

Overview of the Distinguished Cancer Clinicians and Scientists Program

At the Forefront of Cancer Research in Georgia

The Georgia Cancer Coalition established the Distinguished Cancer Clinicians and Scientists Program as the cornerstone of its research agenda. The goal of the program is to recruit leading and nationally renowned cancer clinicians and scientists to Georgia who are engaged in the most promising areas of cancer research.

The objectives of the program are to:

- Advance scientific discovery into the prevention, treatment, causes, and cures of cancer;
- Strengthen Georgia's research talent, capacity and infrastructure;
- Position Georgia as a national leader in cancer research;
- Maximize economic impact through increased grant funding, jobs, and commercialization.

The program is designed to assist Georgia's research universities, medical and nursing schools, and other institutions in recruiting top cancer researchers to Georgia from other states or countries. Institutions propose candidates to the Georgia Cancer Coalition in accordance with the terms of a Request for Applications issued by the Coalition. The applications are reviewed by a Scientific Review Committee, composed of experts in various fields of study, and an Advisory Review Committee, composed of representatives from stakeholders throughout the state. This review process has been designed to verify scientific achievement and to ensure the candidate's strategic fit with the goals of the applying institution, the Coalition, and the National Cancer Institute (NCI) FY 08 Strategic Priorities. Both Review Committees evaluate the candidates' achievements relative to securing grant funding, publishing in peer-reviewed journals, giving presentations at scientific meetings, and receiving patents for discoveries.

Successful candidates carry the title of Georgia Cancer Coalition Distinguished Cancer Scholar, and receive funding ranging from \$50,000 - \$150,000 per year for five years depending on the level of appointment, with a dollar-for-dollar institutional match.

For more information on [GCC's the Georgia Cancer Coalition's Distinguished Cancer Clinicians and Scientists program](#), visit

“The Distinguished Cancer Scholar funds provided by the Georgia Cancer Coalition were extremely helpful in establishing my gene therapy program here in Georgia. I am certain that without these funds I likely would not have moved my research group to Emory.”

– **H. Trent Spencer, PhD**
Director of Gene Therapy
Aflac Cancer Center and
Blood Disorders Services
Emory University



*Mobilizing Georgia.
Immobilizing Cancer.*

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The Georgia Cancer Coalition is an independent, not-for-profit organization that unites government agencies, academic institutions, civic groups, corporations and health care organizations in a concerted effort to strengthen cancer prevention, research and treatment in Georgia, with the ultimate goal of making Georgia one of the nation's premier states for cancer care. Our mission is to reduce the number of cancer-related deaths in Georgia.