



Federal Ministry
of Research, Technology
and Space



NATIONALE
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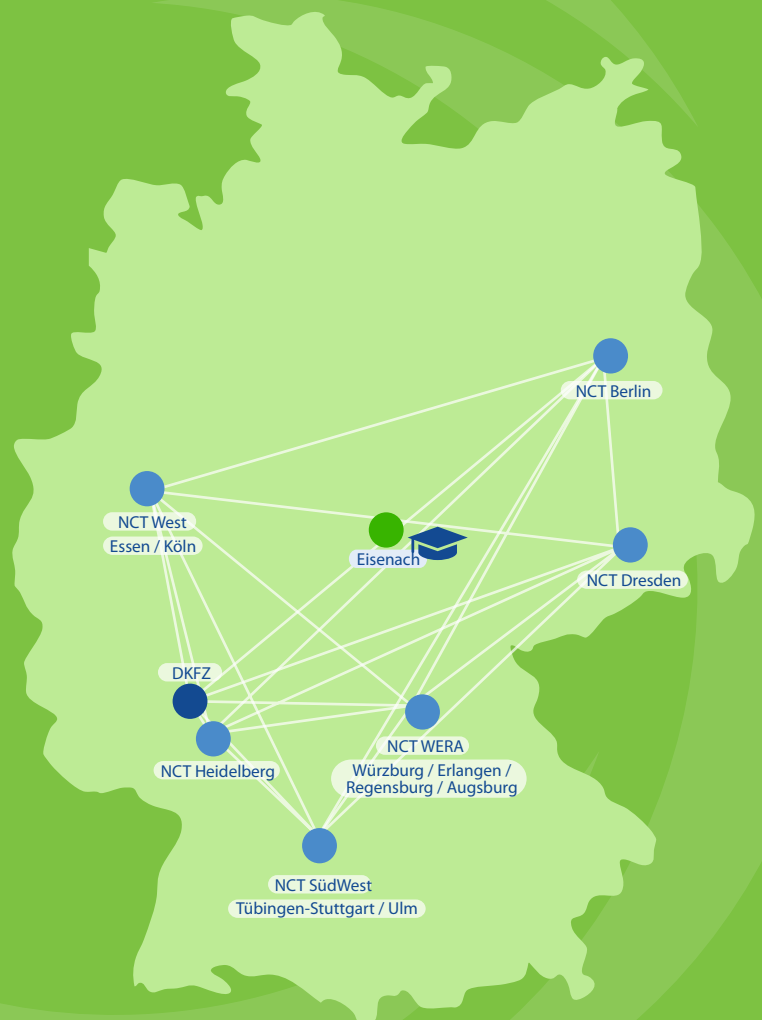
NCT

NATIONAL CENTER
FOR TUMOR DISEASES

NCT MASTERCLASS 2027

Study protocol development for
Investigator-Initiated trials in oncology

**From concept to study protocol, turn your
trial idea into reality.**



Eisenach | January 18-22, 2027

Call for Applications – NCT Masterclass 2027

18 – 22 January 2027 | Hotel Kaiserhof, Eisenach

About the Program

The NCT Masterclass 2027 is a comprehensive five-day in-person course for early- to mid-career oncology clinical researchers from all NCT sites. It focuses on strengthening participant competencies in designing and conducting innovative, patient-centered, investigator-initiated, high-quality clinical-translational cancer trials. Practical training includes lectures, workshops, project work, mentoring and networking opportunities. All associated costs, including travel, accommodation, meals, and participation, will be fully covered for selected participants.

Key topics:

- Innovative and adaptive trial designs
- Regulatory and ethical considerations
- Biometry and power calculations
- Patient safety and monitoring
- Feasibility and budgeting
- Patient-reported outcomes and fair access
- Stakeholder involvement including patient representatives

Eligibility and target group

The call is open to physicians and researchers (PhDs, Postdocs, clinician scientists and JRG leaders) with **DKFZ affiliation** and a background in oncology who are looking to deepen their expertise in the planning and conducting of academically led investigator-initiated cancer trials. We welcome applicants who are enthusiastic about clinical research and willing to contribute actively to the course. While a medical license, doctoral degree, and GCP training are not mandatory, they are considered helpful assets. **Applicants should be fluent in both German and English.**

Selection criteria

Candidates **who have submitted complete application materials** and meet the eligibility criteria will be evaluated based on their overall profile, with emphasis on the following aspects:

- Scientific profile
- Involvement in national or international study groups, review panels, or working groups
- Innovation and feasibility of trial idea
- Patient benefit of the trial idea
- Motivation and development potential of the candidate

Selection process

Applications will be reviewed by DKFZ members of the national NCT Education and Training Committee (ETC).

Application deadline- August 15, 2025

Available places for DKFZ participants: 2

How to apply

To apply, please submit **the following documents using our provided application template** via email to nct-sccr@dkfz-heidelberg.de **by August 15, 2025**.

1. Curriculum Vitae (CV):

- Provide a short CV (no longer than 2 pages), outlining your educational background and stating any relevant experience in developing clinical study concepts, involvement in clinical trials and, if applicable, certification in Good Clinical Practice (GCP); while the former is not mandatory, it is recommended in preparation for the Masterclass.

2. Statement of Motivation:

- Provide a statement of motivation explaining your reasons for wanting to attend the NCT Masterclass 2027 (max. 3,700 characters including spaces page).

3. Abstract of a clinical trial idea:

- Describe your trial idea, including your own contribution (max. 1,700 characters including spaces page).

All documents should be submitted as a single PDF file with the name "NCT Masterclass 2027 DKFZ application – [Your Full Name]".

Contact

For further inquiries, please contact nct-sccr@dkfz-heidelberg.de the subject line: "NCT Masterclass 2027 inquiry".