

# CRIHM Young Investigator Award Scheme

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## Introduction

The Cancer Research & Innovation Hub Malta (CRIHM) is launching the CRIHM Young Investigator Award Scheme: a competitive initiative designed to support promising early-career scientists in Malta working in cancer research. This scheme will offer up to €30,000 per award, with a total funding envelope of approximately €120,000 for this call.

The programme aims to accelerate scientific discovery, foster international collaboration, and enhance Malta's research capacity in oncology by enabling researchers to access specialised resources, training, and lab environments.

## Objectives

- Support original and impactful cancer research led by early-career investigators.
- Facilitate access to cutting-edge technologies, methods, and collaborative networks abroad.
- Build Malta's next generation of independent cancer researchers.
- Fund consumables, reagents, and training activities that enhance project outcomes.

## Funding Framework

- Total budget available: €120,000
- Maximum funding per award: €30,000
- Project duration: Up to 24 months
- Eligible costs:
  - Research consumables and reagents
  - Travel and accommodation for training or collaboration
  - Fees for training programmes or laboratory placements
  - Minor equipment and software necessary for project delivery
  - Personal financial remuneration – stipend (for PhD students)

## Eligibility Criteria

- PhD students currently enrolled in a Maltese institution and actively conducting research related to cancer.
- Postdoctoral researchers who completed their PhD within 24 months of the application deadline.
- Applicants must be affiliated with a recognised academic or research institution in Malta.

### **Application and Selection Process**

Applications will undergo a peer review by independent experts in the field. Selection will be based on:

- Scientific merit and innovation
- Feasibility and clarity of the proposed plan
- Relevance to cancer research
- Applicant's potential for future leadership in research

### **Expected Impact**

- Accelerated research outputs of international relevance
- Strengthened expertise through international training and mentorship
- Contribution to national research excellence in line with CRIHM's strategy

### **Application Components**

Applicants must submit:

1. Proposal (max 3 pages):

- Project summary and cancer relevance
- Clear budget with justification
- Timeline of activities

2. CV (max 2 pages)

3. Letter of support from a supervisor, mentor, or host lab abroad