

# GLOSSARY

As the nation's leading colorectal cancer advocacy nonprofit, we often use precise technical terminology that may be unfamiliar to new advocates. Listed here are some of the major terms our programs use to help you understand and use our resources.

We know this list is not exhaustive and we would love to know what you think should be added for future uses. Send us a message at [Advocacy@FightCRC.org](mailto:Advocacy@FightCRC.org) or let us know online [@FightCRC!](https://www.instagram.com/FightCRC/)

## **AMENDMENT**

a minor change or addition designed to improve a piece of legislation

## **APPROPRIATIONS**

annual decisions made by Congress about how the federal government spends money

## **CAUCUS**

a group of Members of Congress that meet to pursue common legislative objectives

## **CBO SCORE**

the estimated cost or savings to the federal government associated with passing a particular piece of legislation, determined by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), a federal agency that provides budget and economic information to Congress

## **CDC**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

## **CLINICAL TRIAL**

research study that tests safety and effectiveness of new medical approaches and treatments

## **CMS**

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; a federal agency that administers the Medicare program and works in partnership with state governments to administer Medicaid

## **COMMITTEE**

Members of Congress in both the House and Senate are divided into congressional committees to review pending legislation and recommend action on that legislation

## **ConC**

an abbreviation for Call-on Congress

## **COSPONSOR**

a Senator or Representative who formally lists his/her name as a supporter of a piece of legislation

## **CRCCP**

The Colorectal Cancer Control Program; a program within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention aimed at increasing access to colorectal cancer screening in underserved communities

## **CRC**

an initialism for colorectal cancer

## **DOD CDMRP**

The Department of Defense Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program; a program that funds high risk, high impact projects with the goal of advancing paradigm shifting research, that will lead to cures or improvements in patient care, or breakthrough technologies and resources for clinical benefit

## **DOD PRCRP**

Department of Defense Peer-Reviewed Cancer Research Program; a program that funds innovative basic, applied, and translational cancer research to support military service members, their families, and the American public. Colorectal cancer is currently eligible for research funding through this program

## **EAO CRC**

an initialism for early-age onset colorectal cancer; colorectal cancer diagnosed in a patient under the age of 50

## **FDA**

The Food and Drug Administration; the federal agency responsible for regulating human and veterinary drugs, biological products, and medical devices and ensuring the safety of our nation's food supply and cosmetics

## **FY**

an initialism for fiscal year, which runs from October 1 to September 30 for the United States government

**GAC**

an acronym for Fight CRC's Grassroots Action Committee; a volunteer committee dedicated to leading grassroots advocacy efforts

**HHS**

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; an executive branch department with the goal of protecting the health of all Americans and providing essential human services

**LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT**

a staff person who who works in a congressional office and is responsible for monitoring pending legislation, conducting research, drafting legislation, and giving advice and counsel to their boss (a Member of Congress)

**MEDICAID**

a program that provides health coverage to millions of Americans, including eligible low-income adults, children, pregnant women, elderly adults, and people with disabilities. Medicaid is administered by states, according to federal requirements, and therefore each state can provide different services to different subsets of people. The program is funded jointly by states and the federal government

**MEDICARE**

the federal health insurance program for people who are 65 or older, certain younger people with disabilities, and people with end-stage renal disease (permanent kidney failure requiring dialysis or a transplant)

**MEMBER OF CONGRESS**

an elected official who serves in Congress, either in the House of Representatives or the Senate

**NCI**

The National Cancer Institute; part of the National Institutes of Health, leads the nation's research efforts to improve cancer prevention, detection, diagnosis, and survivorship

**NIH**

The National Institutes of Health; the primary agency of the federal government responsible for biomedical and public health research

**POTUS**

an acronym for the President of the United States

**RATS**

an acronym for Fight CRC's Research Advocacy Training and Support Program; research advocacy program that trains advocates to work in partnership with both academic institutions and cancer partners to improve the scientific field by lending their experience and expertise to the research process

**REPORT LANGUAGE**

language included in federal appropriations bills that expresses the priorities of Members of Congress for how money is spent

**REPRESENTATIVE**

a member of the U.S. House of Representatives; states have different number of Representatives based on the size of their population. Representatives are elected to serve two-year terms

**SENATOR**

Senators who are elected to six-year terms

**THE HILL**

a nickname for Capitol Hill, the location in Washington, D.C. where the United States Capitol is located and where Congress meets

**USPSTF**

the initialism for United States Preventive Services Task Force; an independent volunteer panel of national experts that provides evidence-based recommendations about clinical preventive services. The USPSTF sets national guidelines for preventative screening, including screenings for colorectal cancer