Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network
2025 Patient Centered Clinical Research Award Guidelines and Instructions

PURPOSE OF AWARD
The IOM (Institute of Medicine) defines patient-centered care as: "Health care that establishes a partnership among practitioners, patients, and their families (when appropriate) to ensure that decisions respect patients' wants, needs, and preferences and that patients have the education and support they need to make decisions and participate in their own care." This Award is intended to support junior-level to senior-level full-time faculty investigators, who have demonstrated a commitment to improving the understanding, treatment, and experience of bladder cancer and/or upper tract urothelial carcinoma patients and are launching careers in patient centered clinical research (e.g. studies of shared decision making, access to care, quality of care, quality of life, health disparities, comparative effectiveness research, patient-centered outcomes research, and survivorship). Applications that include cross-disciplinary teams including Advance Practice Providers (APPs) will be favorably reviewed. This Award is intended to advance new patient centered clinical research initiatives in the applicant's research program and to provide an opportunity to increase the applicant's competitiveness for subsequent funding applications in this space.

This three-year grant, totaling $250,000, is designed for junior to senior-level investigators yet to secure their first significant research funding in patient centered clinical related research (NIH R01 or equivalent). Training grants and other mentor-linked funding such as Career Development Awards or NIH K-series awards are not considered independent funding. Investigators who have received an R01 or equivalent in another area of research, including bladder cancer, are eligible to apply. Project proposals should have measurable outcomes during the three-year grant period and include research milestones achievable during the study timeline. Merely supplementing one's current research efforts with patient-centered clinical bladder cancer science would not be considered a meaningful shift. The BCAN application and Professional Development Plan proposal will be reviewed closely for substantial evidence of a commitment to patient-centered clinical bladder cancer research.

APPLICATION DEADLINE
Tuesday, December 2nd, 2025, at 5:00 PM U.S. Eastern Time

DECISION ANNOUNCED
March 2026

EARLIEST GRANT START DATE
April 1, 2026

ELIGIBILITY
Note: While applicants are welcome to include Co-Investigators in their Patient Centered Clinical Research Award proposal, this mechanism does not allow for Co-Principal Investigators.

1. At the time of submission, the applicant must have a doctoral degree (e.g., MD, DO, DDS, Ph.D., DNP, DSW, PharmD, PsyD, DVM, or equivalent) in the biomedical sciences or a field applicable to health science research and may not currently be a candidate for a further doctoral degree. Eligible applicants include investigators who have experience in other areas of cancer or biomedical/health science research with promising ideas and approaches that can be applied to bladder cancer research. Applications that include cross-disciplinary teams and those that include Advance Practice Providers (APPs) will be favorably reviewed.
2. The applicant must have a full-time faculty appointment as at least the level of an assistant professor, research assistant professor, or equivalent.
3. The applicant must be from a US or Canadian sponsoring academic, nonprofit, or governmental institution. Proof of permanent resident status or a valid work visa is required if the applicant is not an American or a Canadian citizen.
4. The applicant must be able to commit at least 30% of full-time effort in research (applies to total research, not just the proposed project) during the Award period.
5. The sponsoring institution must ensure institutional support for the applicant's research program and career advancement.
6. The applicant must have a primary Co-Investigator, with patient-centered clinical research expertise, within or approved by the sponsoring institution. A primary Co-Investigator who has specific knowledge and experience in bladder cancer and/or upper tract urothelial carcinoma is encouraged. In instances where the primary Co-Investigator lacks bladder cancer and/or upper tract urothelial carcinoma experience, additional collaborator support from bladder cancer experts is strongly advised. The applicant can have collaborators from outside institutions. The applicant must submit a letter of approval from their institution should they wish to have a primary Co-Investigator from an outside institution. BCAN will not identify Co-Investigators or "match" applicants to Co-Investigators, to ensure an equitable and fair process for all applicants.
7. The applicant can either be new to the Patient-Centered Care (PCC) research field with no prior experience or can have participated in PCC-related work but have not yet received an R01 or equivalent level of funding. The applicant cannot currently or have previously served as a principal investigator on major independent patient centered clinical research awards or grants (e.g., NIH R01 or equivalent). Senior-level investigators who have received an R01 or equivalent in another area of

research, including bladder cancer, are eligible to apply. This does not include Career Development Awards, including NIH K or equivalent. Applicants who are/were principal investigators on major patient centered clinical research awards or grants are considered to have already received funding to catalyze their careers and are not eligible to apply. Training grants and other mentor-linked funding are not regarded as independent funding.

8. The applicant may not have other funding with significant scientific overlap. If an applicant receives notice of funding from another funding agency for a proposal with significant scientific overlap following submission of their PCC application or following Award notice, the applicant must decide between the Awards. BCAN will not allow the modification of aims and will administratively withdraw an application under review or require relinquishment of a funded award.
9. Eligible applicants may apply for other BCAN award programs but are allowed to hold only one active grant from BCAN at a time. If an applicant receives BCAN funding via another program during the course of review, their PCC Award application will be administratively withdrawn.
10. Applicants must be up-to-date and in compliance with all requirements (e.g., progress reports, final reports) of any past grants from BCAN.
11. BCAN will accept only one proposal from each applicant per announcement. There is no limit to the number of applications per institution.

EVALUATION PROCESS AND CRITERIA

BCAN will not discriminate based on gender, race, ethnicity, creed, religion, sexual orientation, disability, nationality, age, or any other factor irrelevant to the quality of the application. The applications will be evaluated by a Scientific Review Group (SRG) comprised of medical and scientific experts respected for their accomplishments in genitourinary cancer research and as leaders in the field, as well as patient advocates from BCAN's research advocate program. The SRG will review and score the applications based on the criteria below. The Award review process is based on the same peer review system utilized by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). All applications will initially be reviewed by three scientific reviewers; the top scoring applications will advance to the second stage of review to be reviewed by a biostatistician reviewer and patient advocate reviewer. The applications with the top scores following the biostatistician and patient advocate reviews will then advance to the SRG discussion where they will receive a new overall score. Research projects are scored individually by members of the review panel and scores are added together to determine the final ranking of each proposal. Any reviewer with a conflict of interest is excused from discussing and voting on a specific application.

The review process will take into account the career stage of the applicant. Early career investigators will be evaluated with an understanding that they may not yet have had the opportunity to establish an extensive track record comparable to more senior investigators. Reviewers will be encouraged to assess the potential, originality, and scientific merit of the

proposed work in the context of the applicant's career stage, rather than the breadth of prior accomplishments. This approach ensures a fair and inclusive review process that supports the development of early career investigators.

Following the SRG discussion, the SRG Chair will present the highest-ranked proposals to the BCAN Research Management Committee (comprised of members of BCAN's Scientific Advisory Board, as well as patient advocates), which will accept the scientific merit scores. The Research Management Committee will review the ranking of the top applications based solely on those scores and recommend the final Award decisions, based on all included criteria specified in the Award Guidelines, for approval by the BCAN Board of Directors. Any member of the Research Management Committee or the BCAN Board of Directors with a conflict of interest is excused from discussing and voting on the Award decisions.

Evaluation of the proposals will include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. **Responsiveness to the Award Guidelines:** Does the application propose a study of shared decision making, access to care, quality of care, quality of life, health disparities, comparative effectiveness research, survivorship or other patient-centered clinical research approach to the prevention, detection, diagnosis, and/or treatment of bladder cancer? If the aims of the application are achieved, how will scientific knowledge or clinical practice be advanced? What will be the effect of these studies on the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventative interventions impacting the care of bladder cancer patients? Does the application and Professional Development Plan demonstrate how the award will allow the applicant to bridge/advance his/her work in patient centered clinical bladder cancer research?
2. **Merit of the Research Plan and Objectives**: Is the conceptual approach or clinical framework, design, methods, and analyses adequately developed, well-integrated, well-reasoned, and appropriate to the project's aims? Does the applicant acknowledge potential problem areas and consider alternative tactics?
3. **Feasibility, Acceptability, and Relevance to Bladder Cancer Patients:** Can the project be completed as proposed and in the allotted timeframe? Is it scientifically and logistically feasible? Are the milestones appropriate? Does the proposal demonstrate the research question and steps needed for implementation are acceptable and important to bladder cancer patients? Does the application demonstrate the significance of the research to bladder cancer patients? Was there patient engagement in the study's design and implementation of the study? Note: BCAN may be able to assist in the identification of a patient advocate if needed. Any requests for this type of support must be made by Tuesday, October 21st, 2025.
4. **Investigator:** Is the candidate appropriately trained and well-suited for the proposed work? If early career investigators or those in the early stages of independent careers, do they have appropriate experience and training? Is the

work proposed appropriate to the experience level of the candidate and study team? Is the investigative team cross-disciplinary where appropriate? If established, have they demonstrated an ongoing record of accomplishments that have advanced their field(s)? Does the candidate demonstrate a desire to pursue a research career in patient centered clinical research relevant to bladder cancer and are they well-poised to succeed as an independent investigator? To what extent does the Professional Development Plan promote the candidate's knowledge and skills in patient centered clinical bladder cancer research?

5. **Primary Co-Investigator:** Ability of primary Co-Investigator to provide expertise in patient centered clinical research, appropriate counsel during the award period, and demonstration that there are adequate resources available to the applicant to support the research project.
6. **Environment:** Does the application demonstrate that there are adequate institutional facilities and resources available to the applicant to support the research project? Is there evidence of institutional support? To what extent does the Professional Development Plan reflect a supportive environment that will facilitate promoting the candidate's knowledge and skills in patient centered clinical bladder cancer research?
7. **Budget:** Is the budget appropriate and justified based on the work proposed in the research plan during the grant period?

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

BCAN requires applicants to submit an online application using ProposalCentral. The online application is available here:
https://proposalcentral.com/ProposalGI.asp?SectionID=13751&ProposalID=-1

Inquiries or technical issues regarding ProposalCentral and the online application process should be directed to customer support at Phone: 703-964-5840, Toll-free phone: 1-800-875-2562, Email: pcsupport@altum.com. Live customer support is only available from 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM EST.

Inquiries about the program guidelines, eligibility requirements, and application materials can be directed to Rebecca Johnson (rjohnson@bcan.org), or Anne Collins (acollins@bcan.org) or to BCAN (grants@bcan.org).

Exceptions will not be made to the application deadline of Tuesday, December 2nd, 2025, at 5:00 PM U.S. Eastern Time. BCAN strongly suggests beginning application submission well before the deadline to allow time for submission and electronic signatures.

Applicants experiencing technical difficulties must contact ProposalCentral well before the 5:00 PM EST deadline. Please do not contact BCAN for technical assistance.

APPLICATION COMPONENTS

The following information is required to submit a complete application. Numbers correspond to the application sections on the ProposalCentral website's left side.

Please ensure that your application and ALL attachments conform to the instructions outlined in these guidelines and the related templates, including formatting (e.g., page limits, section headers, etc.) and required content. Additionally, please make certain that your application contains ALL the required components and attachments. Applications that do not contain all the required components and attachments may be administratively withdrawn and will not advance for review.

1. **Project & Funding Information**
2. **Download Templates & Instructions:** Guidelines and all templates can be downloaded from this page.
    a. You must download and complete the following templates: Research Proposal, Facilities, References, Personal Statement, Training and Environment Summary, Patient Advocate Form, Applicant Biosketch, Primary Co-Investigator biosketch, Professional Development Plan, and Biostatistical Plan.
    b. All completed templates must be uploaded in PDF format.
    c. Completed templates must be uploaded in Section 11: Application Attachments.
3. **Enable Other Users to Access this Proposal:** Please ensure the institutional signing official is added to allow them to sign the Signatures Page before submission. You may optionally add other contacts if you would like to enable access.
4. **Applicant Information**
5. **Institutional and Signing Official Information**
6. **Primary Co-Investigator & Key Personnel Information:** Please include pertinent collaborators' information (e.g., Co-Investigators, etc.).
7. **Abstracts and Keywords**
    a. **Lay Abstract (2000 characters):** Describe the work in a way that will be understood by people who do not have scientific or medical backgrounds. The abstract should clearly describe the scientific objectives and rationale of the proposal and should avoid technical and scientific terms when possible. The lay abstract should not duplicate the technical abstract. A statement regarding the research's applicability to bladder cancer patients is required. It should not include confidential information. If the proposal is selected to receive an award, BCAN may use this information in press releases, Award announcements and to provide information to the general public regarding its Awards program.
    b. **Technical Abstract (2000 characters):** The technical abstract should provide a clear and concise overview of the proposed work, including the background, research question, hypothesis and its supporting rationale, aims of the project, significance of the proposed work to the program's goals, and methodologies. A

statement regarding the research's applicability to bladder cancer patients is required.

8. **Budget Period Detail:** Enter all budget information for the project here. See instructions under Section 9: Budget Summary & Justification.
9. **Budget Summary and Justification (5000 characters):** Please use the budget template in ProposalCentral. The total Award amount is $250,000, payable over three years. Applicants must specify the total proposed budget per year based on the scope of work to be performed during each budget period. There is a spending cap of $168,000 during the first year of the Award. During the Award period, at least 80% of the yearly budget must be expended by the end of each reporting year as a condition of approval for new funds. Identify, by name and title, any additional personnel, and their specific responsibilities during each year of the proposed project. Support for the Professional Development Plan is not included in the award's budget but instead should be secured separately by the applicant.
    a. Support for the Principal Investigator's (PI) salary and benefits is limited to 20% of the total budget. The 20% of the budget maximum salary allowance only applies to the PI (i.e., up to $50,000 total for the PI) and does not apply to Co-Investigators. Additional funds can be used for research support staff (ex. graduate students and postdoctoral fellows). All salary support must adhere to NIH-applicable salary limits.
    b. At least 90% of each year's budget should support costs directly related to the research project, such as investigator salary support, personnel salary, supplies, equipment, and other expenses. Salary limits will be equivalent to the NIH applicable limit. Budgeted items must be consistent with available institutional facilities and resources.
    c. Justify all equipment, research/laboratory supplies, publication charges for manuscripts that pertain directly to the funded project, and other research expenses being requested. Detailed justification is required for budget requests for equipment that exceed 10% of the total budget.
    d. Funds cannot be used to support the purchase of capital equipment. BCAN considers the threshold for a capital expenditure to be the lower of $2,000 or any capitalization threshold established by the applicant's institution. All equipment purchases require advance approval from BCAN.
    e. Patient care costs that are reimbursable by a third-party payor, professional membership dues, tuition fees, and other fees for academic courses are unallowable.
    f. Up to $2,000 per year should be explicitly allotted for the applicant's travel to the annual BCAN Think Tank meeting and any other travel essential to conducting the study.
    g. Indirect costs: Up to 7% per year may be applied to overhead or facilities and administrative costs of the applicant's institution in administering the research project.

h. No-cost extensions are allowable as long as they are approved by BCAN.
i. BCAN considers the budget submitted in the grant application to be the final, approved budget unless any changes are requested by the awardee and approved by BCAN prior to signing the Grant Activation Form. Any deviation from an approved budget line item exceeding 10% requires prior written approval from BCAN. Awardees must submit a formal request outlining proposed budget adjustments before any related expenditures are made.

10. Organization Assurances

11. Application Attachments: Formatting instructions: Must be in English, single-spaced.

- Paper Size: 8.5" x 11".
- Margins: at least 1/2" on all sides.
- Font: Arial or Helvetica at least 11pt (or larger).

A. **Research Proposal (Required; Limited to 5 pages, including figures and tables):** Applicants must include a description of how this research may benefit patients with bladder cancer and must describe the specific elements of the study design and approach that are patient centered. The five-page limit applies only to the proposal and not to the references, CV, or other supplemental information. Note the Biostatistical Plan should not be included in this section. The information must be presented in this order and must consist of these subheadings:
   a. Title of Research Project
   b. Introductory Statement: Research Question, Background, and Rationale.
   c. Hypothesis and Specific Aims
   d. Preliminary Data if available (optional)
   e. Research Design and Methods
   f. Milestone Timetable: Set forth the steps needed to accomplish each aim and the estimated time required to complete each step. Appropriate detail should be included to assure a reviewer that the applicant's project is feasible in the timeframe of the grant.

B. **Biostatistical Plan** (**Required – limited to 1 page):** A biostatistician will review applications. A detailed statistical plan is required for all applications and is limited to one typewritten, single-spaced page. For clinical and in-vivo studies, this section should include the primary objective/hypothesis and endpoint of the study, a description of the experimental design and study groups that will be compared, a justification of the proposed study sample size, detailed procedures for data analysis, and appropriate statistical considerations. A reasonable sample size justification will include all parameters required to compute the sample size: the effect size, power, and type I error rates for each aim. When relevant to the project, it will also state median follow-up, prevalence of mutations in a given population, accrual rate, and estimated percentage of participant dropout. Laboratory-based in vitro research proposals should also include the primary objective/hypothesis and the primary endpoint of the study, procedures for data analysis, and appropriate statistical details that describe the summary measures that will be used to meet the objectives of the

study. The applicant should work with a biostatistician to develop the application. If statistics are not applicable to the project, the applicant should upload a document stating that "Biostatistics are not applicable", and the reviewers will evaluate the project accordingly.

C. **Facilities (Required; Limited to 3 pages)**: Describe the research facilities, resources, and equipment available to the applicant to implement the proposed research program successfully.
D. **References (Required):** There is no page limit for this section. Please use single-spaced, 11-point font for this section.
E. **Personal statement (Required; Limited to 1 page):** Describe the applicant's career development plan, including:
    a. Why does the applicant wish to pursue a career focused on patient-centered clinical research? Please explain why this Award, with its focus on bladder cancer, is significant to you?
    b. Impact of Award on applicant's career in patient centered clinical research, including the applicant's career goals.
    c. Percentage of time the applicant will spend on total research activities.
    d. The applicant's role in developing and implementing the proposed research study.
    e. Sources of salary support for the applicant.
    f. List other funding agencies/organizations where this research proposal was or will be submitted. If none, please indicate N/A.
F. **Training and Environment Summary (Required; Limited to 1 page)**: This section should accurately represent the time commitment that will be dedicated to the proposed project and a detailed description of the applicant's non-research responsibilities during this period. The time commitment described should also be reflected in the application's supporting sponsor letter.
G. **Professional Development Plan (Required; limited to 5 pages)**: Applicants must include a Professional Development Plan that describes an individualized plan to garner resources, activities, collaborations, and/or didactic or practical experiences concurrent with the BCAN research project that will 1) lead to enhanced knowledge and skills in patient centered clinical bladder cancer science, and 2) increase the applicant's likelihood of successful completion of their proposed BCAN project. This plan would complement the BCAN Award and would need to be supported independent of the BCAN research plan and funding. The elements of the Professional Development Plan may differ for each applicant based on career stage, research experience, institutional resources, or other factors. Applicants are encouraged to tailor their plans to meet their individual professional development needs in relation to their proposed BCAN project. Moreover, applicants are encouraged to describe specific activities that will augment their skills in patient centered clinical bladder cancer research to develop into independent researchers within this field. Applicants are encouraged to have commitments of such support in place at the time of the

BCAN application, in which case official documentation of the commitment should be included in the application as letters of support. Applicants who intend to apply for Professional Development Plan support, but who will not know the results prior to submitting the BCAN application, should describe their plans to seek additional support within the PDP portion of their application. It is very important to initiate the process of seeking PDP support early-ideally during the preparation of the BCAN application-because some PDP funders have established review and award timelines. This is an individualized PDP to enhance patient centered clinical research skills. May involve formal coursework, mentorship, conferences, patient centered clinical exposure, etc.

H. **Patient Advocate Form (Required; Limited to 1 page)**: Applications will be reviewed by a patient advocate to evaluate how well the applicant explains the potential impact of the proposal. This form should be completed **by the applicant** and should address the following three questions to detail the proposal's relevance to bladder cancer patients, caregivers, or other stakeholders, and the focus of the proposed work on patient-centered care. The response should be written by the applicant in a way that will be understood by people who do not have a scientific or medical background.
    a. Describe the patient-centered problem, evidence gap and/or specific health decision being addressed, its scope, and the significance of this research for bladder cancer patients. How will the results of this research improve outcomes that bladder cancer patients and other stakeholders care about (e.g., survival, functioning, symptoms, quality of life, etc.) and inform an identified healthcare decision?
    b. Describe any steps taken to ensure the research question and steps needed for implementation are acceptable to bladder cancer patients. Has the applicant engaged patient advocates and relevant stakeholders in the design, selection of outcomes, and implementation of this study? If not, the applicant should describe plans to engage patient advocates during study implementation, including plans to consult with BCAN as needed. BCAN may be able to assist applicants/awardees in identifying appropriate patient advocate partners to engage and consult on their research.
    c. If the study is successful, what are the next steps to move the research into clinical practice?

I. **Applicant's Biographical Sketch (Required; adhere to NIH page limits):** Use the template found in Section 2: Download Templates & Instructions.

J. **Primary Co-Investigator's Biographical Sketch (Required; adhere to NIH page limits):** Use the template found in Section 2: Download Templates & Instructions.

K. **Publications (optional**): Up to two prior publications that highlight the applicant's experience and qualifications may be included. The applicant must be a co-author on these publications.

L. **Primary Co-Investigator Letter of Recommendation (Required):** The letter should outline the Co-Investigator's relevant qualifications, prior experience in collaborative

patient centered clinical research, specific contributions to the proposed project, and resources to be made available to the applicant. Emphasis should be placed on their track record of engaging patients in the research process, implementing patient-centered methodologies, and translating findings into meaningful health outcomes. The letter must also express a clear commitment to the goals of the project and detail the anticipated role and responsibilities of the Co-Investigator.

M. **Sponsor Letter (Required)**: The sponsor must attest to the institutional support for the applicant. The sponsor can be the department head, chief of service, or program chair. This letter should include the following information:
    a. Confirmation that the applicant is a full-time faculty member at least at the level of an assistant professor, research assistant professor, or equivalent at the time of application submission.
    b. Description of the applicant's position.
    c. Description of the sponsoring institution's support for the applicant's research and clinical activities.
    d. Description of the potential of the applicant to become a leader in patient centered clinical research.
    e. Future plans for the applicant's career development at the sponsoring institution.
    f. Description of how the applicant's time will be divided among research and other responsibilities to the sponsoring institution with a minimum of 30% protected research time.

N. **Patient Advocate Letter of Support (Required):** At least one letter of support from a patient advocate is required. The letter should attest to the importance of the research question to patients and that the steps required for study implementation are acceptable to bladder cancer patients. The letter should also describe any patient engagement or input in the design of the study and proposed patient engagement in the conduct of the study. Note: BCAN may be able to assist in the identification of a patient advocate if needed. Any requests for this type of support must be made by Tuesday, October 21st, 2025

O. **PDP Letters of Support:** Please use this section to include any official documentation of commitment for the Professional Development Plan. Please also include letters of support from collaborators and/or mentors who will play a role in the Professional Development Plan.

P. **Additional Letters of Support (optional):**

Q. **Supplemental Material:** Please use this section ONLY to include letters from collaborators, additional letters of recommendation, and IRB/IACUC/IND approvals. Do NOT include figures, protocols or submit reprints of articles with this application.

12. Validate: Validate the application in ProposalCentral. This is an essential step. An application that has not been validated cannot be submitted. "Validate" checks for required data and required attachments. You will not be able to submit if all the required data and attachments have not been provided.

13. **Signatures Page:** The applicant and institutional signing official must electronically sign this page in ProposalCentral. Co-Investigators do not need to sign. The application will be considered incomplete if this page is not complete. BCAN is no longer requiring an ink signature for submission. You can print signature pages as a way to save or keep a copy of your application. You do not need to upload anything here.

CHANGES TO YOUR APPLICATION

Withdrawal of Application: Please advise BCAN promptly, in writing, should you decide to withdraw your application for any reason. Your letter or email should include your name, the title of the proposal, and the reason for withdrawal.

Change of Address: Notify BCAN in writing of any changes of address, email, or phone number, following the submission of an application. Include your name and application number. The email address provided with your application will be used for all official communication about your submission, including the recipient selection results, and must be kept up to date.

TERMS OF AWARD

Payments will be made annually to the comptroller or to the designated financial officer of the sponsoring institution which shall then disburse the funds to the individual Award recipient. BCAN considers the start of the grant to occur at the time of grant activation and disbursement of funds and aligns progress reports deadlines accordingly. The award start date will be no earlier than April 1st, 2026. Any activities that occur from the time of grant activation through the end of the first reporting year, including start-up activities, should be reported on in the first progress report period. The Award recipient and the sponsoring institution shall pay at their own costs all taxes and impositions in connection with the Award. The Award does not create an employer-employee relationship between the Award recipient and BCAN. BCAN does not assume any legal responsibility or obligation for the conduct or acts of the Award recipient, the mentor, or the sponsoring institution.

BCAN considers the budget submitted in the grant application to be the final, approved budget unless any changes are requested by the awardee and approved by BCAN prior to signing the Grant Activation Form. Any deviation from an approved budget line item exceeding 10% requires prior written approval from BCAN. Awardees must submit a formal request outlining proposed budget adjustments before any related expenditures are made.

Applications involving animals and/or human participants must receive approval from their Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) and/or Institutional Review Board (IRB), respectively. Documentation of IACUC and/or IRB approval must be provided to BCAN prior to distribution of the Award and yearly during the funding period. Applications involving an Investigational New Drug (IND) must receive approval from their IRB. Documentation of IND approval must be provided to BCAN prior to distribution of the Award and for each year of funding.

Any changes to the specific aims or major changes in research design must be communicated to BCAN in writing prior to the implementation of such changes. Examples of a major change in research design include, but are not limited to, studying a different patient population or therapeutic than originally proposed.

BCAN reserves the right to terminate this grant, in whole or in part, if the awardee materially fails to comply with any term or condition of the grant or if the awardee receives concurrent funding with significant scientific overlap. This includes, but is not limited to, failure to adhere to performance objectives, reporting requirements, or the improper use of funds in accordance with the approved budget. Upon termination, the awardee will be required to return any unspent or improperly used funds. BCAN may also withhold further payments pending resolution of the non-compliance.

At the conclusion of the first 12 months of the Award period, the Award recipient shall submit a written summary documenting in reasonable detail his/her progress in completing the research project. All report templates will be provided by BCAN. Funding for the second 12 months is dependent on submission of this progress report and review and approval by BCAN. At the conclusion of the second 12 months of the Award period, the Award recipient shall submit a written summary documenting in reasonable detail his/her progress in completing the research project. Funding for the final 12 months is dependent on submission of this progress report and review and approval by BCAN. At the conclusion of the Award period, the Award recipient must complete a final report summarizing the research conducted, and any plans to continue the research beyond the Award period. Additionally, BCAN requires a final financial report within 60 days of the end of the Award period. BCAN requires that any unused Award funds must be returned to BCAN by the sponsoring institution via check within 60 days of the end of the Award period. No cost extensions are allowable with advance notification and BCAN's approval.

Publications, research talks, and poster presentations based on any study or research done with the support of the Award should acknowledge the support of BCAN throughout and following the Award period. Reprints of such publications or abstracts should be sent to BCAN.

The Award recipient will be expected to attend BCAN's Bladder Cancer Think Tank Meeting during the Award term and is required to present research results at the 2029 Bladder Cancer Think Tank Meeting.

The Award recipient may be asked to complete brief Award outcome reports for BCAN detailing any publications, funding awards, collaborations, or other outcomes resulting from this Award for a period of three years after Award completion. The Award recipient understands that this reporting obligation survives the Award period.

In the event the Award recipient's research is substantively delayed due to unforeseen circumstances, or the recipient is unable to complete the project, the Award recipient and/or sponsoring institution is responsible for notifying BCAN as soon as possible to discuss next steps. In the event no mutually agreeable mitigation strategy is feasible that would allow for completion of the project and the Award is terminated, the unused portion of Award funds must be returned to BCAN by the sponsoring institution within 30 days of the date of termination.