RESEARCH REVIEW PROCESS





Reviewers receive training and on-boarding in preparation for reviewing research proposals.

Reviewers sign a confidentiality agreement and provide a list of their conflicts of interest (for example, researchers they have worked with or may know personally.)





Reviewers are assigned research proposals to review in our grants management software. Reviewers review each proposal and provide brief written reports.

As reviewers read proposals, they consider topics and questions such as:



Understandability

Is the public summary written in non-technical language?

Relevance & Potential Impact

Is the proposed research relevant to cancer?

Research Team & Environment

Is there evidence that patients, survivors, and caregivers have been and will be engaged throughout the life of the research project?

Implementation & Knowledge Mobilization

Does the research proposal consider how knowledge may be shared with the community?

Research Strategy

Is the scientific approach and rationale for the project well described?



Reviewers consider the incorporation of equity, diversity, and inclusion throughout the research proposal.

Reviewers attend a panel meeting to collectively discuss and review research proposals and rank them for funding. A Scientific Officer records the discussion and a Chair helps direct the entire panel meeting.





Ahead of the panel meeting, proposals that are less competitive are identified for triage, meaning only reviewer reports are sent to these applicants and the proposal is not discussed further.

At the panel meeting, the rest of the proposals are discussed and scored. (For more on how research proposals are discussed and scored, see the Panel Meeting Infographic.)





Reviewers rank order proposals to indicate "Priority" and "Fundable" funding lines. The Chair of the panel review meeting collates all these rankings and presents the information to the Advisory Council on Research, who make recommendations on how many and which proposals to fund.