

## American Board of Colon and Rectal Surgery (ABCERS) Foundation Research Grant

### **Purpose**

The American Board of Colon and Rectal Surgery (ABCERS) Foundation invites applicants to submit proposals for its research grant program. This program is aimed at supporting high-quality research in the field of colon and rectal surgery certification. The goal of this funding opportunity is to advance knowledge regarding the process and/or value of board certification in colon and rectal surgery.

Research areas of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Effect of Board Certification on clinical outcomes
- Effect of Board Certification on professional behavior and malpractice claims
- Effect of Board Certification on research productivity
- Best Practices in Written and Oral Board Exam Delivery
- Continuing medical education curriculum development
- Impact of In-Training Examination on Certifying Examinations
- Longitudinal analysis of diplomates
- Effect of diversity on evaluations and certification
- Physical wellness and burnout
- Competency-Based Medical Education in Colon and Rectal Surgery
- Eliminating Implicit Bias in Written and Oral Board Exams

### **Key Dates**

- **Application Deadline:** August 1, 2026
- **Review and Notification Date:** November 2026

### **Funding**

- Up to \$20,000 for a one-year project.
- Grant awards may be funded in whole or in part, limited project grants (LPG) may not be awarded every year.
- No consortium/contractual arrangements with collaborating organizations allowed.
- Limited to direct costs only. Grant does not support salary for the Principal Investigator.

### **Award Eligibility**

- Research must be investigator-initiated and hypothesis-driven.
- Research must be conducted within the United States or Canada.
- ABCERS diplomates are eligible to apply.
- General Surgery Residents, Colorectal Surgery Residents, and early career faculty can apply.

## Award Expectations

- The Principal Investigator must submit an interim written report to the ABCRS Foundation at the six-month mark of the grant period.
- A final written report must be submitted within six months of grant completion.
- Awardees are encouraged to present project findings at appropriate scientific meetings such as the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons (ASCRS) conference.

## Grant Review and Selection Process

Applications will be reviewed by the ABCRS Foundation Research Grant Review Committee composed of five members, including:

- ABCRS Foundation Officers (ABCERS President, ABCERS President-Elect, and ABCERS Executive Director)
- Two additional ad hoc members

Grants will be evaluated and awarded based on the following criteria:

1. **Significance and relevance** to the ABCRS mission
2. **Investigator(s)** qualifications and experience
3. **Innovation** of the research approach
4. **Methodology** and scientific approach
5. **Research environment and feasibility**

## Submission Instructions

Applicants must submit a **single PDF document** via email to the ABCRS Foundation at [foundationgrant@abcrs.org](mailto:foundationgrant@abcrs.org). The application must adhere to the following formatting requirements:

- Font size **minimum 11-point**
- Margins **at least 0.5 inches** on all sides

The application must include:

1. **Title Page:** Title of grant, investigator(s)' name, title, and institution.
2. **General Information Form:** Included as Appendix A.
3. **One-Page Summary** with Specific Aims.
4. **Research Strategy** (maximum 4 pages): Include significance, innovation, and research methodology.
5. **References:** professional, minimum 2.
6. **Resources/Environment** description.
7. **Budget Narrative and Detailed Budget.**
8. **NIH-Format Biosketch** for all investigators.

## Scoring Criteria

Each application will be evaluated using the **ABCERS Grant Scoring Form**, which assesses the following categories on a scale from 1 (best) to 5 (worst):

- Significance/Relevance to ABCERS Mission
- Investigator(s) qualifications
- Innovation
- Scientific Approach
- Research Environment and Feasibility

Reviewers will provide comments for each criterion to guide funding decisions.

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For any questions or further information, please contact our staff at [foundationgrant@abcrs.org](mailto:foundationgrant@abcrs.org)

We look forward to your submissions and the opportunity to advance colon and rectal surgery research through this funding initiative.

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Appendix A: General Information Form

Date of Application:

Name of the Principal Investigator:

Title:

Institution:

Mailing Address:

Email:

Phone Number:

Project Title:

Grant Amount Requested:

Total Project Budget:

Project Start Date:

Project End Date:

Population Served:

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*Signature, Principal Investigator*

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*Printed Name and Title*

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*Date*