

« Emergence – Biology & Health »

Call for projects

2026 Funding

Coordinated and administered by the Canceropôle Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, this call for projects aims to fund innovative, emerging and/or new projects. Each year, Canceropôle partners are invited to co-finance selected projects, in line with their strategy and thematic priorities.

Scope

The present call for projects aims to fund innovative, emerging projects, or new area of research developed in a group.

The objective of this grant is to conduct the first steps of a project or a feasibility study. It should serve as a stepping-stone for obtaining greater funding.

The project leader must highlight in the application how this funding will help to bring an emerging project further. He/She will indicate the expected leverage (in terms of further applications for funding), and the immediate and long-term perspectives of the project.

Eligibility

The project, with a maximum duration of 12 months and a maximum budget of 30 000 euros, must be a feasibility study implementing a new and original approach (with limited chances to be supported by another funding at this early stage).

It must represent: the development of a new method, the transition to a new research area or theme in the applicant's research group or the arrival of a team in a new disciplinary field.

The project cannot be the follow up of ongoing research performed in the applicant group.

Objectives

- To conduct the first steps of a project or a feasibility study
- To constitute a stepping stone for obtaining greater funding

Evaluation and selection criteria

- Emerging and innovative aspect
- Scientific quality of the project
- Feasibility, considering the time (12 months) and amount (30k€ max) allocated to the project
- Impact and mid to long-term project prospects
- Transdisciplinary collaborative projects are encouraged to apply, as well as projects led by young researchers (postdoctoral researchers, non-permanent researchers, permanent researchers below 40 years or in their permanent position since less than 5 years)

- Project leader must be located in the Region Sud and be attached to a research unit that is a member of the Canceropôle Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur (AMU, CNRS, INSERM, INRIA, AP-HM, UNICA, CAL, CHU de Nice).

Are NOT eligible

- Project leaders that have been granted an Emergence project the year before
- Project that does not clearly specify their relevance in cancer research
- Project leaders that are planning to work in an international lab for several months during the funding period
- **NB: 2 senior researchers (PIs) from the same research group cannot apply to the same call with the same project or with projects in the same research area. However, they are welcome to apply with distinct projects.**

File must include

- The description of the scientific project (5 pages max) which must describe the general objective, the involvement of each partner mentioned, and the detailed methodology (written in French or English)
- Information about the background of the project leader (CV, list of publications related to the project...) must be included in the application form
- A detailed description of the budget must be provided, including the list and use of funds already acquired and other grant applications (outside the Canceropôle) submitted
- An executive summary must be included in English AND in French.
- **NB: All fields in the application form MUST BE FILLED. If you are not concerned by a field or do not have any information to indicate, fill with N/A**

Funding rules

- The allocated budget is 30k€, for 12 months
- If the applicant is a postdoctoral researcher, his/her salary cannot be funded by this call. In this case, the sources of funding and ending date of the postdoctoral researcher salary must be indicated in the application form
- **Eligible costs :**
 - Equipment
 - Salary (non permanent contacts and « CDI de mission » only)
 - Consumables (including service offer and facilities costs) are eligible
 - **IMPORTANT: projects not in line with the above will NOT BE ELIGIBLE to the grant**
- Non eligible costs : equipment maintenance, publication costs, mission and travel expenses

Commitment of the project leader

The project must be submitted to a larger-scale call for funding within 2 years following the end of the Canceropôle support. Any reason for not complying with this rule must be justified to the scientific committee.

If funded, the project leader will have to:

- Present the results in a scientific meeting organized by the Canceropôle (Annual Seminar or Seminar Series for example)
- Acknowledge the Canceropôle and any co-financing partners in any communication or publication related to the funded project
- Provide the Canceropôle with a scientific report in January 2027, followed by an update of this report in 2029 and 2031
- Provide a data management plan. Since 2021 and in alignment with national and European policies, funded projects must deposit a data management plan on the DMP OPIDoR platform (<https://dmp.opidor.fr/>).

Calendar

Application deadline: April 29th 2025

Results: October 2025

Projects start date: January 1st 2026

End of the projects: December 31th 2026

Applications must be submitted through the eSCAPE online platform, accessible from the Canceropôle website: <https://canceropole-paca.com/appele-a-projet/emergence-financements-2026/>

Evaluation

Any project that doesn't comply with the eligibility rules mentioned above will not be sent for review.

Submitted projects will be evaluated by at least 2 external reviewers (outside the region Sud) using an evaluation form provided by the Canceropôle. Projects will then be ranked according to the reviewers' evaluation and comments.

The number of selected projects will be determined by the Scientific Committee of the Canceropôle, with 20 active members in cancer research from Marseille and Nice, according to the budget allocated for this call and anonymized expert reports.

Contact

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