

**Office of Cancer Health Equity
ARM Program Seeking New Research Advocates!
Spring and Fall 2022 Trainings**

Complete Interest Form Here: <https://redcap.link/kjsdfj5t>

PROGRAM FAQs

What does ARM stand for?

Advocates for Research in Medicine (ARM) is a research advocate program started by the Office of Cancer Health Equity at Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist Comprehensive Cancer Center (WFBCCC) in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

What is a research advocate?

According to the National Cancer Institute a research advocate:

- Serves as a link between patients and scientific researchers.
- Brings cancer patient perspective to scientific advisory boards and committees.
- Brings cancer patient perspective to research scientists (to inform research study and clinical trial design, implementation, patient/community engagement efforts in research, and sharing of research findings with patients/community).
- Helps other patients and families better understand cancer research and clinical trials and their benefits.

Why be a research advocate?

- To share experience and related expertise with cancer as a survivor, caregiver, and/or high risk individual.
- To represent the interests and perspectives of other cancer patients and survivors in research.
- To help make the research at the Wake Forest Baptist Comprehensive Cancer Center as inclusive as possible.

Who is eligible to be trained as an ARM Advocate?

- An individual more than 1 year after their most recent cancer diagnosis and who has completed initial treatment.
- Caregiver for someone more than 1 year after their most recent cancer diagnosis and who has completed initial treatment.
- Individual designated by their healthcare provider to be at “high risk” for cancer, for example due to an inherited or genetic predisposition.

- Individual proficient in written and spoken English (proficiency in other languages in addition to English welcomed, as advocacy for patients who are speakers of other languages is needed).
- Individual with internet access and ability to read and respond to email communication.

Do interested persons need to have received cancer treatment at Wake Forest Baptist Cancer Comprehensive Cancer Center (WFBCCC)?

No, but we welcome current and former WFBCCC patients!

Do caregivers need to have cared for patients who received cancer treatment at WFBCCC?

No, but we welcome current and former caregivers of WFBCCC patients!

Is this a voluntary or paid position?

- This is a volunteer role (and considered a formal Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist volunteer position).
- Advocates who serve funded research projects will often be written into the budgets of the research project to receive some financial compensation for their time.
- The ARM program will provide modest honorarium of appreciation for advocate participation in the program (when funds are available to do so).

Will this role require me to go in person to the Wake Forest Baptist Health Comprehensive Cancer Center?

- For 2022, research advocate roles will be by telephone and web-conferencing technology (video and telephone), with few exceptions.

What is the time commitment for the ARM advocate role?

- Approximately 20 hours a year, for one year.
Examples of activities include regular meetings, continuing education, and serving on letters of support for grant submissions. Yearly time commitment may differ if advocate is serving on a research study. After 1 year, we welcome renewed commitments to the role!
- There is flexibility to accommodate health, work, and family obligations (this is not a contractual position).

Other questions? – Contact temana.aguilar@wakehealth.edu

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