



CANCER PREVENTION AND
CPRIT
RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF TEXAS

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MISSION

The Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas (the Institute) is the state agency established to: create and expedite innovation in the area of cancer research and to enhance the potential for a medical or scientific breakthrough in the prevention of cancer and cures for cancer; attract, create, or expand research capabilities of public or private institutions of higher education and other public or private entities that will promote a substantial increase in cancer research and in the creation of high-quality new jobs in this state; and develop and implement the Texas Cancer Plan.

AGENCY OVERVIEW

In 2007, over 61 percent of Texas voters approved Proposition 15, the constitutional amendment that allows the State of Texas to issue \$3 billion in general obligations bonds over ten years to fund grants for cancer research and prevention and create the Institute. The Institute officially became a state agency on June 23, 2008, when the first Oversight Committee meeting was held in Austin, Texas.

On March 30, 2009, Bill Gimson became Executive Director of the Institute. Mr. Gimson recently retired as the chief operating officer, with 35 years of administrative experience from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. Al Gilman, M.D., Ph.D., renowned scientist and Nobel Laureate, was recently named Chief Scientific Officer. He assumes his duties in June 2009.

The Institute currently funds 16 prevention programs that focus on cancer awareness, education, and outreach. The legislation creating the Institute allows for up to 10 percent, or \$30 million, per year to be spent on cancer prevention and education.

THE INSTITUTE'S TEN RESEARCH FUNDING PRIORITIES

State law requires the Institute to prioritize cancer research proposals for funding that:

1. could lead to immediate or long-term medical and scientific breakthroughs in cancer prevention or cures;
2. strengthen and enhance fundamental science in cancer research;
3. ensure a comprehensive, coordinated approach to cancer research;
4. are interdisciplinary or interinstitutional;
5. address federal or other major research sponsors' priorities in emerging scientific or technology fields in cancer prevention or cures;
6. are matched with funds available by a private or nonprofit entity and institution or higher education institution;
7. are collaborative between any combination of private and nonprofit Texas entities, agencies, or institutions, and public or private institutions outside Texas;
8. have a demonstrable economic development benefit to Texas;
9. create new or enhance existing research superiority at Texas' higher education institutions by attracting additional or existing research superiority at institutions and other research entities outside Texas; and
10. expedite innovation and commercialization, by attracting, creating, or expanding private-sector entities that will drive a substantial increase in high-quality jobs, and increase higher education applied science or technology research capabilities.