Stanford Cancer Institute’s (SCI) mission is to translate Stanford’s discoveries into personalized cancer identification, prevention, and coordinated care. In keeping with its core mission, SCI offers cancer innovation awards for accelerating clinical, population-based and translational research.

Request for Letters of Intent (LOI)
The Stanford Cancer Institute is soliciting letters of intent for innovative proposals that have a high likelihood of leading to external funding, new clinical interventions, new intellectual property, or other clear measures of success. Priority will be given to research projects related to Melanoma, Breast, Lung, Liver and Thyroid cancer, and those that have strong collaboration involving faculty of the School of Medicine, or in different research programs within the Institute.

Timeline:

- **RFA Posted**: August 31, 2018
- **LOI Deadline**: September 21, 2018
- **Invitations for Full Proposals**
- **Full Proposals Due**: October 9, 2018
- **Award Announcements**
- **Funding Period**
  - 12-month progress report: January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019
  - 24-month progress report: January 30, 2020
  - 36-month progress report: January 1, 2021

Amount of funding
Awards of up to $50,000 (**$46,300 Direct Costs**) will be available to support research projects for up to 12 months in duration. The total budget is limited to up to $50,000 total cost; **$46,300 directs, $3,700 indirects** for one year. The funding period is January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019.

- The SCI Innovation Awards are considered University awards and as such must follow OSR guidelines and processes.
- For University awards, the SCI requires the PI to charge a minimum of 1% of the “Set” NIH salary cap to the award.
- If IRB/APLAC approvals are not received within 90 days of the funding period start date, the designated funds will revert back to the SCI, and the recipient will be notified to resubmit during the next cycle.

Funds may be used for:
- PI Salary Support (**minimum of 1%, not to exceed 10% of total award**)
- Other personnel directly supporting proposed project
- Equipment and supplies
- Other purposes deemed necessary for successful execution of proposed project

Funding accounts cannot be set up until all applicable IRB, SRC and/or APLAC approvals are received. If approvals are not submitted at the time of the full proposal submission, it is highly encouraged that they are available by the Award Announcement date.

Unused funds will revert back to the Stanford Cancer Institute at the end of the funding period, or
if the PI leaves Stanford. All proposed expenses must conform to the general policies of the University and the Stanford Cancer Institute.

**Eligibility**
This RFA is open to all members of the Stanford Cancer Institute and any member of the Stanford University community with PI status. If the PI is not a Cancer Institute member, the Letter of Intent and any subsequent application must include a letter of support from a sponsoring Cancer Institute member, who would also be a project collaborator.

**Evaluation Criteria**
Letters of intent will be judged on promising science with the potential to lead to a greater understanding of cancer, with the ultimate goal of improving the prevention or treatment of cancers.

Applications will be evaluated on the following positive criteria:
- Melanoma, Breast, Lung, Liver and Thyroid research projects
- Innovative proposals covering new ideas incorporating the best science
- Research related to health disparities in populations
- Collaboration potential to lead to greater understanding of cancer
- Plans for submission of an external peer reviewed (preferably NCI) award
- Compliance with one-year maximum timeframe
- Extent of multi-disciplinary collaborations, including collaborations involving Stanford faculty outside the School of Medicine or in different research programs within the Institute
- Potential to lead, or is already leading to an investigator-initiated (preferably independently funded) clinical trial

**Letter of Intent (LOI) Format**
A two-page Letter of Intent describing the proposed project and concise statement of the research goals and plans, is due on **September 21, 2018**. A subset of these will be invited by October 9, 2018 to submit full proposals due on November 9, 2018.

The Letter of Intent form is available on the SCI Funding Opportunities website at:
[http://med.stanford.edu/cancer/research/funding.html](http://med.stanford.edu/cancer/research/funding.html)

**INTERNAL SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**
By **Friday, September 21, 2018., 5 p.m.**, please send the completed Cancer Innovation Letter of Intent form (File name: `Last name_CIA LOI.pdf`) to Denise Baughman at [deniseb@stanford.edu](mailto:deniseb@stanford.edu)

**A Note for Potential Reviewers**
- Senior members of the SCI and prior recipients of innovation awards are expected to participate in the review process and to serve for a defined term.
- Members of the review committee will not be disqualified from being applicants, in which case they will recuse themselves at appropriate times.
- Members of the review committee will be expected to submit their written reviews in a timely manner and to participate in each committee meeting.
- External reviews may be solicited on larger proposals or where a perceived conflict of interest exists.