

Call for Letters of Intent - the Cholangiocarcinoma Foundation will award one innovation award for 2027, with a start date of 6/1/2027, with a focus on **Biomarkers for the Early Diagnosis of Cholangiocarcinoma**

2027 CCF Innovation Grant:

Background:

The Cholangiocarcinoma Foundation's (CCF) mission is to find a cure and improve the quality of life of those affected by cholangiocarcinoma (bile duct cancer). Founded in 2006 in Salt Lake City, UT, by a family who lost a loved one to cholangiocarcinoma, CCF has grown to become the leading global resource in research, education, and public awareness.

Since 2015, the Foundation has awarded over \$6.275 million in support of innovative, high-quality research, across all our programs. In accordance with the Foundation's Research Philosophy, CCF supports promising projects that are less likely to get traditional funding. Open-access research that catalyzes collaboration and focuses on finding a cure is a core value of the program.

Purpose:

Focus: Biomarkers for the Early Diagnosis of Cholangiocarcinoma; 06/01/2027 - 05/31/2029

Applications will be considered for **multi-institutional proposals** that focus on the identification, refinement, and/or evaluation of one or more of the following novel or existing:

- Blood-based biomarkers
- Bile-based biomarkers
- Imaging-based biomarkers
- Other biospecimens (stool, saliva, etc)

This grant opportunity is made available with the support of the Julianne Morriss Callaway Memorial Research Fund.

CCF chooses grant recipients carefully to ensure they build collaborations between researchers, institutions, and industry and share information, samples, and expertise with others in the field. Prior experience in the field of cholangiocarcinoma is not required by all collaborators (e.g. new collaborators applying with established cholangiocarcinoma researchers, is allowed). Learn more about the program's [research philosophy](#).

Key Dates:

Letter of Intent (LOI) Due Date:	September 4, 2026
Outcome of LOI/Invitation to submit a full application	September 25, 2026
Full Application deadline	October 28, 2026
Scientific Merit Reviews	November 20, 2026

Award Notification

November 30, 2026

Earliest Project Start Date

June 01, 2027

Funding:

- Three-year funding commitment of \$750,000, allocated in annual installments of \$250,000
- Funding for expenses related to the research project, which may include the salary and benefits of the grant recipient, may be used
- **CCF will not fund indirect costs or institutional overhead**

Research approaches may include:

- Basic Science: Research using laboratory-based models without clinical data from patients
- Translational Science: Research studying human samples or data obtained from human samples, annotated with clinical outcome data
- Clinical Science: Studies of outcomes in human patients, including population and epidemiology research

Eligibility Information:

Degree

- Doctor of Medicine
- Doctor of Philosophy
- Doctor of Pharmacy
- Doctor of Veterinary Medicine

Academic Level

- Full Professors
- Associate Professors
- Clinical Researchers (MD, PhD)
- Research Scientists
- Epidemiologists
- Biostatisticians
- Postdoctoral Fellows

Institutional Requirements

- Academic, medical, or research institutions based anywhere worldwide
- **New or established multi-center (2 or more) collaboration**
- Demonstration of the capability to undertake the proposed work

Other Eligibility Requirements

- Prior CCF grant award recipients are eligible to apply
- Prior experience in the field of CCA is not required by all collaborating applicants
- There are no restrictions for applicants regarding age, gender, race, disability, or national origin/residence

Key Components of a Letter of Intent:

- The LOI should provide a summary of the proposed research project, specific aims and rationale, scientific approach, significance, and innovation (Two-page limit)
- References (One-page limit)
- NIH Biosketch (preferred) or CV (Three-page limit) for each collaborator
- Research that can impact cholangiocarcinoma patient outcomes
- Hypothesis-driven specific aims with well-designed analyses
- A feasible project completed within the period of the grant
- Statistical rigor
- Development of an Early Career Researcher as part of the application

Evaluation of Letters of Intent

- The Letters of Intent (LOI) will be reviewed by the CCF Scientific Review Committee, comprised of established clinical, translational, and basic science researchers as well as patient research advocates.
- Applicants whose LOI is deemed most worthy are invited to submit complete applications.

Link to 2027 submission portal –

<< <https://proposalcentral.com/> >>

For first-time users, please register for an [ORCID iD](#), then create an account on Proposal Central.

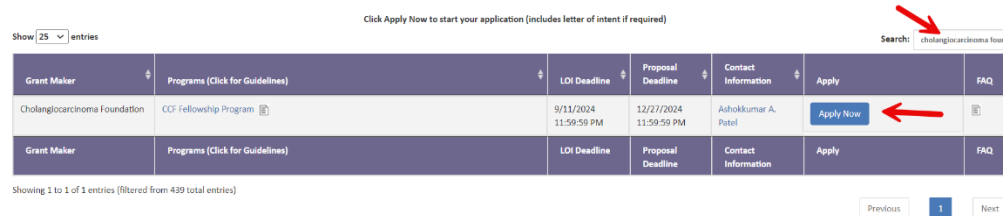
FAQs:

How to find the Grant Opportunity?

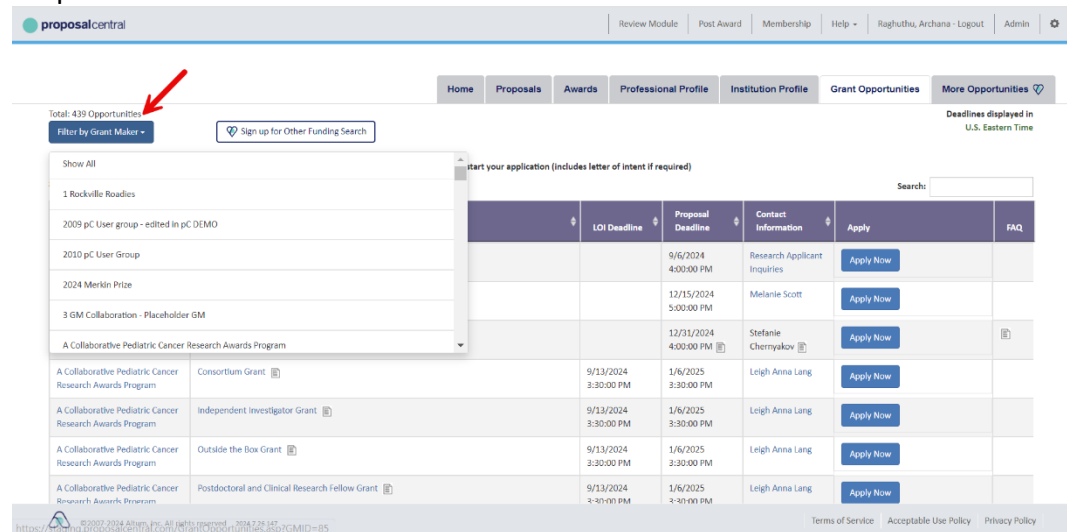
When you log in to ProposalCentral, navigate to the Grants opportunity tab on the Home page.



In the Search box, search Cholangiocarcinoma Foundation, find the program called CCF Innovation Award, and click the Apply Now button to Initiate a Proposal.



You can also find the Opportunity by scrolling through the list in the Filter by Grant Maker dropdown.



How many Innovation grants do you award each year?

One grant is awarded each year, determined by the quality of the applications and the availability of funds. **Proposals are required to include multiple sites.**

Can multiple applications from the same institution apply for this award?

Yes

Are PIs working in non-US-based institutions eligible for this award?

Yes

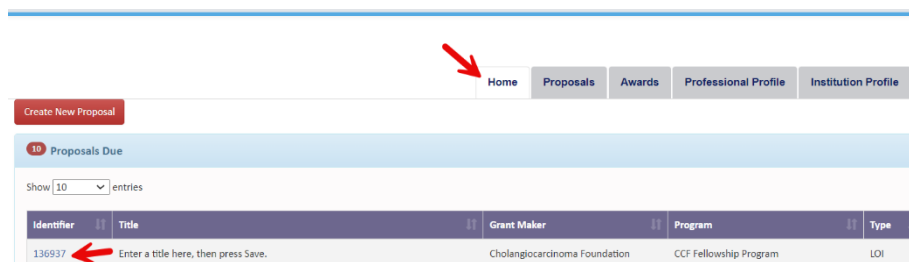
Can I have an extension on the due date?

No, the LOI must be received before the deadline of 11:59pm (US Eastern) on Friday, September 4, 2026

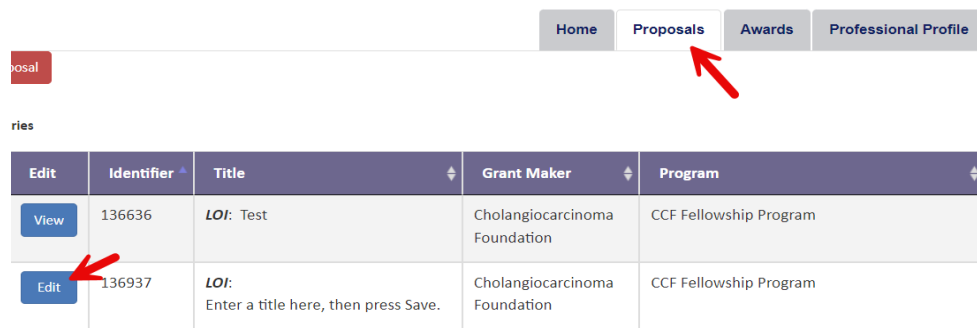
How to Access My Saved LOI?

You can access your Saved LOI

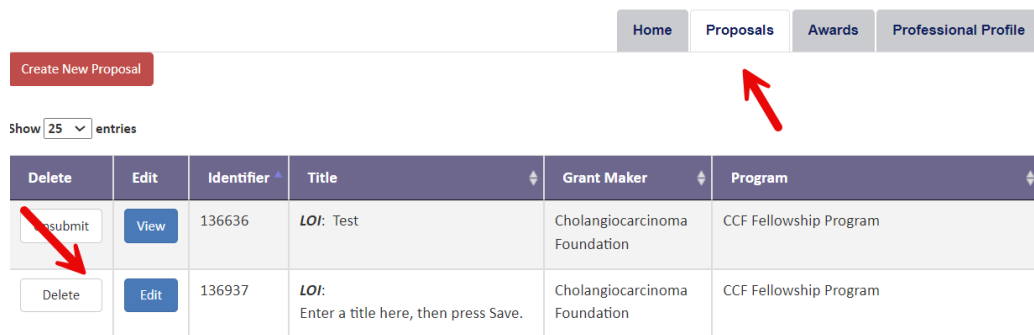
- By clicking on the Identifier number from the Home tab



- You can also access it via the Proposal tab by clicking on Edit next to the Identifier number.



- To delete duplicate Proposals, click the Delete button in the Proposals tab.



Who do I contact if I have questions?

- If you have problems with the platform, please contact ProposalCentral:
 - by phone (toll-free): 800 875 2562 (Toll-free U.S. and Canada)
 - by or +1 703 964 5840 (Direct Dial International)
 - by email: pcsupport@altum.com
- If you have specific questions about the LOI or the program offered by Cholangiocarcinoma Foundation or its guidelines, please contact the CCF Grants manager: Research@cholangiocarcinoma.org