



## UF Health Cancer Center Membership

The University of Florida Health Cancer Center (UFHCC) exists to organize promote and support the growth and enrichment of all areas of cancer research at the University of Florida. Cancer Center membership is available and encouraged for all University of Florida investigators holding a faculty appointment and actively engaged, or demonstrate interest, in cancer-focused basic, clinical, translational, and population-based research in alignment with Cancer Center's mission and strategic plan. Eligibility and privileges are based on the applicant's current level of cancer-focused research and affiliation with UFHCC. Research activities of the center are organized into defined programmatic areas. Current UFHCC research programs are Mechanisms of Oncogenesis (MOO); Cancer Therapeutics and Host Response (CTHR); and, Cancer Population Sciences (CPS).

### Application Process

The current Cancer Center application is located on the UF Health Cancer Center website ([cancer.ufl.edu](http://cancer.ufl.edu)). On the Research Programs page is a complete description of our Research Programs, Leaders, Specific Aims and current membership. Faculty who complete and submit an online application with all requested information fulfilled will be evaluated for membership on an individual basis.

Before you submit your application please be sure to read and understand the complete Membership Policy, and each program's mission and research focus. Please complete all required fields, including which research program you feel your research best aligns with, and submit the following attachments:

1. Current NIH biosketch that includes the public myNCBI link
2. Current Curriculum Vitae
3. A completed Cancer Relevance statement form.

The cancer relevance statement should highlight how your current research is cancer focused. The link to cancer should be clearly stated and should contain sufficient details on impactful publications, research, and how the work is related to cancer or contributes to the overall mission of the Cancer Center. This is necessary in order for reviewers to get a full understanding of your past and current research contributions.

Submitted applications from faculty will be reviewed by Cancer Center Research Administration to ensure completeness and will be forwarded to the Deputy Director for initial review. The Deputy Director, or designee, will send the application to the Associate Director and Program Leader(s) of the program most relevant to current research interests indicated in the application for approval of programmatic research alignment and membership level recommendation. The candidate's application will then be presented by the program's Associate Director at the UFHCC weekly Executive Committee meeting and a recommendation for Center membership and membership level will be made to the Cancer Center Director. The Director has final authority on approval, disapproval, or termination of membership. The new member will be contacted by the Cancer Center Director, Program Leader(s) and the Cancer Center Research Administration office to welcome the member into the Center. The Program Leader will announce the new member at the following monthly Senior Leadership meeting.

### Membership Categories

The two categories of membership are Core Member and Member. An individual's level of membership is determined initially, and assessed, at a minimum annually thereafter, based on the eligibility requirements defined by Cancer Center Leadership, as described below:



## ❖ Core Member

Core Members are full-time faculty\* who are actively participating in basic, translational, clinical, or population-based cancer research on a regular and ongoing basis, and are making contributions to the mission of the Center through their cancer-related research programs. Criteria for Core Membership include the following:

- Performs cancer research or cancer care as a major focus of their professional career;
- Either (a) have current extramural support for their cancer related activities (e.g., as a PI/MPI of a cancer-focused grant or have been funded within the past year), or (b) serve as PI/MPI of an active investigator-initiated interventional trial (IIT);
- Serves as the national chair of a National Clinical Trial Network (NCTN) protocol;
- Holds key scientific UFHCC leadership positions;
- Has at least three-five peer-reviewed papers published within the past five years that are significantly cancer-related.

## ❖ Member

Members are full-time faculty\* who are developing cancer-related research projects or collaborations, senior faculty changing career focus, active clinical investigators principally involved in cancer patient care activities, faculty who may play key roles in ongoing advising or consulting activities through a supporting role, or who otherwise contribute to the mission of the Cancer Center, but do not meet the criteria for Core Membership. Members typically meet the following criteria:

- Play a significant scientific role as co-investigators in support of externally funded research projects with other Core Members;
- Who have active membership in scientific meetings organized by cancer-related associations (e.g., AACR, ASCO, ONS, ACS, ASH, ASTRO, etc.) and have presented nationally in the last two years prior to applying for membership;
- Clinical researchers actively collaborating with Core Members, but have themselves not developed clinical protocols;
- Clinical researchers who contribute to patient accrual in cancer-related clinical trials;
- Contribute to furthering the Cancer Center's mission through community engagement, education and/or philanthropic activities.

\*Non-Faculty or individuals who are engaging in cancer focused research with NIH funding that do not meet the above outlined criteria, or who provide significant contributions to the Cancer Center mission will be reviewed and considered on a case by case basis and evaluated for membership at the discretion of the Director.

## Benefits and Privileges of Membership

Benefits for members are based on the current membership level assignment, which can change between the two levels based on individuals active cancer focused research activities. Based on research interests, all UFHCC members are encouraged to actively participate in one of three UFHCC research programs: Mechanisms of Oncogenesis (MOO); Cancer Therapeutics and Host Response (CTHR); and, Cancer Population Sciences (CPS).

All UFHCC members are invited to participate in regularly scheduled UFHCC scientific seminars, retreats, and symposia. Each program conducts monthly research meetings and all members are encouraged to attend and participate in efforts of the Program Leadership to stimulate collaboration among program members, and between the different programs.



## **UFHCC Core Member Benefits:**

UFHCC Core member benefits include ALL Member benefits as well as:

- Access and Co-Pay support of UFHCC-recognized shared resources and facilities

## **UFHCC Member Benefits:**

- Access to UFHCC program meetings
- Access to UFHCC Research Pilot programs
  - UFHCC twice annual traditional Pilot program
  - UFHCC Special Call Announcements
- Access to UFHCC Research Program Pilot program
- Access to UFHCC Bridge Award program
- Access to Florida Consortium of National Cancer Institute (NCI) Centers Program funding opportunities
- Participation with disease site-specific clinical practice and research teams
- Clinical trials management services
- Collaborative funding opportunities
- LOI, grant and publication support
- Scientific Enrichment and Scholastic opportunities:
  - UFHCC Oncology Grand Rounds
  - “Topics in Cancer”, basic science lecture series
  - General membership retreats and symposia
- Community engagement opportunities

## **Term of Membership**

Membership in the UF Health Cancer Center is reviewed annually by the UFHCC Senior Leadership. Recommendations for reappointment of members will be presented and voted upon by the Executive Committee. The Director will then make a decision on approval based on the information presented in the process. Adjustment to membership level are made on an ongoing basis following the same process.

## **Responsibilities of Membership**

Members of the UF Health Cancer Center are expected to actively participate in cancer-focused research and collaborate with other Cancer Center members. Responsibilities of membership include the following:

- Participation in cancer center leadership opportunities:
  - Service on committees
  - Scientific leadership for shared resources
  - Clinical trial participation
  - Research Program engagement and Working Group involvement
- Annually submit an updated NIH Biosketch
- Acknowledge membership in UFHCC, the use of Center space, Shared Resources, and other assistance as appropriate, in research publications
- Participation in symposia, seminars, and presentation of original science



- Commitment to interdisciplinary research efforts
  - Co-authoring with UFHCC colleagues in peer reviewed publications and grant applications, where applicable
- Allocation of the Center portion of the indirect cost returns to the Cancer Center;
- Provision of copies of cancer related grant/contract applications to facilitate Center planning for research programs and interdisciplinary initiatives
- Provision of periodic updates of publications, research support, and other information that may be needed to fulfill requirements for NCI reporting requirements
- Submission of all clinical research protocols through the UFHCC Clinical Trials Office and for review by the SRMC (Scientific Review and Monitoring Committee) and DISC (Data Integrity & Safety Committee)
- Participation in Research Program meetings and retreats
- Service on Cancer Center committees

The Cancer Center Research Administration team will maintain membership information and facilitate recruitment of new members.