.

Note: The V Scholar award is intended to support research to leverage these larger awards; so, the nominee should not have already received such awards.

Translational - Nominee must be the lead Principal Investigator (PI) on the Translational research team and must meet **all** the following criteria by the nomination due date:

- Self-identify as a woman.
- Nominated by their Cancer Center Director or similar high ranking research official.
- Employed at a non-profit research institution (e.g., 501c3, Section 170).
- Hold a tenure-track or tenured faculty position at their cancer research institution. Non-promotable adjunct, affiliated, temporary, part-time, or acting faculty positions are not eligible for Principal Investigator nomination.
- Must be either a US Citizen or have permanent legal residency in the US. This requirement does not apply to invited Canadian institutions.

INTERNAL COMPETITION GUIDELINES:

Letters of Intent (not to exceed 2 pages) with cover page (see below) are due **Tuesday, January 23, 2024** and must be emailed as a single pdf document to winshipgrants@emory.edu. Letters of Intent should also include the PI's NIH Biosketch, a proposed title for the research project, and a brief 1-2 page abstract of the proposed research project. The selected investigator(s) will be notified and invited to submit a full application by Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University. Please direct any questions you have regarding this funding opportunity to winshipgrants@emory.edu.

2024 Women Scientists Innovation Award for Cancer Research - V Scholar or Translational

CYCLE COMPONENT

Date of RFA Announcement:

Winship Letter of Intent Due Date:

Winship Announcement of Nominee Selection:

Nomination with Letter of Recommendation Due Date (to V Foundation):

V Foundation Application Due Date:

DATE

Tuesday, January 9, 2024

Tuesday, January 23, 2024

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

Thursday, February 1, 2024 by 5:00 pm ET

Monday, March 4, 2024 by 5:00 pm ET

Letter of Intent Cover Page (V Scholar)

APPLICANT Contact Information:

Complete below ↓

First and last name (including degrees):	
Name of Cancer Institute:	
Professional Title:	
E-mail address:	
Phone number:	

Please confirm **ALL** the following eligibility items are true by the nomination due date.

(Please check the boxes below):

- Self-identifies as a woman.
- Holds a tenure-track or tenured faculty position at their cancer research institution. Non-promotable adjunct, affiliated, temporary, part-time, or acting faculty positions are not eligible for Principal Investigator nomination.
- Must either be a US citizen or have permanent legal residency in the US. This requirement does not apply to invited Canadian institutions.
- Has at least 2 years post-doctoral (MD or PhD) fellowship training. For MDs, a minimum of one year is acceptable if only one year is required for their specialty.
- Appointed to their first full-time tenure track Assistant Professor position no more than 5 years prior to the nomination due date and has not yet been promoted to Associate Professor.

Please provide appointment start date here: _____

- Is NOT a previous or current V Foundation V Scholar awardee.
- Has NOT accepted or have received notification that they will be awarded an R01 by the nomination due date.
- Has not accepted or received an award notification of any peer-reviewed, non-mentored **single grant** that totals or exceeds \$750K in total direct funding at ANY point in their professional career. This calculation should exclude indirect costs.
- Must NOT have accepted or received award notification of any peer-reviewed, non-mentored funding that exceeds \$1M in aggregated total direct funding at ANY point in their professional career. This calculation should exclude indirect costs.

Project Title and Key words (Include important key words related to the specific type of scientific expertise needed to select reviewers for your application):

Project Title:

Key words (minimum of six key words such as breast cancer, immunology, imaging techniques, epigenetics, microbiome, etc.):

Letter of Intent Cover Page (Translational)

APPLICANT Contact Information:

Complete below ↓

First and last name (including degrees):	
Name of Cancer Institute:	
Professional Title:	
E-mail address:	
Phone number:	

Please confirm ALL the following eligibility items are true by the nomination due date.

(Please check the boxes below):

- Self-identifies as a woman.
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