



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION  
for CANCER EDUCATION

[aaceonline.com](http://aaceonline.com)

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

# AAACE Grants in Research, Education, Advocacy, and Direct Service (READS Grants Program)

## OVERVIEW

The [American Association for Cancer Education \(AAACE\)](http://www.aaceonline.com) READS Grants Program provides small grants to support innovative, high-quality projects that advance cancer education through **research, education, advocacy, and direct service**. READS grants are intended to strengthen **career development**, foster **community-engaged and equity-centered cancer education** and generate **measurable scholarly and practice-based outcomes** aligned with AAACE's mission.

Funded projects should demonstrate clear relevance to cancer education and produce tangible outcomes within **12 months**, such as conference abstracts, peer-reviewed manuscripts, educational products, or subsequent extramural grant submissions. At least one dissemination outcome is expected through the **AAACE Annual Conference (International Cancer Education Conference)** and/or the **Journal of Cancer Education**.

The overarching goal of the READS Grants Program is to cultivate a sustainable pipeline of AAACE scholars, educators, and practitioners whose work contributes meaningfully to cancer education at local, national, and global levels.

## PRIORITY FUNDING AREAS

For this funding cycle, **priority consideration** will be given to proposals focused on:

- **Cancer Health Equity**, including projects addressing social determinants of health, structural inequities, systemic barriers, or disparities across the cancer continuum; and
- **Global Cancer Education Research**, including international, cross-cultural, or globally relevant cancer education initiatives.
- **Cancer Education in Rural and Medically Underserved Communities**
- **Artificial Intelligence and Technology-Enhanced Cancer Education**
- **Cancer Misinformation and Health Communication in the Digital and Social Media Era**

Well-designed proposals outside these priority areas will also be considered.

## GRANT ELIGIBILITY

- Applicants must be **active AACE members in good standing** at the time of submission.
- Interdisciplinary and/or community-academic collaborative projects are strongly encouraged but not required.
- Individuals may receive **no more than two READS grants within a five-year period** and may hold **only one active READS grant at any given time**.

## GRANT AMOUNTS

### Individual Grants

- Up to **\$5,000 per project**

### Collaborative Grants

- Up to **\$10,000 total** for projects involving **2–3 collaborators**
- Priority given to collaborations that:
  - Include **junior faculty or early-career investigators**
  - Integrate **multiple disciplines, departments, institutions, or community partners**
- All collaborators must be **AACE members in good standing**.

## SUBMISSION DEADLINE AND PROCESS

- **Submission Deadline: March 16, 2026**
- **Submission Method:** Electronic submission via JotForm

<https://form.jotform.com/253493683705163>

Applicants will be notified of funding decisions approximately **two months after the submission deadline**, following peer review by the AACE Grants Committee.

## REQUIRED GRANT COMPONENTS

### 1. Title Page (Completed in Online Form)

- Project Title
- Principal Investigator(s)
  - Name
  - Institutional affiliation
  - Email address
  - Mailing address
  - Phone number
- Designated grant focus area:
  - Research

- Education
- Advocacy
- Direct Service
- Grant topic area(s)
- Addresses social determinants of health? (Yes/No)
  - If yes, provide 1–2 sentences describing how
- Addresses factors contributing to poor cancer outcomes? (Yes/No)
  - If yes, provide 1–2 sentences describing how

## **2. Proposal Narrative (Uploaded as a Single Document)**

### **Page Limits**

- Individual grants: **≤ 5 single-spaced pages**
- Collaborative grants: **≤ 10 single-spaced pages**
- Font: Arial or Times New Roman, **11-point minimum**

### **Required Sections**

- 1. Overview and Summary**
- 2. Background and Significance**
- 3. Rationale and Alignment**
  - Relevance to cancer education
  - Alignment with AACE mission and READS priorities
- 4. Objectives**
- 5. Project Description**
  - Study or program design
  - Methods or implementation approach
  - Setting (community, clinical, educational, or other)
  - Target population
  - Community and/or interdisciplinary collaboration
- 6. Evaluation Plan**
  - Data collection and management
  - Evaluation metrics and analytic approach
  - Demonstration of project benefit or outcomes
- 7. Dissemination and Sustainability**
  - Plans for AACE dissemination

- Plans for publications, presentations, or extramural funding
- Opportunities for expansion or replication

### 8. **Timeline**

- Project milestones over a 12-month period

### 9. **Mentoring Plan** (Recommended for junior investigators)

- Mentor(s) and expertise
- Frequency and structure of mentoring interactions

**IRB approval is required prior to the release of funds when applicable.**

## 3. **Reference List**

- Uploaded separately
- Not included in page limits

## 4. **Biosketches**

- NIH format preferred
- Required for:
  - Principal Investigator(s)
  - Key Co-Investigators

## 5. **Budget and Budget Justification**

### **Allowable Costs**

- Student stipends
- Project materials and supplies
- Community engagement expenses
- Travel required to conduct the project or support participant involvement

### **Unallowable Costs**

- PI or Co-PI salaries
- Indirect costs
- Clinical services or patient care
- Travel unrelated to project execution
- Activities not directly related to cancer education

## 6. **Letters of Support (Strongly Encouraged)**

Examples include:

- Institutional leadership
- Community partners

- Educational or clinical site leadership

## **POST-PROJECT REQUIREMENTS**

Within **60 days of the project end date**, grantees must submit:

- A written post-project summary
- Budget reconciliation
- Evidence of dissemination, including:
  - Abstract submission to the International Cancer Education Conference **and/or**
  - Manuscript submission to the Journal of Cancer Education **and/or**
  - Submission of an extramural grant proposal

Failure to meet post-project requirements may result in **repayment of awarded funds**.

All READS grant recipients are required to serve as **peer reviewers for two READS grant cycles within two years** following project completion.