The USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center has available funds from the American Cancer Society Institutional Research Grant (ACS-IRG) to provide funding up to $25,000 for beginning cancer research projects.

The primary purpose of these grants is to serve as “seed” money to permit the initiation of promising new projects or novel ideas by junior faculty. Support of investigators who have a competitive national research grant or who have received prior support from the ACS-IRG is not permitted. Projects in any area of cancer research – basic, clinical, epidemiological, and behavioral, etc. will be considered.

Allocations are made by the Norris Cancer Center Director based upon the recommendations of the Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center’s local ACS-IRG Review Committee after its review of each application. Review of proposals takes four (4) to six (6) weeks.

Please submit your original application form (attached) and an electronic version (one PDF file) to Norma Sayoto at norma.sayoto@med.usc.edu, USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center - Administration, NOR 8302, MC 9181 by Wednesday, July 22, 2015 (12:00 noon PST).

On a separate page after your application, please include a statement as to how your research or study is independent from your mentor in USC. Detailed instructions are listed below.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

1. Principal Investigator must be a USC junior faculty member who is within the first six (6) years of independent faculty appointment.

2. Principal Investigator must not have an active or prior competitive national research grant, and must not have received prior funding support from the ACS-IRG.

3. Effective with grants awarded in January 2007, an individual may apply for one (1) year competitive renewal of a previously funded pilot project grant. To be considered, please submit (i) a new proposal with cover letter requesting/justifying a renewal; (ii) a budget and budget justification; and (iii) a progress report.
4. Recipients of the award must be citizens or noncitizen nationals of the United States, or must have been lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence at the time of application.

FORMATTING THE APPLICATION:

a. **American Cancer Society forms**
   The submitted version must be on American Cancer Society (ACS) forms and be easily readable as the reviewers are reading many applications.

b. **Page length**
   See individual page instructions. Please use single-spaced text throughout the application.

c. **Type size, Margins, and Page numbering**
   Use ARIAL font, no less than 11 point type. A 9-point Arial font type may be used for figures, legends, and tables. The margins of your text should be at least 1/2 inch all around. All pages must be consecutively numbered in the upper right hand corner (do not use page designations such as "4A" or "4B").

PREPARING THE APPLICATION:

a. **Face Page**
   Complete Face Page form. Please note: your departmental chair must provide signature for the “Verification of Applicant Eligibility by Department Chair”.

b. **Biographical Sketch**
   Complete ACS biographical form included in the template.

c. **Abstract**
   Complete ACS form included in template. Provide a brief (300-500 words) summary of the research including: (i) Background; (ii) Objective/Hypothesis; (iii) Specific Aim(s); (iv) Study Design; and (v) Cancer Relevance. The final sentence of the abstract should summarize the focus and cancer relevance of the project in non-scientific terms.

d. **Description of Research Proposed**
   Five (5) single-spaced pages maximum (including tables, figures, graphs) are allocated for this section. The requested information should be under the headings of:
   
   A) Specific Aims
   B) Methodology
   C) Significance and Relevance to Cancer, and
   D) Future Directions and Funding Prospects
Please note that References do not count towards the 5 page limit. *No appendices allowed.*

e. **Budget/Budget Justification**

Complete Budget Proposed form. See ACS Expenditures allowed/not allowed listed below. Provide details on the proposed budget and justifications for the project period. Allocations are restricted to a maximum of $25,000 direct costs for **one year only**. List percentage of effort for ALL individuals who will be involved in the project under personnel, even if no funding is requested. Indicate if cost-sharing will be provided from other funding sources in order to complete the project and provide source of funding and amount. One additional page for budget justification may be included. *No indirect costs are allowed.*

**ACS Expenditures Allowed:**

- Research supplies and animal maintenance
- Technical assistance
- Domestic travel when necessary to carry out the proposed research program
- Publication costs, including reprints
- Costs of computer time
- Special fees (pathology, photography, etc.)
- Stipends for graduate students and postdoctoral assistants if their role is to promote and sustain the project presented by the junior faculty member
- Equipment costing less than $2,000. (Special justification is necessary for items exceeding this amount)
- Registration fees at scientific meetings

**ACS Expenditures NOT Allowed:**

- Salary of principal investigator
- Honoraria and travel expenses for visiting lecturers
- Secretarial/administrative salaries
- Student tuition and student fees including graduate and undergraduate; however, tuition is an allowable expense for the principal investigator of a Mentored Research Scholar Grant.
- Foreign travel (special consideration given for attendance at scientific meetings held in Canada)
- Books and periodicals except for required texts for coursework in the approved training plan for MRSGs.
- Membership dues
- Office and laboratory furniture
- Office equipment and supplies
- Rental of office or laboratory space
- Recruiting and relocation expenses
- Non-medical services to patients (travel to a clinical site or patient incentives are allowable expenses)
- Per-diem charges for hospital beds
- Construction, renovation, or maintenance of buildings/laboratories
**APPLICATION FOR A PILOT PROJECT GRANT FROM AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY**
**INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH GRANT # IRG – 58-007-54**

### BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

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<th>Academic Title</th>
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<td>Non-U.S. citizen</td>
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**Verification of Applicant Eligibility by Department Chair**  
(Applicants must be within six years of their first independent research or faculty appointment, must be salaried faculty with appropriate committed research facilities, and may not have competitive national funding active at the start date of the proposed IRG allocation.)

**Name of Department Chair**

**Signature**

**Date:**

### Education

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### Training

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***any applicant for IRG pilot project funding who is not a U.S. citizen must hold a visa that will allow him or her to remain in the U.S. long enough to complete the IRG pilot project. It is the responsibility of the institution to determine and document the visa status of any non-citizen recipient of IRG funds.***

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**Appointments**

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**Other Research Support:**

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**Publications** (use continuation page if necessary)

Continued on next page
First Name, Last name, Degree(s)                                                                                              

PROJECT TITLE:                                                                                                                

ABSTRACT: Provide a brief (300-500 words) summary of the research, including Background, Objective/Hypothesis, Specific Aim(s), Study Design, and Cancer Relevance. The final sentence of the abstract should summarize the focus and cancer relevance of the project in non-scientific terms.
PROJECT TITLE:

DESCRIPTION OF RESEARCH PROPOSED (use up to four continuation pages as necessary):
Principal Investigator: Haiman, Christopher

TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED: ____________  TERM: from ____________ to ____________

BUDGET PROPOSED:

A. Personnel

B. Permanent Equipment

C. Supplies

D. Miscellaneous

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION: