

General regulation

Mandates 2025

for Translational & Clinical oncology research

- Purpose of the mandate

The aim of the **Mandates for translational & clinical oncology research** is to strengthen the research potential of physicians at the specialist & the PhD level, who successfully combine translational or clinical oncology research with their clinical activity related to cancer care.

By focusing on permanent staff and supporting university hospitals, the Mandate aims at long-term effects.

- Terms and conditions

At the time of application submission, the candidate must:

- be a medical specialist and have a clinical staff position in a **Belgian university hospital**, holding a contract of indefinite duration at the date of the Mandate starts and for the whole length of the Mandate;
- hold a **PhD** in biomedical sciences;
- be younger than **45 years** old.

The mandate is personal and can only be used to finance min 0.45 and max **0.5 FTE** dedicated to translational or clinical oncology research. It has a duration of **4 years** and can be renewed once for 4 years through a new application and selection by the Scientific Committee of the Foundation against Cancer.

During the Mandate and within the framework of her/his research project, the candidate is authorized to program a stay abroad or any other interruption of the mandate for maximum 12 months. During this period the funding of the Foundation will be interrupted.

The CEO of the university hospital must certify in writing that:

- the recipient has a permanent staff position or will acquire one within a year of signing the Mandate agreement;
- that the recipient will benefit from max 0.5 FTE of her/his time for her/his clinical research.

If the candidate breaks her/his contract within the university hospital, this mandate will be automatically terminated.

The head of the research program must declare her/his support.

• Selection criteria

The main criteria for evaluating applications will be:

- For the candidate:
 - Publications
 - Professional expertise
 - Role of the candidate in the development of the project
- For the project:
 - Innovation
 - Feasibility
 - Clinical implication of the results

• Financial coverage of the Mandate

- The Mandate covers max. 50% of the salary of the recipient which corresponds to a **maximum of 66.000 € per year.**

• Mid-term evaluation

Postdoctoral mandates in translational & clinical research are granted for 4 years. At mid-term, an interim scientific report needs to be sent to the Foundation against Cancer and will be submitted to the translational & clinical research Scientific Committee. Funding for the next 2 years requires a favorable evaluation of this scientific report. Evaluations may include on-site visits.

• Submission procedure and selection of candidates

Round 1: The application form must be completed online, in English, via the CC Tracker platform:
<https://grants.cancer.be>.

The deadline for submitting applications is **March 10, 2025 at 1 PM.**

After validation of the application, the Scientific Committee will evaluate the application based on the different above-mentioned criteria and will preselect the candidates for round 2.

Round 2: Retained candidates will be invited to defend their project at the Foundation's headquarters, on **June 10, 2025**. This oral presentation, with data-projection, will be in English and won't exceed 10 minutes. It will be followed by a Q&A session with the members of the Scientific Committee.

The result of the selection will be proposed by the Scientific Committee to the Board of Directors of the Foundation against Cancer for ratification.



The results will be communicated to the candidates end of **June 2025**.
The mandate will start on the **1st of October 2025**.

- Number of mandates available for the year 2025:

A maximum of 5 mandates will be granted.