Grants from the Scientific Foundation
of the Spanish Association Against Cancer
for Cancer Research Projects

Call Text
AECC 70% Survivorship Challenge - call 2026

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contra el cáncer

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CONTENT

Please, carefully read the call text. The delivery of incomplete documentation may imply the denial of the application. We highly recommend contacting us to personally assess the appropriateness of the proposal.

1. Background

The Scientific Foundation of the Spanish Association against Cancer (FCAECC, hereinafter) launches the largest national call with the aim of impacting on the mission of the organization in an innovative, measurable, flexible, and high impact manner. The focus of the **AECC 70% Survivorship Challenge (Reto AECC 70% Supervivencia)** is to promote nationwide, multidisciplinary consortium projects that generate impact in cancer survival, under excellence science, to respond to an unmet clinical need.

Survivorship impact

The overall age-standardized five-year net survival in Spain in men has been reported to be 55,3% while in women 61,7%. These data are still far from the national aim: 70% overall cancer survival by 2030.

In addition, countries that have prioritized cancer research and created an integrative cancer plan, have already seen a direct impact of their actions in cancer patient survival and quality of life. i.e.: South Korea.

Moreover, it has been estimated that about 1 million cancer diagnoses might have been missed across Europe during the COVID-19 pandemic. There is emerging evidence that a higher proportion of patients are diagnosed with later cancer stages compared with pre-pandemic rates as a result of substantial delays in cancer diagnosis and treatment, having a high impact on cancer survival rates.

Thus, if we want to contribute to increase overall cancer survival and equity in the access to the latest results in cancer research, we should design innovative ways to overcome difficulties, gathering robust translational and clinical evidence, including

the whole territory by creating a national consortium that allows to tackle a specific survivorship challenge.

2. Scope

The focus of this call is to develop a project that addresses an unmet clinical need in cancers with an overall **5-year survival rate lower than 50%.** Proposals will be prioritized based on:

- cancers whose clinical approach has not made significant progress in the last 10 years.
- cancer entities will be considered according to the magnitude of the clinical problem and the expected outcomes. Stages of the disease are outside the scope of the call.
- orphan area of research with low innovation and poor prognosis and the need to investigate this field of research.

Eligible proposals should focus on innovative therapeutic approaches, including but not limited to drug development, immunotherapy, cell therapy, targeted therapies, radiotherapy, novel surgical techniques, or other advanced treatment strategies. The ultimate goal is to improve cancer patient survival, in cancers with a broad national geographical distribution of the cases and secure access to patient samples.

Moreover, the results obtained must be able to **generate equity in the whole national territory**, in cancer patients, and increase the building capacities of researchers (clinical and translational) nationwide. The project should be designed as a consortium led by one or two coordinators and should have the appropriate scientific setting to be successfully developed.

Consortia are expected to join experts nationwide across different areas and thus, **multidisciplinary/multisectoral teams** (clinical, translational, academic) should be established. Incorporation of new consolidated/emerging leaders will be allowed during the development of the project. They should be incorporated in the subsequent milestones.

3. Call requirements

This call will be a two-step process with a pre-and full proposal stage. The criteria (see table) which will steer the scientific evaluations of the final proposals are provided below.

	Scope
Unmet medical need	The topic must address an unmet clinical need in cancers with an overall **5-year survival rate lower than 50%.**
Impact	Enough number of patients nationwide to obtain significant results.
Team	Multidisciplinary research scenario and dissemination of the results across the national scientific/healthcare landscape.

Requirements

Application Requirements		Guidance
Coordinator/s	Coordinating institution/s (hospital or research institute)	The consortium can be led by both a clinical and a translational researcher or by a clinical researcher with solid translational background. It is mandatory that the coordinator/s have been awarded with a PhD.
		Coordinator/s as well as research consortium partners (i.e. participating parties/work package leaders) (funding recipients) should fall within the following categories: academic research groups (from universities or other higher education or research institutions); or clinical/public health sector groups (from hospitals/public health and/or other health care

		settings and health organizations); or scientific networks (with legal entity).
		The coordinators must commit at least 25% of their time to lead the program.
Consolidated leader	Collaborating institution (hospital, institute or scientific network)	Consolidated leaders should be experts on their fields and contribute to the aims of the project in a multidisciplinary manner. They must hold a PhD.
		Participation of leaders from different regions (Comunidades Autónomas) is encouraged. The national distribution of the researchers will be considered in the final score.
Emerging leader	Collaborating institution (hospital, institute or scientific network)	Young group leaders should be experts on their fields and contribute to the aims of the project in a multidisciplinary manner. They must hold a PhD.
		Consider Emerging Leaders as researchers leading their own research lines. The status of "emerging" will be determined by his/her research centre.
		Participation of leaders from different regions (Comunidades Autónomas) is encouraged. The national distribution of the researchers will be considered in the final score.
		Emerging leaders shall be of different disciplines in order to successfully

		address the project scientific objectives.
Scientific Advisory Board (SAB)	World renowned experts in the field of research	SAB committee shall be composed of at least 4 world renowned experts to give advice to the Coordinators and Consolidated Leaders throughout the duration of the project and assess the progress of the project. It is also recommended to include national sanitary authorities in the SAB committee.
Project Manager	A Scientific Project manager and an Administrative Project manager must be allocated to the project. A Clinical Project Manager can be also included.	Two (or three) Project managers must be allocated to the project, to perform the scientific and administrative management of the project.
Steering Committee	Coordinators and representation of consolidated leaders	Committee that decides on the priorities, organization and management of the general course of the project.
Other participating parties	International collaborations	Participating in an international collaborative environment is encouraged.
		Researchers outside of Spain are allowed to enhance the impact of the project, however, they should provide their own funding.
		International collaborations can express support to the proposal with a commitment letter.

		Up to 1-year international internships are accepted and can be covered by the grant.
	Industrial partners	Public/Private collaborations are accepted, if needed, for the execution of the project, and as long as co-funding as well as appropriate agreements on intellectual property and fair-pricing are in place.
		Commercial partners cannot be a main applicant and may only be involved if collaborating with academic or clinical/public health research groups.
		Commercial parties will not receive funding directly and are required to provide co-funding and/or in-kind contribution to the project, that should be of an extent appropriate for the type and size of the project. In case of financial contribution, a justification is required explaining the nature of the contribution, why the remaining budget cannot be assumed by the commercial party, and why non-profit funding would be needed to execute the project.
		Intellectual Property (IP): the background owned by any applicant will remain the sole property of the applicant, or his/her affiliated research structure (i.e. institutes, research centres, and investigators). In addition,

		all data and results that will be generated during the project will remain the sole property of the applicants or their affiliated research structure (i.e. institutes, research centres, and investigators). Projects with IP exclusively owned by commercial parties are not eligible for this call.
		Commercial parties are requested to express their commitment and guarantee their maximal and reasonable efforts to accommodate further development, implementation, and access for patients after the end of the project.
		Agreements between applicants and commercial parties as well as letters of intent should be provided for review as part of the full proposal application process.
Research type	Multiregional and multicentre project	
Research phase	Translational and clinical research	
Multidisciplinarity	Researchers of different disciplines and areas of expertise are encouraged to participate in the project	Bioinformatic, physics, chemists, immunologists, radiotherapists, oncologists, hematologists, mathematicians, surgeons, and other areas involved in cancer research are

		encouraged to participate in the project.
Scientific Rationale	A strong scientific rationale that supports the hypothesis and objective of the project is required.	
Special requirements	Impact in survivorship	Projects should contribute to increasing cancer overall survivorship to 70% by 2030.
Technologies and resources	The project shall build up on existing national or international platforms, technologies, and resources	It is expected that the project identifies existing resources and build up on them, when possible, rather than generating new ones.
Training and Stays	A Training and Stay plan for young researchers involved in the project is required at the full-proposal stage	National and International research stays are encouraged to increase dissemination of the knowledge across the consortia. Moreover, a training plan is mandatory at the full-proposal stage. Nationwide dissemination of the results through this program is encouraged.
Data Managing Plan	A Data Managing Plan and secure sample circuit is required at the full-proposal stage	Identification of a data sharing plan is mandatory at the Action Plan level, to ensure universal access of researchers to the data generated under this project.
Gender Equity	The project should favor gender equity in research	Gender equity should be considered in both the team composition as well as in the clinical and pre-clinical studies designed under this project.

FCAECC/AECC	Personnel from the AECC and/or FCAECC involved in the granted project	FCAECC Program Manager, Innovation Manager and FCAECC/AECC Implementation- Policy Making Manager
Patient Involvement	It is required to actively involve patients in the set up and execution of the trial.	Involvement of patients in the set up and execution of the project is required. This may include, but is not limited to, one or more of the following actions: letter of support from a patient organization, patient review of the Informed Consent Form, patient input on the protocol, dissemination of results to patients (including study participants), and patient participation in steering committee.

4. Characteristics of the grant

Funding and duration

The budget for the AECC 70% Survivorship Challenge – call 2026 is up to 10 million euros per consortium, to be spent in between 5 to 7 years.

The funding will be provided in different phases subjected to project progress and evaluation explained in the section below. However, the project will be initially funded with 2 million euros that should be spent in 12-18 months from project initiation.

The agreement will be signed electronically using the XOLIDO SIGN digital platform or equivalent.

Payment

The financial endowment shall be paid to and managed by the coordinating applicant institution in accordance with the provisions of the agreement signed by the parties.

Compatibility/Incompatibility framework

- Coordinators of an active AECC 70% Survivorship Challenge grant cannot participate in the present call.
- Work packages leaders of an active AECC 70% Survivorship Challenge grant cannot be leaders of work packages in the present call, but they are allowed to collaborate.
- This grant is compatible with other grants from the FCAECC and incompatible with the receipt of funding from any other source (public and/or private) for the same purpose unless it is expressly authorised.

The researcher must inform FCAECC of any possible cause of incompatibility. Applicants may submit only one proposal for this call. If the same project is submitted by different researchers both applications will be discarded. Consolidated and emerging leaders can participate in more than one proposal.

5. Application content

This call is a two-stage submission procedure, consisting of a pre- and full proposal stage.

By participating in this call, applicants consent FCAECC to share all required information (submitted in either the pre- or full proposal stage) with evaluators for the project evaluation and monitoring. Additionally, selected applications might be shared with regulatory authorities during the review process or successful applicants may receive the recommendation to seek pre-grant scientific advice and share their application with regulatory authorities. Applications can also be valued by patients, survivors and/or relatives of cancer belonging to the AECC Patient Advocate Program.

During the application review process, FCAECC may request clarifications from the applicant.

Required documents in the pre-proposal stage:

1. **Valid national ID** (Spanish applicants**) or passport** (all nationalities) scanned on both sides of the coordinator/coordinators.
2. **Scientific pre-proposal:** (maximum 6 pages) a description of the research project to be submitted. Template provided. PDF format.
   *Important documents to be appended at the end of the scientific pre-proposal (they will not count in the extension limit):
   - Commitment letters from international collaborations to express support to the pre-proposal.
   - Letter signed by the coordinator/s explaining public/private collaborations or agreements with companies, institutions, etc. (i.e., commercial partners) needed for the execution of the project, either if they provide the drug with no cost, or if there is an agreement with the pricing of the compound.
3. **Letter of commitment from the coordinating applicant institution.** The letter must state that in case of an award, a collaboration agreement will be signed between the coordinating applicant institution and FCAECC. This letter must be signed by the Managing Director of the institution. The delivery of the Letter of commitment without the required signature may imply the rejection of the application. In case the pre-proposal has two coordinators, one letter from each institution should be provided. PDF format.
4. **Letter of commitment from coordinator/s** with the agreement to commit at least 25% of their time to lead the program. In case the pre-proposal has two coordinators, the letter must include the identification of the coordinator responsible (leading applicant) for uploading the files and submitting the proposal in the FCAECC Grant Management System (GMS, hereinafter). In correspondence, his/her institution will be responsible for administrative issues. PDF format.
5. **Curriculum Vitae of the coordinator/s** (maximum 4 pages) using the CVA online editor from FECYT https://cvn.fecyt.es/editor/ or the Word template of this organization that must be provided in PDF format. The merits and contributions must be clearly reflected, especially in the publications (indicate

the position in the list of authors and quartile of the journal), in research projects, and in patents. See the call document "CVA Instructions" for more information. PDF format.

Required documents in the full-proposal stage:

1. **Scientific proposal:** (maximum 30 pages) description of the research project including the first milestone action plan (12- 18 months). Template provided. PDF format.

   * Important documents to be appended at the end of the scientific proposal (they will not count in the extension limit):

   - Commitment letters from international collaborations to express support to the proposal.
   - Letter signed by the coordinator/s explaining public/private collaborations or agreements with companies, institutions, etc. needed for the execution of the project. In case of commercial collaborations, co-funding terms as well as appropriate agreements on intellectual property, and fair-pricing or in-kind collaboration should be explained. In case of financial contribution, a justification is required explaining the nature of the contribution, why the remaining budget cannot be assumed by the commercial party, and why non-profit funding would be needed to execute the project.
   - Letter signed by the commercial parties. In case of participation, commercial parties are requested to express their commitment and guarantee their maximal and reasonable efforts to accommodate further development, implementation, and access for patients after the end of the project. In case of financial contribution, a justification is required explaining the nature of the contribution, why the remaining budget cannot be assumed by the commercial party, and why non-profit funding would be needed to execute the project.

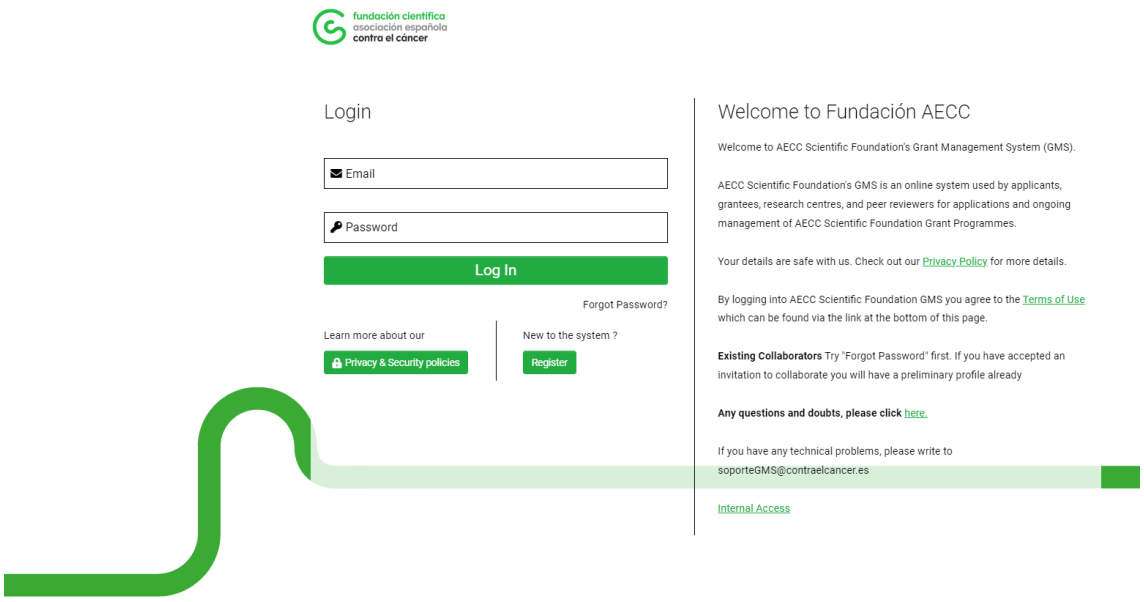
2. **Letter of commitment** signed by the leaders of the work packages (they should work for a national institution) where they commit to lead the work package. Template provided. PDF format.

3. **Dissemination Report** in non-scientific language so that it can be evaluated by cancer patients, survivors and/or relatives belonging to the AECC Patient Advocate program. Template provided. PDF format.
4. **Scientific video** lasting no more than 5 minutes, summarizing the objectives of the project and the scope of the expected results at a scientific level. The video must be provided electronically in a legible format (MP4 with audio in English), ensuring good audiovisual quality.
5. **Dissemination video** of a duration of no more than 5 minutes, in which the objectives and scope of the results of the project are summarized in a non-scientific language so that the project can be valued by patients, survivors, and/or relatives of cancer belonging to the AECC Patient Advocate Program. The video must be provided electronically in a legible format (MP4 with audio in **Spanish**), ensuring good audiovisual quality.

6. Submission of applications

Applicants are provided with explanatory material with the necessary instructions for submitting the application in the Researcher's Area https://www.contraelcancer.es/es/area-investigador. The GMS platform user's manual and the documentation of the call for applications can be found within the platform once an application is initiated.

Briefly, the leading applicant must **access the Personal Area within the Investigator's Area** https://www.contraelcancer.es/es/area-investigador **and register in the GMS** https://grants-fundacioncientifica-aecc.smartsimple.ie/iface/index.jsp . Please note that registration in the GMS is required prior to application. It is recommended to register as soon as possible. Any specific doubt on the GMS please contact us through our email: soporteGMS@contraelcancer.es .
The registration page to submit the applications is the following and to register for the first time you must click on "**New to the System? Register**":



After completing the registration process, the application can be made using the templates available for the call in the GMS. **All the documentation of applications will be submitted exclusively by the leading applicant through the GMS** and will not be accepted through any other channel. All documentation must be **submitted in English (except for the informative video that should be submitted in Spanish).** If the documents uploaded to the application platform were issued in a language other than English, a translation into English must be attached.

In addition, the Frequently Asked Questions section can be consulted on the website https://www.contraelcancer.es/es/area-investigador/preguntas-frecuentes in case of technical issues please contact soporteGMS@contraelcancer.es

Candidates will be able to check at any time the status of their applications in the GMS. During the application review process, FCAECC may require additional information to be provided by the applicant.

The researcher must comply with the pertinent legislation, the rules and ethical principles that apply.

Deadline for submission of applications

The pre-proposals must be submitted to the GMS no later than the exact application deadline of June 19th, 2025, at 15:00h (CET/GMT+1). The system will not accept submissions after that date. Moreover, the information provided in the pre-proposal application is binding for the entire application process.

Once the application is completed, the candidate will validate all information before submission. The applicant is responsible for all the information contained in the documentation provided and guarantees its veracity. If the application is sent correctly, the applicant will receive a confirmation email from noreply@smartsimple.ie or noreply.fundacioncientifica@smartsimple.ie. **This may land in the spam folder.**

It is recommended to check the spam folder and, if the confirmation email has been received there, change the rule so that they are received in the inbox. Applicants are required to visit the GMS frequently to check changes in the status of the application or requests from FCAECC that are made through the platform.

The system will not accept submissions after the closing date of the call, and only those applications that have been submitted within the application deadline will be evaluated. FCAECC encourages candidates to submit applications well in advance to avoid any type of incident with the web platform.

If the application submitted is incomplete or does not comply with the requirements of this call for applications, it will be rejected.

7. Evaluation and selection

Preliminary timeline for evaluation

This timeline is preliminary and may be subject to change.

Milestone	Date
Deadline for pre-proposal submission	19th June 2025
Remote pre-proposal review	July to August 2025
Notification to applicants	September 2025
Full-proposal deadline	January 2026
Remote full-proposal review	February to March 2026
Interviews	April 2026
Notification of final decision to applicants	April 2026

Administrative review process

All applications will be examined (pre- and full proposals) to ensure that they meet all criteria specified in the sections *3. Call requirements* and *5. Application content* (see above). Applications that fail to meet call requirements will be excluded from the process and they will be notified by mail/GMS. If not correctly completed or incomplete, the FCAECC reserves the right to decline the applications.

For the purposes of the evaluation process, only the information contained in the documents provided in the GMS before the deadline of the application submission period will be considered. It will not be possible to subsequently update the information contained in these documents.

In addition, the administrative review process of the full proposals is performed to ensure that they meet the formal criteria of the call and have not changed substantially from the respective pre-proposals. A full proposal may be excluded from further review if criteria are not met or if the proposal objectives deviate substantially from the previously submitted pre-proposal.

Scientific Evaluation

The SEC will be composed of a multidisciplinary panel with international and national experts. International experts may be located in the territory of a Member State of the European Union (EU) or in another Member State on the European Economic Area (EEA), and USA. The SEC will be chaired by the Chairpersons, who will be responsible for coordinating and organising the evaluation process. The SEC reserves the right to request additional information on the proposals for a better understanding.

Moreover, remarks from the following groups will be also taken in consideration: pharma experts, cancer patients, survivors and/or relatives who belong to the AECC Patient Advocate Program and members of regulatory authorities, like the Spanish Agency of Medicines and Medical Devices (AEMPS), if needed.

- Phase I: pre-proposal selection

The Chairpersons will select those proposals that best fit the scope of the call: cancers with an overall **5-year survival rate lower than 50%,** considering prioritization criteria described in *section 2*.

- Phase II: pre-proposal evaluation

Those prioritized applications will be evaluated by the SEC according to the following criteria:

- Excellence/quality of the pre-proposal and relevance to the topic of this call (0-5).
- Leadership of the coordinators to successfully manage the project (0-5).
- Potential impact of the proposal in promoting equity (in patients' access and in capacity building of the researchers and clinicians involved) (0-5).

Based on the individual evaluations, the FCAECC may prepare an evaluation report containing the comments of all reviewers involved in each pre-proposal evaluation, a score for each evaluation criterion and an overall pre-proposal score. The global scores will be collected in a ranking list to enable the selection of candidates.

The best scoring pre-proposals will be selected to procced to the full-proposal phase.

The decision on the results of the pre-proposals and feedback will be communicated to all the applicants (successful and unsuccessful) by the **end of September 2025** and there will be no possibility to appeal against this decision. Selected applicants will be invited to submit a full proposal. In order to complete it, they may receive seed funding of 10.000€ to generate a suitable consortium to develop the proposal. Cost not covered by the seed funding will be reimbursed after the economic justification.

The invitation will include a summary of the evaluation and possible recommendations on the project from the SEC for implementation in the full proposal.

- Phase III: full-proposal evaluation

All the applications that will complete the full proposal will be evaluated and invited to a personal interview with the SEC to address the critical points of the full proposal.

The SEC review will focus on the following criteria:

- Scientific excellence of the proposal and relevance in relation to the topic of this call (A-C):
    - Clarity and pertinence of the project's objectives, and the extent to which the proposed work is ambitious.
    - Soundness of the proposed methodology, including the underlying concepts, models, assumptions, interdisciplinary approaches, appropriate consideration of the gender dimension in research and the quality of open science practices, including the sharing and management of research outputs and, where appropriate, the involvement of patients and end- users.
    - Suitability and quality of the contingency plan related to the risk assessment of the project.

- Implementation (A-C):
    - 1st-milestone action plan: suitability of the plan to fulfil the overall aims of the scientific proposal.
    - Scientific team: capacity and role of each participant, and the extent to which the consortium as a whole brings together the necessary expertise, synergy between the team members, experience of the consolidated leaders, multi- and inter-disciplinarity and excellence of their expertise, and appropriate national distribution of the researchers, from at least five different regions (Comunidades Autónomas) to achieve the national distribution.

- Success probability of the proposal to reach the aims of the call (A-C)
    - Equity in cancer patient survival.
    - Equity for cancer patients along the territory.
    - Equity for researchers (broad national distribution, gender balance and inclusion of emerging leaders).

Scoring system of the Phase III

The following scoring system will be used to assess the quality of the proposal of the above criteria:

Note for each criterion	Score
Exceptional	A
Good	B
Fail	C

Based on the individual evaluations, the FCAECC will prepare an evaluation report with the remarks of all the reviewers involved in each proposal evaluation that will be shared with the SEC before the face-to-face interview together with the rest of the information of each application.

- Phase IV: interview

The interview will consist of:

- Program presentation: The coordinator/s of the proposal will have the opportunity to pitch their project to the SEC.
- Defense of the proposal: The SEC will ask the coordinator/s for any information deemed necessary for its defense.

The decision on the results of the full proposals evaluation meeting will be ratified by the FCAECC Board of Trustees and communicated to all the coordinating applicants (successful and unsuccessful) by the **end of April 2026.** The coordinating applicants of the full proposals will receive the evaluation report in the GMS. The call decision is final and not subject to appeal.

The coordinator/s of the granted proposal must send a formal letter of acceptance (free text, pdf format) of the grant via the GMS. They must also take part in the awarding of the grant organised by the FCAECC if so required.

The grant resolution will be published on https://www.contraelcancer.es/es/investigacion/proyectos-aecc/ultimos-proyectos-adjudicados . All applications that have been evaluated by the SEC will receive feedback from the experts who reviewed the project via the Investigator's Area after the grant decision. This information will remain available for consultation at least 1 year.

The FCAECC reserves the right to cancel the call if it considers that none of the applications meet the required quality standards.

8. Grant Agreement

The coordinating applicant institution will have a deadline to start using the grant of 1 July 2026. In order to receive and make use of the grant, it is essential that the

coordinating applicant institution signs an agreement with the FCAECC governing the rights and obligations arising from the awarding of the grant.

General Legal Framework

The FCAECC and the coordinating applicant institution, as indicated in the granted research programs, will formalize a framework agreement, unless one is already in effect between the parties. This agreement will regulate the general terms and conditions of the grants awarded by the FCAECC and those applied for by the coordinating applicant institution during its validity.

The framework agreement and/or specific annex will be signed electronically through the XOLIDO SIGN digital platform or an equivalent system.

The FCAECC's contractual relationship will be established with the coordinating applicant institution through the execution of the mentioned framework agreement, if none is already in effect, and the specific annex(es). This will be independent of any internal coordination relationships that may arise between the proposal leader, their institution, and other participating institutions, as well as their employees. No contractual relationship or bond will be created between the FCAECC and the teams or their members, or, if applicable, other participating institutions and/or their employees.

In this regard, the institution agrees to hold the FCAECC harmless and not to make any claims against it for any disputes, damages, or harm arising from internal relationships between the institution, the group, and, if applicable, other participating institutions, as well as their employees or any other third parties or public administrations affected by the research project's development.

The institution and other collaborating institutions identified in the granted research projects will directly manage the necessary legal relationships with the beneficiaries and other group personnel. They will regulate relationships with other institutions, research centers, and/or hospitals as appropriate to oversee the use of funds and

other obligations related to the research project, without any intervention from the FCAECC.

For the FCAECC's purposes, the beneficiary and/or research group will depend solely and exclusively on the institution with which the FCAECC signs the agreement and never on the FCAECC itself, which will only provide financial support for the amounts included in the approved research project.

Acceptance of funding does not imply any legal or employment relationship between the individuals participating in the group, the beneficiary, and the FCAECC. Under no circumstances will the FCAECC assume obligations or formalities derived from the activities of such individuals, including but not limited to labor, administrative, fiscal, or any other legal responsibilities resulting from non-compliance with applicable regulations.

The FCAECC is not responsible for the actions of beneficiaries who receive funding, nor for any damages or harm they may suffer as a result of activities covered by the grant, nor for any damages that may be caused to third parties.

Content of the Framework Agreement

If no framework agreement is already in effect between the parties, they will enter into one that establishes the general terms and conditions governing all grants received from the FCAECC, both in the present and in future calls, as long as the agreement remains in force. Among other aspects, this agreement will regulate the following:

- General purpose
- Relationship between the parties
- Content of the financial aid
- Obligations of the research center
- Project monitoring
- Project results

- Confidentiality obligations
- Publications and project dissemination
- Duration of the framework agreement
- Cases of early termination
- Liability and indemnity regime for the FCAECC
- Applicable regulations
- Contact data processing and personal data protection
- Scope and modifications of the agreement
- Assignment of rights and obligations
- Notifications and communication between the parties
- Principles of collaboration, applicable law, and jurisdiction

Content of the Specific Annex

In addition to the framework agreement that must be signed by the parties as outlined above, the parties will formalize a specific annex to regulate the particular grant awarded. This annex will detail the granted funding and specify the rights and obligations of both parties, including but not limited to:

- Identity of personnel involved in the AECC 70%Survivorship Challenge – call 2026. In this regard, if during the funding period, any of the members of the AECC 70% Survivorship Challenge - call 2026 team performing actions within the framework of the project funded by the FCAECC varies, the beneficiary institution/s must inform the FCAECC as soon as possible and without any delay in the GMS.
- Identity of the coordinators and consolidated leaders of the AECC 70% Survivorship Challenge - call 2026 to be funded.
- Declaration of compatibility/incompatibility.
- Start and end date of the AECC 70% Survivorship Challenge – call 2026.
- Amount of funding granted and form of payment.
- Achievement of the objectives indicated in the AECC 70% Survivorship Challenge – call 2026.
- Composition of the AECC 70% Survivorship Challenge – call 2026 steering committee and SAB. Frequency of meetings, functions, and positions.
- Key performance indicators of the AECC 70%Survivorship Challenge – call 2026.

- Non-existence of an employment-based contractual or other relationship between the researchers included in the research project and the FCAECC.

9. Project Monitoring

At the start of the AECC 70% Survivorship Challenge -call 2026, the FCAECC will provide the coordinating institution with instructions on the required monitoring and dissemination guidelines. In addition, it must provide any information the FCAECC may request at any time during the year.

The technical monitoring reports and general management of the grant will be done in the GMS.

If the consortium does not successfully complete the objectives planned for the first milestone, this can result in the interruption of the grant and unspent funds will be returned to the FCAECC.
Any substantial changes between the full proposal and the project monitoring (i.e., the composition of the consortia, objectives of the project, etc.) must be communicated in advance and will have to be expressly approved by the FCAECC.

Scientific Monitoring

The project will be monitored in a milestone-manner, by assessing the project KPIs (Key Performance Indicators) and the subsequent action plan for the following milestone.

Annual meetings of the SAB with the Project Steering Committee and the FCAECC Manager will be mandatory. This meeting will be required to establish the objectives and action plan of the following annuity.

The action plan for the following milestone shall be evaluated by the FCAECC for approval.

Moreover, the consortium will also provide a scientific and economic report per milestone informing of the obtained results, evolution of the work packages, updated structure of the consortium and incurred costs of the project.

In addition, each program will have a FCAECC Manager who will be in constant contact with the Scientific and Administrative Project Managers.

Awarded projects must comply with the FCAECC scientific integrity policy and open access policy. All results must be shared in an open-label manner in accordance with the criteria specified in the document "AECC Scientific Foundation Open Access Policy", except in justified cases. This is particularly so when the institution/s envisages that the results may be subject to commercial exploitation and, where applicable, protection and/or registration as intellectual or industrial property or industrial secret and duly justifies this to the FCAECC.

Economic Monitoring

At the end of each milestone, the coordinating applicant institution must present the economic justification of the expenses and supporting documents as detailed in the agreement formalising the awarding of the grant.

The coordinating applicant institution will conduct an internal review of annual expenditure and its justification will be outsourced to an external auditor appointed by the centre (auditor registered in the ROAC Register of Accounts Auditors) who will issue an annual certificate detailing all expenses included in the proposal, according to the FCAECC template. The cost of this auditor is included as an eligible expense within this call (see the 'Cost Guidance' document) and the auditor must therefore issue an invoice for fees for the review of funded expenses.

The project will be initially funded with 2m€ that should be spent in 12-18 months from project initiation. After this period an evaluation committee will decide upon the excellence of the project, the performance of the consortium and their potential to successfully drive to success the project, in order to proceed with the funding.

At the end of the grant, FCAECC will review the expenses incurred throughout the project and perform a reconciliation of the expenditure for the management of unused funds, if any. Unused funds must be returned to the FCAECC within 60 days of the end of the grant.

Divulgative monitoring

At the end of each milestone, and whenever required by the FCAECC, the coordinating applicant institution will submit a monitoring report regarding the funded AECC 70% Survivorship Challenge – call 2026. This will include the objectives and progress of the program in a common non-technical language that can be understood by the general public, as detailed in the agreement to formalise the grant.

10. Dissemination

The granted project, in any oral or written communication and/or results obtained with the grant, must cite the FCAECC as the organisation responsible for financial support for the funded AECC 70% Survivorship Challenge – call 2026.

In addition, the project managers must send a copy of the scientific articles once they are expressly accepted and prior to publication in order to coordinate a joint press release with the research centre. Failure to comply with this condition may give grounds for early termination.

The coordinator/s may be required to participate in results dissemination events.

At the end of the project development period, the coordinator/s may be required to participate in a results communication symposium organised by the FCAECC.

11. Early termination of the grant

In case of failure to submit information required by FCAECC (such as letters from the Research Ethics Committees, follow-up reports etc.), or in case of false documentation or data inaccuracy during the application process or the duration of

the grant, FCAECC reserves its right to terminate the awarded grant, and all unspent funds will be returned to the FCAECC.

If major discrepancies between the initially proposed objectives and the project progress are observed during the monitoring of the research project (i.e. deadlines, performance, results), FCAECC will study the circumstances in which this has occurred, and take the legal actions deemed appropriate.

This also applies if the awardee and/or the research centre fail to meet their obligations set out in the agreement and employment contract.

If the coordinating institution and/or the coordinator/s receive approval for funding from another organization for the same purpose as the one provided by AECC 70% Survivorship Challenge – call 2026 they will be obliged to immediately renounce to the AECC 70% Survivorship Challenge - call 2026 grant, unless FCAECC is informed in advance, and it expressly authorised it. FCAECC reserves the right to request the return of the amounts provided in the event of non-compliance with this obligation.

Should the awardee present a waiver of the grant, this must be reasoned and in accordance with it, FCAECC will claim back the unspent budget.

12. Protection of personal data

In accordance with current legislation, applicants are informed that the data provided will be processed by FCAECC whose contact details are as follows:

- TAX ID: G-28655033
- Registered Office: Calle Teniente Coronel Noreña, 30, 28045, Madrid
- E-mail: dpo_fc@contraelcancer.es

Participation in the call for proposals

By participating in this call, applicants agree that FCAECC, as Data Controller ("Controller"), will process their data for the following purposes:

- Manage the participation of applicants in the call, the development of the same and the designation of the beneficiary.
- Manage the publicity of the call and its results through the websites, social networks owned by FCAECC and AECC, as well as on the website www.contraelcancer.es/es/investigacion where the official list of beneficiaries and alternates will be published.
- Comply with the legal and/or tax obligations that may be applicable to FCAECC as organizer and funder.
- Manage the sending of information about activities, events and calls that FCAECC manages or in which FCAECC collaborates unless the applicant shows his/her opposition to such processing.
- To carry out anonymized analysis for statistical purposes.
- To carry out surveys of quality and satisfaction for improvement of FCAECC management.

The Controller will only collect the following personal data from the data subjects (which will be both applicants themselves, and the members of their scientific team):

- Identification data: name, surname, ID card number, date of birth.
- Contact data: telephone number, postal address, e-mail address.
- Academic and professional data: professional career, training, degrees, student record, professional experience, membership in professional associations, employment status, etc.

However, if the applicant is selected, the Controller may request additional information in order to proceed with the signing of the agreement that will detail the contractual relationship between FCAECC and the beneficiary.

In case the applicant is not selected as a beneficiary, the personal data recorded in the application form will be retained for a period of 1 year and may be used by FCAECC in order to keep you informed about activities and news of FCAECC and the AECC that may be of interest to the applicant.

However, the scientific proposal, including the identification data of the professionals included in it, will be kept for a period of 5 years, in order to ensure and verify that the project has not been submitted previously.

The personal data of the beneficiaries will be kept for the time necessary to carry out the purposes for which they were collected. Subsequently, if necessary, FCAECC will keep the information blocked for the legally established periods, proceeding to the effective deletion after that period.

Obligation to provide the data

The requested data will be mandatory (unless otherwise indicated in the required field) to fulfil the established purposes. Therefore, if the applicant does not provide them or does not provide them correctly, the applicant will not be able to participate in this call.

Legitimacy of the treatment

The processing of the applicant's data by the Data Controller is based on the execution of the precontractual relationship.

In the event that the applicant is selected as a beneficiary, the data provided will be processed on the basis of the execution of the contract to be concluded between the parties.

The processing of the data for the sending of information on activities, events and calls managed or in which FCAECC collaborates, will be based on the legitimate interest of FCAECC, unless the applicant objects to such processing.

Likewise, the processing of data for anonymized analysis for statistical purposes and quality and satisfaction surveys for improvement purposes will be based on the legitimate interest of FCAECC.

Communication of data

The applicant's data may be communicated:

- To the **Scientific Evaluation Committee (SEC)** for the purpose of assessing the application, being FCAECC at all times the Data Controller of the applicants' data. The application can also be evaluated by regulatory authorities or valued by patients, survivors and/or relatives of cancer belonging to the AECC Patient Advocate Program.
- To suppliers necessary for the proper fulfilment of legal obligations and / or the purposes indicated above, being FCAECC at all times the Data Controller of the applicants' data.
- To the Association with registered office at Calle Teniente Coronel Noreña 30, 28045, Madrid, Tax ID: G- 28197564; to carry out the publications related to the call and the results through the websites and social networks of which it is the owner, being FCAECC at all times the Data Controller of the applicants' data.
- To the Public Administration as required by law.

The recipients indicated in this section may be located inside or outside the European Economic Area, and in the latter case, international data transfers are duly legitimized and the parties ensure that the appropriate mechanisms recognized by the applicable data protection regulations are implemented In this case, the international data transfers that can be carried out outside the European economic area, FCAECC will carry them out with the prior regularization of the same through one of the mechanisms regulated in Regulation 679/2016, on data protection. To obtain more information about the identification of third parties as well as the arrangements to regularize the international data transfer, you can contact dpo_fc@contraelcancer.es

Data Security

FCAECC has implemented the necessary technical and organizational measures to ensure the security of your Personal Data and prevent its alteration, loss, unauthorized processing or access, given the state of technology, the nature of the data stored and the risks to which they are exposed.

Applicant's Responsibility

Applicants guarantee that the data provided, if any, are true, accurate, complete, and up to date, being liable for any damage or loss, direct or indirect, that may be caused as a result of the breach of such obligation.

If the data provided, if any, belong to a third party, the Participant/Interested Party responsible for completing the application guarantees that he/she has informed said third party of the aspects contained in these rules and obtained his/her authorization to provide his/her data to the Responsible Party for the aforementioned purposes.

If the personal data of those who participate in the call were uncertain, false or incomplete or not updated, FCAECC reserves the right to reject the application, being free from any liability in this regard.

Data Subjects' rights.

At any time, the data subject may exercise their rights of access, rectification, deletion, limitation of processing, opposition, revocation, portability of their data, right to withdraw the consent given, as set forth in the General Data Protection Regulation, by sending a letter to FCAECC indicating as reference the name of the call to the following email address: dpo_fc@contraelcancer.es . Likewise, if they consider that their rights are not being adequately addressed, participants may exercise their right to request the protection of the Spanish Data Protection Agency.

13. Final

Circumstances or questions not foreseen or doubts that may arise in the interpretation of the terms and conditions of this call will be resolved at the discretion of FCAECC and its decision will not be subject to appeal.

For the resolution of **doubts about the call** for applications, please contact FCAECC:

FUNDACION CIENTIFICA DE LA ASOCIACION ESPAÑOLA CONTRA EL CANCER
C/ Teniente Coronel Noreña, 30
28045 Madrid Tel. 900 100 036
fundacion.cientifica@contraelcancer.es

If you have any **doubts about the online platform** for the management of grants, please contact: soporteGMS@contraelcancer.es