

**Fight Colorectal Cancer's Catalyst State-by-State
Advocacy Program: Advancing State Colorectal
Cancer Screening Advocacy Efforts Through
Partnership & Community Engagement**

2022-2024

Request for Proposals

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in Fight Colorectal Cancer's (Fight CRC's) Catalyst State-by-State Advocacy Program. The goal of this program is to provide funding and technical assistance to support grassroots activities and coalition-building at the state-level for policy changes to advance colorectal cancer (CRC) screening.

Grant Overview

Grants will be provided to state-level programs that can demonstrate readiness to build coalition and partnership activity with the end goal of implementing state-level policy change to advance CRC screening. Grant awards will range from \$10,000 to \$50,000 and will be disbursed over a two-year period. Grant funding will be supplemented with action planning support and other technical assistance from Fight CRC.

Grant Objectives

The ideal applicant will submit a plan to advance one or more of the following grant objectives through state legislative or regulatory change:

1. Removing patient cost-sharing for follow-up colonoscopies for insured populations following any recommended non-invasive CRC screening exam found to be positive,
2. Ensuring coverage for CRC screening for insured populations to include 45-49-year olds, as is now recommended through American Cancer Society (ACS) and the United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) Guidelines (*note: this may not be relevant for all states),
3. Additional programs or policies that increase access to colorectal cancer screening.

Eligibility

Applications will be accepted from non-profit organizations (501(c)(3), 501(c)(4)), universities, coalitions, and state governments. Applicants not able to directly lobby within a state must identify a partner that is able to lobby. For-profit entities may be involved in the project, but will not be eligible for grant funding.

Grant Benefits

In addition to grant funding, grant recipients will receive the following at no cost to the grant recipient:

- Assistance with action planning from a nationally-recognized facilitator. This eight-hour kick-off meeting results in a required Action Plan and can be spaced out virtually in two-hour increments.
- Technical support and materials throughout the two-year grant period. This will include:
 - Resources for adaptation, action alerts, communications and social media support
 - Monthly or bi-monthly calls to discuss efforts, share successes and address challenges
 - Access to additional expert advice and coaching on issues identified in their state
- Travel and lodging for one person to Fight CRC's annual Catalyst Retreat in Springfield, MO, November 30-December 1, 2021 for an in-depth orientation and networking opportunity. Up to three grantees from each state can attend and this event may be shifted virtually, dependent on state and local travel and health recommendations.

Grant Requirements

In addition to completing the application, applicants are required to include three letters of support from the coalitions or partners identified in the proposal. Applicants must outline their intended use of funds and how the funding will advance their efforts toward their goals.

Additionally, applicants must commit to:

- Hosting an initial eight-hour in-person action planning meeting, or series of virtual two-hour meetings totaling eight hours (Facilitator to be provided by Fight CRC)
- Sending one attendee to Fight CRC's annual Catalyst Retreat in Springfield, MO, November 30-December 1, 2021. This event may be shifted virtually dependent on state and local travel and health recommendations.
- Participating in regular check-ins for troubleshooting and cross-state learning
- Tracking and reporting progress, challenges and outcomes
- An annual program evaluation.

Funding Parameters

The following activities will be considered eligible for funding in applicant's budget:

Eligible for Funding	Not Eligible for Funding
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Public relations and social media outreach● Development of state-specific resources● State lobbyist or consultant retention● State policy analysis● Development of state-specific resources● State lobby day, briefings, coalition meetings● Organizing visits with key lawmakers or regulators● Dedicated staff time necessary for program implementation and reporting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Direct screening or patient services● Navigation programs● Capital or endowment campaigns● Individual scholarships● Pay indirect or overhead costs (i.e. office space, administrative fees, IT and/or EMR related expenses, institution overhead etc.)

Reporting Requirements

Quarterly and yearly data reports will be collected on some of the following metrics:

- Number of coalition meetings and aligning notes
- Number of meetings with state legislators and grasstops and aligning notes
- Number of resources distributed and their usefulness to grantees and/or policymakers
- Number of grassroots or grasstops “touches” to lawmakers or regulators
- Progressive milestones toward legislative or regulatory change
- Qualitative description of challenges and plans to address

To view the evaluation plan in full, [view this document](#).

Program Timeline

Task	Date
Proposals are due	August 20, 2021 at 11:59pm ET
Applicants are advised of funding status	September 27, 2021
Collaborative agreements are due	October 8, 2021
Deadline for action planning meeting scheduling	November 12, 2021
All-grantee kick-off meeting in Springfield, MO	November 30-December 1, 2021
Bi-monthly meetings with the program team	January 2022-January 2024
Action plan due to Fight CRC	March 1, 2022
Final meeting with the program team and coalition	January 2024
Final report on program due to Fight CRC	March 31, 2024

Completed applications must be submitted in PDF format to Fight CRC's Advocacy Manager, Aubree Thelen, at advocate@fightcrc.org by **11:59 PM EST on Friday, August 20, 2021**. Confirmation of receipt of application will be provided within 1 business day. Applicants not selected to participate in this round may be considered for future years of the program. Questions can be emailed to advocate@fightcrc.org.

Your interest in changing the state policy landscape for CRC is what makes you a relentless champion of hope in this fight. We look forward to reading your proposals.

Sincerely,

Anjee Davis, MPPA
President
Fight Colorectal Cancer

PROPOSAL FORM

Submission Deadline: 11:59 PM EST on 8/20/2021

This is an example document. Please fill out the application at <https://fightcrc.smapply.io/prog/catalyst-grants-2021>

Application Checklist:

- Completed application form
- Letters of support (minimum 3)
- Detailed proposed budget, if applicable
- List of Board of Directors or Advisory Council, if applicable
- Bios for all key personnel working on this project

Grant applicants are encouraged to reference the following resources:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System*. <https://www.cdc.gov/brfss/index.html>
- National Institutes of Health. *State Cancer Profiles*. <https://statecancerprofiles.cancer.gov/>
- Fight Colorectal Cancer. *Catalyst State-by-State Advocacy Program*. <https://fightcolorectalcancer.org/advocacy/catalyst-program/>

Section 1: Capacity. Describe your state of readiness by answering the following questions briefly (100-word limit per question)
1. Does your proposed program have a lobbyist or legislative consultant who will help coordinate the effort? If yes, who?
2. Are there lawmakers or policymakers in your state whom you consider allies or key champions? If yes, who and why?
3. Can you identify influential CRC supporters in key legislators' districts? If yes, who, and for which districts?
4. What legislative efforts to advance CRC screening have been attempted in your state? If they succeeded, why did they succeed? If they did not, what did you learn from the effort?
5. Does your state have an active CRC coalition or roundtable? If yes, please provide a link to the website or list of coalition members.

6. Do you or your partners have strong connections to the media? If yes, who?
7. Have you worked with your state's Department of Insurance on coverage issues?
8. Do you have relationships with payers in your state? Who are the main payers in your state?

Section 2: Program Applicant & Partner Information.	
Organization name:	
Primary Contact (Name/Title):	
Primary Contact (Email and Phone):	
Primary Contact (Address):	
Proposed Program Title:	
Staff(s), Title(s) responsible for this Program:	
Is/are staff FTE or PTE?	
How many estimated hours per week will staff be dedicated to this program?	
IRS Status	
Please share the mission statement of your organization:	
Funding amount requested:	
List key partner organizations, coalitions, or other entities that will be involved in execution of the program. At least three must provide letters of support with the application.	

<p>Please indicate three desired dates that will work for the day long action planning session between 11/12/2021 and 2/1/2022.</p>	
<p>Please list the name and email address of the person who will be attending the Catalyst Retreat on November 30-December 1, 2021 in-person in Springfield, MO. <i>If not the main person listed on this application, please include their signature here indicating that they can attend the Catalyst Retreat.</i></p>	
<p>Please list the name and email address of the person who will participate in the regular Fight CRC check-in calls. <i>If not the main person listed on this application, please include their signature here, indicating that they agree to participate in the check-in calls.</i></p>	
<p>Please list the name and email of the person responsible for the yearly grant reporting requirements. <i>If not the main person listed on this application, please include their signature here, indicating that they agree to assemble and submit the grant reporting requirements.</i></p>	
<p>Do you currently have relationships with CRC survivors or caregivers who will be a part of your coalition to support your work?</p>	
<p>Has the Applicant received Fight CRC funds previously? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	

<p>Section 3: What do you hope to accomplish? Be brief (500-word limit for each question).</p>
<p>1. What do you hope to accomplish in your state in the next two years through legislative, regulatory, or other policy change? What will be achieved as a result of providing funding to your state program?</p>
<p>2. Please describe your program strategy to fulfill the goals of the grant and the ways in which your project is in alignment with the Catalyst State-by-State Advocacy Program objectives. Please include both short- and long-term program goals and objectives, as well as a brief description of desired activities and timeline, roles and responsibilities for partners and team members involved.</p>
<p>3. Describe the unique challenges to implementing the desired policy change in your state:</p>
<p>4. Describe how you plan to address health disparities in your state through your work. Do you have relationships with stakeholders or organizations that represent underserved populations?</p>

Section 4: Budget. When submitting your application, attach an Excel or pdf file similar to the example budget below on how a budget of up to \$50,000 will be spent over the two-year period to fulfill the program objective(s). Keep to broad expense categories and indicate a brief summary of what the funds will cover. Add lines as needed. It is recommended that at least some of the funding go toward the retention of a lobbyist, if applicable, to assist with achieving program objectives. If funding for a lobbyist is not needed, please explain why.

In-kind contributions are not required; however, they are always viewed favorably as a demonstration of organizational commitment to the program.

Year 1 Budget Item (January 2022 – January 2023)	Year 1 Grant Amount	Year 1 In-Kind Contribution	Description of How Funds Will be Used
Year 2 Budget Item (January 2023 – January 2024)	Year 2 Grant Amount	Year 2 In-Kind Contribution	Description of How Funds Will be Used
Total Program grant requested amount			
	Total		

Section 5: Sustainability Plan. Please describe the plan to sustain the program and related outcomes beyond the grant funding cycle?

APPENDIX A: Disclaimers and Endorsements

Medical Endorsements:

Fight Colorectal Cancer does not recommend or endorse any specific physicians, products or treatments even though this information may be mentioned on this site.

Nonpartisan Disclaimer:

Fight CRC is a nonpartisan advocacy organization that promotes better policies and supports research, education, and awareness for all those touched by colorectal cancer. All employees, board members, and volunteer representatives at Fight CRC are required to maintain nonpartisanship while acting in an official capacity on behalf of the organization. The Fight CRC advocacy team determines its strategic legislative and policy priorities by working with policy experts, collaborating with coalition partners, and soliciting feedback directly from colorectal cancer patients and family members.

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