

# Washington University SPORE in Pancreatic Cancer 2026 Request for Applications

## Career Enhancement Awards

**Application Deadline: May 15th, 2026**

**Award Dates: Aug 1, 2026-Jun 30, 2027**

**\$75,000-\$100,000 per year for up to two years**

### CAREER ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

**Eligibility:** Junior faculty (Instructor or Assistant Professor) are eligible. In addition, senior post-doctoral fellows (PhD, MD, or MD-PhD) who have a written commitment from their department chair indicating promotion to Assistant Professor by the time of the award.

**Purpose:** The goal is to recruit and support new independent investigators in the field of translational pancreatic cancer research. Research initiatives funded by the CEP are expected to have a major translational component, focusing on pancreatic cancer biology, diagnosis, early detection, treatment, or population science.

**Effort Requirement:** New investigators will be expected to be able devote at least 50% of their scientific focus on pancreatic cancer research. Aka we want to grow the next generation of pancreas cancer researchers.

## Developmental Research Awards

**Application Deadline: May 15th, 2026**

**Award Dates: Aug 1, 2026-Jun 30, 2027**

**\$75,000-\$100,000 for one year**

### DEVELOPMENTAL RESEARCH PROGRAM

**Eligibility:** All faculty members Assistant Professor or higher. Preference will be given to junior faculty or established investigators with a new translational pancreatic cancer research focus.

**Purpose:** To support new research projects in pancreas cancer. The allocated funds will support highly-focused projects intended to collect preliminary data sufficient to support an application for peer-reviewed research grants or future incorporation as full Pancreatic SPORE projects.

Applications are open to investigators affiliated with Washington University or Medical University of South Carolina. Completed applications must be submitted by: **May 15, 2026. Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.**

### **Application Instructions:**

Applications must include 1) investigators NIH biosketch (old version ok), including other support pages 2) a Specific Aims page in NIH format 3) up to 1-2 pages of background, preliminary data and approach 4) plus if desired, a separate page for figures/legend and 5) short description of plans for future funding (DRP/CEP) or career plan (CEP) if successful. No budget is requested. Submit applications to Christina Kasting ([c.pritchard@wustl.edu](mailto:c.pritchard@wustl.edu)) by the deadline.

**Administrative Contact:** Christina Kasting; [c.pritchard@wustl.edu](mailto:c.pritchard@wustl.edu), 314-747-8865

**SPORE Program Director(s):** David DeNardo; [ddenardo@wustl.edu](mailto:ddenardo@wustl.edu)

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**(Don't hesitate to reach out if you have questions or want to discuss)**

