

Dr. Ralph and Marian Falk Medical Research Trust
Catalyst Awards Program

The Catalyst Research Award Program provides up to **\$350,000 in seed funding over one to two years**, to support *high-risk, high-reward translational research that addresses critical scientific and therapeutic roadblocks and can be transferred to clinical practice in the near term*. Funded programs will begin November 30, 2025.

The Program has three principal areas of focus:

- Identification of biological markers of disease activity and progression,
- Identification of targets for therapeutic interventions, and
- 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.

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

- Register at <https://redcap.link/PhilanthropyRSVP> by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, May 7.
- Submit the following documents to <https://redcap.link/PhilanthropySubmission> by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, May 14.
 - Specific Aims, brief statement on significance, innovation, and environment/investigator. This should be no more than two pages long.
 - NIH biosketch
 - Project Budget

The internal review committee will select two applications to advance to the external competition by Tuesday, May 20; 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 3 by 1pm, CST through their online portal.

For more information, including the Foundation's review criteria, project examples, and budget requirements or restrictions, [follow this link](#).

Contact [Madeline R. Beauregard](#) with questions.