

« Emergence – Biology & Health » Call for projects 2027 Funding

Coordinated and administered by the **Canceropôle Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur**, this call for proposals aims to fund innovative, emerging projects and/or new research topics. **Each year, partners of the Canceropôle may join this initiative and, depending on their strategy and thematic priorities, may co-fund the selected projects.**

By responding to this call, the applicant must clearly demonstrate how the project is emerging and innovative, specify the expected leverage effect, and indicate the intended follow-up to the project. The funding is intended to initiate a project that will subsequently be submitted to larger-scale calls for proposals (national, European, or international).

Eligibility and definition of emergence within this call

The project, with a maximum duration of 12 months (from January 1, 2027, to December 31, 2027) and a maximum budget of €30,000, must primarily be a feasibility study implementing a new and original approach.

It must represent an opening toward a new research direction or the entry of a team into a new disciplinary field.

It cannot be a continuation of research already undertaken within the team.

A project may only be resubmitted once if it received a negative evaluation in the previous “Emergence” call.

Objectives

- Validate the initial stages of a project or a preliminary feasibility study;
- Obtain preliminary results necessary to submit the project to larger-scale calls;
- Serve as a springboard for securing more substantial funding.

Selection and evaluation criteria

- The emerging and innovative nature of the project, and the ability to justify this aspect;
- The scientific quality of the project;
- The feasibility of the project within the allocated time (12 months) and budget (maximum €30,000);
- The impact and potential follow-up of the project;
- The ability to generate preliminary data;
- Transdisciplinary collaborations, as well as projects submitted by early-career researchers (postdoctoral researchers committing to remain in their host laboratory until the end of the

funded project (December 31, 2027), temporary or permanent researchers who have held their position for less than 5 years, or under 40 years old) will be favored. All else being equal, projects led by early-career researchers will be prioritized;

- The project leader must be based in the Sud Region and affiliated with an institution that is a member of the Canceropôle Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur (AMU, AP-HM, CAL, Nice University Hospital, CNRS, Inserm, Inria, IPC, UniCA).

Not eligible:

- Applicants funded in the previous year under the “Emergence” call;
- Projects that do not clearly detail their relevance to cancer;
- Projects submitted by applicants who will be abroad for several months during the funding period;
- Projects that received a negative evaluation in the “Emergence” call in the past two years;
- Projects led by postdoctoral researchers who do not have secured salary funding for the duration of the project.

Note: Two researchers (team leaders or group leaders) from the same team working on the same project or related projects on the same topic may not apply to the same call.

Application file must include:

- A summary and a detailed scientific project (maximum 5 pages) outlining the scientific objectives and a precise work plan (written in English);
- A presentation of the project leader, including their CV and a list of publications related to the project (if applicable);
- The project funding plan, indicating any other funding sources currently being requested;
- A lay summary and title of the project written in French, intended for the general public and to be shared with partner associations that may fund “emergence” projects.

Funding rules

- The maximum funding per project is €30,000;
- **Eligible costs covered by the Canceropôle through this call:** equipment, personnel (fixed-term contracts, project-based permanent contracts only) and operating expenses (including service provision)
- **Non-eligible costs:** salary of the project leader, equipment maintenance costs, publication fees, mission or travel expenses.

Commitment of the project leader

The project must be submitted to a larger-scale call for proposals within two years following the funding, unless a specific reason is justified to the Canceropôle Sud.

The project leader also commits to:

- Inform the Canceropôle Sud of any funding received for this project;

- Provide a scientific activity report in January 2028, followed by annual updates (number of publications, funding applications submitted and amounts obtained, potential patents) for four years;
- Present the project, upon request by the Canceropôle, during events such as the annual seminar or a seminar series;
- Acknowledge the support of the Canceropôle Sud and any co-funding partners in all communications related to the project (publications, social media, etc.);
- Provide a data management plan, to be submitted on the DMP OPIDoR platform (<https://dmp.opidor.fr/>).

Timeline:

Application deadline: May 4, 2026

Announcement of results: November 2026

Project start: January 1, 2027

Project end: December 31, 2027

Projects must be submitted online via the eSCAPE platform accessible from the Canceropôle website:
<https://escape.canceropole-paca.com/callforproject/91/proposal/new>

Evaluation procedure

Projects meeting the eligibility criteria and funding rules will be evaluated by at least two external experts from outside the region, based on an evaluation grid provided by the Canceropôle. A ranking will be established based on their evaluations and comments.

The selection and number of funded projects will be determined by the Scientific Committee of the Canceropôle Sud, depending on the allocated budget and the anonymized expert reports.

This evaluation procedure and the final decision to approve or reject proposals fall under the exclusive authority of the governing bodies of the GIP Canceropôle Sud.

Contact

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