



2026-2027 CARG Leaders Program Request for Applications (RFA)

Thank you for your interest in the CARG Leaders Program (CLP), which seeks to:

- Build the leadership capacity of CARG members to serve as effective advocates for CARG and geri-onc in national organizations, their disciplines, and home institutions.
- Deepen the CARG “bench” and broaden the next generation of mid-career faculty leaders able and willing to step up and lead CARG in the future.

Please review this RFA carefully so you are aware of what is required to complete a full application. If you have any questions about the RFA or process, please email: CARinG@coh.org

All applications should be submitted via email to: CARinG@coh.org by 5pm PDT on August 15, 2026.

Program Structure

The CLP is a one-year program that will start January 2027 and end one year later with presentation to the CARG External Advisory Board (EAB). It will include up to six early/mid-career leaders. Priority will be given to promising participants based on their connection to CARG’s vision, their participation in CARG activities, and research, clinical and other achievements to date.

The CLP will include:

- **Individual learning plans**
Each participant will set out core learning objectives, specific to their personal and professional development.
- **In person kick-off meeting in Duarte, CA**
All participants are required to join the CLP’s initial, two-day, in-person meeting, held in January at City of Hope near Los Angeles.
- **Learning/mentoring pods**
The CLP cohort will be split into two smaller groups or pods. Convened via Zoom, each pod would be facilitated by a senior mentoring team including 2-3 CARG Internal Advisory Board members and a CARG Principal Investigator liaison. Mentors will support participants in working on the CARG collaborative project (noted below) and facilitate access to additional resources supportive of each participant’s learning plan.
- **Interactive, didactic learning sessions**
Content for up to 8 sessions will be driven by results from a survey of CARG members, the needs of each cohort, and the collaborative project. With the exception of the initial, in person kick-off, sessions will be conducted digitally via Zoom. We expect sessions to include content related to some or all of the following:

- Vision, strategy and change management
 - Network and team building
 - Communications in clinical settings (with patients, families, other clinicians)
 - Translating research for policy, practice and community audiences
 - Administrative leadership re: committees and programs (e.g., meeting management, managing difficult conversations, structuring initiatives over time)
 - Research management (i.e., running a research operation (accounting, personnel, communications, etc.))
 - Patient engagement and promoting patient engagement
- **A collaborative capstone project focused on improving CARG**
This project will be identified by CLP participants in collaboration with CARG senior leadership (CARG’s Principal Investigators and Internal Advisory Board (IAB) members) and focus on an issue critical to CARG’s short-, mid- or long-term sustainability. CLP participants will put their didactic training to work on this project through their learning/mentoring pods. The cohort will make a final presentation this project to CARG senior leaders and the CARG External Advisory Board (EAB), as well as to the broader CARG community.

Eligibility to Apply and Participate

The CARG Leaders Program is open to applicants affiliated with U.S. based institutions. As this program is supported by an NIH-funded national infrastructure grant (R33 mechanism), participation must align with NIH policies governing domestic research activities.

Accordingly, applicants should be based at eligible U.S. institutions to fully participate in program activities. International investigators are welcome to engage with CARG and may participate as collaborators on projects led by eligible U.S. based participants; however, they are not eligible to apply as primary participants in the program.

To be eligible for the CLP, you must:

- Be an active CARG member;
- Be an MD, DO (or equivalent), or PhD;
- Have 5-10 years of faculty experience/within 5-10 years of completion of subspecialty training – with exceptions for “life circumstances;”
- Available to join the two-day kick off meeting in the first quarter of 2027; and
- Willing to participate in monthly leadership meetings.



Application

Please address an email with the subject line: **CLP Application from [your name]** to: CARinG@coh.org with the following information.

- **Name**
- **Institution**
- **Department**
- **Degrees**
- **Final Subspecialty Training Completion Date**
- **Faculty Appointment Start Date**
- **Primary Address**
- **Primary Phone**
- **Primary Email**

Attach your CV, Statement of Interest, examples of your leadership experience, and answers to the short answer questions below as one attachment and your Letters of Support as additional attachments.

Curriculum Vitae (CV):

Limit to four pages. Submissions over the page limit will be rejected. Please include in the attachment to your application.

Statement of Interest:

Limit to 2 single spaced pages, 10-12 pt font, approximately 1,000-1,200 words. Submissions over the page limit will be rejected. Please include this statement in the attachment to your email application. The following should be addressed in the Statement of Interest:

- Briefly describe why you would like to join the CLP
- Provide an example that describes where you exhibited effective leadership.
- Provide a second example where your leadership did not generate the intended results or things did not go as well as you might have wished.
- Describe how your training, research, and other professional or nonprofessional experiences make you a strong candidate for the CLP.
- Address how participation in this program will benefit you, your community, your institution, and your career.

Short-Answer Questions

As part of the document attached to your application, list your activities and information for each of the following items:

- **Geri-Onc Leadership Activities:** Include past and current involvement in institutional activities, professional society activities, as well as honors and recognitions.
- **Civic and Volunteer Activities:** Include involvement in local community activities (civic involvement, non-professional society volunteer or leadership activities, etc.)
- **Current Practice Setting**



Letters of Support (2)

Applicants must include two letters of support endorsing their participation in the program. These can be part of a single attachment for the application or attached separately to your email application. These letters should include:

- A letter of support from your supervisor/senior member at your institution/practice endorsing your participation in the program, ability to participate in teams, past leadership experiences, and potential strengths as a leader.
- An additional letter of support from a current CARG member endorsing your application.

Selection Process

- CLP will select up to six applicants for the program.
- CARG will notify participants of their selection by October 15, 2026.
- All communications will be sent to the primary address noted in your application.

All questions about this RFA and its requirements can be addressed to: CARinG@coh.org

Appendix A

Program Timeline

Application period opens	June 15, 2026
Applications due	Aug 15, 2026, 5 PM PDT
Participants selected & notified	Oct 15, 2026
1.5 day kickoff meeting (at City of Hope, near Los Angeles) Includes introduction to the program, first pod meetings, and didactic sessions	Jan 21-22, 2027
Pod meeting (digital)	March 2027
Didactic session (digital)	April 2027
Pod meeting (digital)	May 2027
Didactic session (digital)	June 2027
Pod meeting (digital)	July 2027
Didactic session (digital)	Aug 2027
Pod meeting (digital)	Sept 2027
Capstone meeting (digital) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Didactic sessions • Presentation of final project/report to CARG leadership 	Oct 2027
Final project presentation to larger CARG community and appropriate Cores (digital)	Dec 2027