

[Dr. Ralph and Marian Falk Medical Research Trust](#)

Catalyst Awards Program

The Catalyst Research Award Program provides one to two years of seed funding to support high-risk, high-reward projects that address critical scientific and therapeutic roadblocks within the Program's principal areas of focus (below). Up to \$350,000 seed funding over one to two years will be awarded (inclusive of 10% indirect costs). Funded programs will begin in November 2024.

The Program has three principal areas of focus:

1. Identification of biological markers of disease activity and progression,
2. Identification of targets for therapeutic interventions, and
3. Development of therapeutic agents that will disrupt, arrest, or prevent the disease process.

Applications should be responsive to one of the three principal areas of Research Focus and have high translational potential.

The Catalyst Research Award Program is designed to help investigators lay the foundation for a future, Transformational Award that, if funded, may provide an additional 2 to 3 years of funding to move a healthcare innovation toward the next step in commercial development.

At this time, Rush may nominate **two** candidates for the Catalyst Research Award. To apply to fill this slot:

- Register at <https://redcap.rush.edu/redcap/surveys/?s=MKN84YLRH3> by 5 p.m. on **May 23, 2024**.
- Submit the following documents to <https://redcap.rush.edu/redcap/surveys/?s=PH8EWAPNWP> by 5 p.m. on **May 27, 2024**.
 - Specific Aims, brief statement on significance, innovation, and environment/investigator. This should be no more than two pages long.
 - NIH biosketch

The internal review committee will make a decision by **June 3**; Philanthropy will then assist the applicant in completing their proposal submission to Dr. Ralph and Marian Falk Medical Research Trust. Applications are due Tuesday, **June 18, 2024 by 1pm, CST** through their online portal.

For more information, please visit: <https://hria.org/tmf/FalkCap/>