

## VUMC Limited Submission Opportunity 2026 Breast Cancer Alliance Grants

**Applications due February 12, 2025**

**VUMC:** *These instructions are for VUMC investigators. VU investigators should apply through [InfoReady](#) and address any questions to [VU-LSO@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:VU-LSO@vanderbilt.edu).*

VUMC may submit **up to two letters of intent** for the [2026 Breast Cancer Alliance Exceptional Project or Young Investigator Grants](#). The mission of the Breast Cancer Alliance is to improve survival rates and quality of life for those impacted by breast cancer through better prevention, early detection, treatment and cure.

### **Exceptional Project Grant (XP)**

This **one-year grant for a total of \$100,000** recognizes creative, unique and innovative research directly related to the field of breast cancer (see eligibility.) Indirect costs, which are included in the \$100,000 award, must be limited to **8% of total direct costs**.

#### **XP Eligibility Criteria:**

- The research project must be directly related to the field of breast cancer. Areas of relevant research may include but are not limited to: diagnosis, etiology, immunology, genetics, therapies, prevention and clinical studies.
- Exceptional Projects are open to clinical doctors and research scientists at any stage of their careers, including postdoctoral fellows, whose primary focus is breast cancer.
- Multiple PIs are allowed.

### **Young Investigator Grants (YIG)**

To encourage a commitment to breast cancer research, Breast Cancer Alliance invites clinical doctors and research scientists who are in the early stages of their careers, including post docs, whose current proposal is focused on breast cancer, to apply for funding for the Young Investigator Grant. This **two-year, \$125,000 grant** is intended to help advance the careers of young researchers in breast cancer who do not yet have their own major grant support. Indirect costs, which are included in the \$125,000 award, must be limited to **8% of total direct costs**.

#### **YIG Eligibility Criteria:**

- Applicant must not have held a tenure-track faculty position for more than four years as of March 1, 2026;
- Applicant must **not** have been or are not a principal investigator on an NIH R01 or equivalent national/international non-mentored award as of March 1, 2026;
- Applicant must dedicate at least 50% of their work effort to research;
- Research project must be directly related to the field of breast cancer. Areas of relevant research may include but are not limited to: diagnosis, etiology, immunology, genetics, therapies, prevention and clinical studies.

- Current postdoctoral fellows who do not yet hold a faculty position are eligible to apply, provided they meet all the other stated criteria for Young Investigators

See the [program page](#) for more information.

### **Internal Application Instructions**

Anyone interested in being considered as one of VUMC's nominees must submit the following (in a single PDF) to [LSO@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:LSO@vanderbilt.edu) by 5 p.m. on **February 12, 2025**.

1. Brief (2 page maximum) research plan including summary budget
  - a. Research plan should include project title and hypothesis, research aim(s) and methods, and brief discussion of the project's potential impact.
2. Statement of support from department chair/center director
3. Biosketch in current NIH format

Please reference the program name in the subject line of the email. The selected nominees will submit an LOI by March 31, 2025 and will be informed by the sponsor by mid-May whether they have been invited to proceed with a formal application.

Any questions about this opportunity may be directed to [LSO@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:LSO@vanderbilt.edu).