

Sally Crossing AM
Award for an Outstanding Outcome in Cancer Research

Guidelines for Nominees
Grant Round 2026

Background

This Award is dedicated to the memory of the late Sally Crossing AM (1946-2016). Sally was a pioneer and tireless advocate for consumer involvement in cancer research. Cancer Council NSW and Cancer Voices NSW acknowledge the extraordinary support of the Belalberi Foundation and the Crossing family in conferring this award.

The Sally Crossing AM Award for an Outstanding Outcome in Cancer Research (individual award) rewards outstanding achievement in cancer research, the inclusion of consumers in research, and the delivery of significant benefit to the cancer community.

The award recipient will receive \$75,000 to further their research endeavours.

2. Eligibility criteria

The Sally Crossing AM Award for an Outstanding Outcome in Cancer Research will recognise a researcher who satisfies the following criteria:

1. Has achieved a significant outcome in the field of cancer research that benefits the community or has contributed meaningfully toward this benefit.
2. Involved consumers in this research and can demonstrate that the consumers were involved throughout the duration of the research.
3. Received Cancer Council NSW competitive research funding for this research as lead chief investigator (Chief Investigator A), within 10 years of award.*
4. Is an active cancer researcher affiliated with an NHMRC Administering Institution.

** Including grants awarded through the Cancer Australia's Priority-driven Collaborative Cancer Research Scheme (funded in part/full by Cancer Council NSW).*

The Award is not intended to recognise a researcher's career achievements; the award is in recognition of a discrete research outcome that has made a significant impact on cancer prevention, diagnosis, treatment, care, survivorship (including quality of life), policy, or practice.

Cancer Council NSW values the community's perspective on the conduct of research and contribution to research funding decisions. Sally Crossing AM was a pioneer in the field of consumer involvement in research and made significant contributions to our consumer involvement framework, ensuring that meaningful involvement of community members in research can be achieved. Nominees for The Sally Crossing AM Award for an Outstanding Outcome in Cancer Research must be able to demonstrate how consumers have been involved in the research that led to the significant research outcome.

3. Nomination process

Researchers are to self-nominate for the award and must address the eligibility criteria.

Applications will only be accepted via our online nomination form.

4. Responsibilities of award recipients

4.1 Use of funds

The award total will be \$75,000 (excluding GST). The Administering Institution is required to administer the funds in accordance with the terms and conditions set out in the letter of award and accepts financial responsibility.

Funds may be used for any research purpose including:

1. Direct research costs
 - Personnel e.g. research assistants, technical officers, programmers, modellers, etc.
 - Equipment
 - Maintenance e.g. consumables (under \$1000), software, computer time, etc.
2. Travel associated with research
 - accessing equipment at other sites outside NSW
 - travel for research personnel, postgraduate students or postdoctoral researchers to be trained in techniques not available in Australia that are essential for the research
3. Supporting the implementation of research informed changes in health and health systems
4. Dissemination of the findings of the research.

Funds may not be used to cover any overhead costs levied by the Administering Institution.

4.2 Reporting

The Award duration is for one year. The successful applicant will be required to provide a Final Report and an Income and Expenditure Statement, detailing how the Award funds have been used. These documents must be submitted no later than 12 months after the end of the term

The report will be shared with the Belalberi Foundation and may be made available to the general public on Cancer Council NSW's website or used in other materials for promotional purposes.

5. Research Awards Event

Short-listed nominees will be invited to Cancer Council's Research Awards event held in 2026. The Award will be presented by the Belalberi Foundation at the Research Awards event. No award may be offered if the threshold criteria are not met.

6. Support for Cancer Council

Nominees may be required to participate in interviews, filming and photography by Cancer Council NSW, Cancer Voices NSW and/or media in the lead up to, and following, the Awards event. Within reason, it is expected nominees will be available for these purposes.

7. Enquiries

Enquiries can be directed to research@nswcc.org.au.