The Associate Board of Lurie Cancer Center is a group of young professionals dedicated to advancing cancer research, education, patient care, and community benefit by funding cutting-edge research at Lurie Cancer Center. Annual fundraising efforts by the Board will support the work of Lurie Cancer Center investigators.

The Board is soliciting applications to support “high risk, high reward” projects that have the potential to drive novel and innovative research avenues with the aim of saving lives. Basic and translational research studies will be considered for funding. Collaborative studies are encouraged, and the funding is intended to lay the foundation for applications for R01 or equivalent grants. A single annual award of $100,000 will be made following submission of the application, a research presentation to the Board, and a grant review of all applications by Board members. Recipients of the award will be known as the Associate Board Innovative Research Scholars. The Innovative Research Award is a philanthropic gift, not sponsored research.

Applicants, who must be members of the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University, should submit:

1. A ≤ 2-page proposal consisting of background and significance, preliminary data (not required, include if available), purpose/specific aims, brief research design/methods overview, and future directions/next steps. A section describing the novel and innovative features of the proposed study as well as a section describing the project’s potential to impact patients and the LCC should also be included. References may be included on additional pages.
   - Note: use of images, schematics, and figures to enrich/facilitate reader understanding is highly encouraged.

2. A budget and budget justification; salary support can be requested for postdocs/technicians only.

3. A summary of current research support/funding for the applicant. For each funding source please list grant number and organization, grant title, & funding amount.

4. A summary of current research support/funding for the specific project proposed herein. For each funding source please list grant number and organization, grant title, & funding amount dedicated to this project.

**Note: this proposal should be written for an audience of non-experts (i.e., the Associate Board members)**