



Request for Proposals (RFP) for STAAR Ovarian Cancer Foundation Research Grants

Deadline for Submission: November 25, 2024, by 11:59 pm EST

Anticipated End-of-Year Report Due: November 2025

Overview:

STAAR Ovarian Cancer Foundation is the only organization in the United States solely dedicated to funding research on low-grade serous ovarian cancer (LGSOC). Our mission is to advance scientific understanding and treatment options for this rare form of ovarian cancer, with the ultimate goal of improving patient outcomes.

In recent years, STAAR has invested significantly in research efforts, including:

- **2022:** \$76,000 to the University of Texas MD Anderson for research on Trametinib resistance and \$250,000 to Memorial Sloan Kettering to study patient responses to chemotherapy.
- **2023:** \$100,000 to the Stephenson Cancer Center for a combination drug trial involving Fulvestrant and \$50,000 in continued funding to MD Anderson's Trametinib resistance study.

This year, we are seeking to fund innovative research that aligns with our mission of improving diagnosis, treatment, and survivorship for individuals affected by low-grade serous ovarian cancer.

Eligibility: We invite proposals from accredited research institutions, hospitals, universities, and organizations dedicated to cancer research. Applicants must demonstrate a strong track record in oncology research and a commitment to advancing low-grade serous ovarian cancer treatment. Grantees are allowed to submit funding requests for extensions of ongoing or current research.

Funding Details:

- **Grant Amount:** Up to \$150,000 per project*.
- **Duration:** 1 to 3 years.
- **Application Deadline:** November 1st annually;

*Note: If researchers have a funding need for support mid-year, we will work with them on a case by case basis. Additionally, if researchers have a funding need greater than the grant amount listed, we welcome a meeting to discuss your project and the opportunity to determine how we might help you.

Funding Priorities for 2025: STAAR Ovarian Cancer Foundation welcomes research proposals focused on:

- 1) Innovative Therapeutics
- 2) Collaborative and Multicenter Studies
- 3) Development of Combination Therapies
- 4) Personalized Medicine
- 5) Hormonal Therapy Research
- 6) Understanding Resistance Mechanisms

Detail on STAAR's 2025 Funding Priorities can be found on our website at www.staaroc.org/research-grants

Who Should Apply: This RFP is open to researchers, clinicians, and institutions with a proven track record in ovarian cancer research, particularly those focusing on low-grade serous ovarian cancer. Applications from established cancer centers and researchers with prior experience in ovarian cancer are highly encouraged.

How to Apply: Interested applicants should submit the following materials by **Midnight EST on November 25, 2024:**

- A cover page with the Principal Investigator's first name, institution, and title of project. In order for our blind review, **the cover page is the only place the PI's name should appear except for the CV.**
- A comprehensive research proposal (maximum 10 pages) including:
 - **Project Abstract**
 - **Research Objectives and Hypotheses**
 - **Methodology**
 - **Expected Outcomes and Impact on Patient Care**
 - **Dissemination of Research Findings**
 - **Timeline and Milestones**
 - **Budget Justification**
- Curriculum Vitae (CV) for the Principal Investigator and key personnel
- Any relevant publications or past research supporting the proposed project
- One letter of support from a researcher in the LGSOC space external to your organization (optional).

Applications should be submitted electronically to STAAR Ovarian Cancer Foundation at admin@staaroc.org.

Reporting Requirements: Grant recipients will be required to:

- Produce an **end-of-year report** in November 2025 summarizing the research outcomes, implications for patient care, and any publications, submission for publication, or presentations resulting from the project.

Review Process and Timeline: The STAAR Ovarian Cancer Foundation Research Committee will review applications based on scientific merit, alignment with STAAR's mission, and potential for impact on LGSOC patient care. The Research Committee will:

- Evaluate the impact of funded projects on medical knowledge, patient care, and healthcare outcomes.
- Encourage dissemination of research findings through publications and presentations.

The committee will present a comprehensive report to the Board of Directors at the December 2024 Quarterly Board Meeting, where final funding decisions will be made.

Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest:

Research Committee members shall adhere to STAAR's **Confidentiality Policy**, ensuring that all applications and peer review discussions remain confidential. Additionally, any potential **conflicts of interest** must be disclosed and managed according to STAAR's **Conflict of Interest Policy**.

Research Ethics and Compliance:

Grant recipients must comply with ethical standards governing research involving human subjects, animals, or sensitive data, and adhere to applicable laws and regulations, including research ethics, intellectual property rights, and data protection.

Contact Information:

For questions regarding this RFP or the application process, please contact:

Emma Schlamm

Admin@staaroc.org

We look forward to receiving your innovative proposals and advancing the understanding and treatment of low-grade serous ovarian cancer together.