

NACTRC Grant Development Support Fund Terms of Reference

Updated: April 7, 2021

Goal

The goal of this fund is to increase the number and value of highly competitive research grants awarded to Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry (FoMD) researchers in pillars 2 to 4.

Objectives

The objectives are to:

- Increase the number of pillars 2 to 4 grant applications submitted to highly competitive competitions
- Improve the quality of pillars 2 to 4 grant applications
- Increase the number of pillars 2 to 4 researchers competing for large grants

Background

Disbursement of this fund is adjudicated by the Office of Research in FoMD. The funds come from industry-funded clinical trial overhead collected and managed by the Northern Alberta Clinical Trials and Research Centre (NACTRC).

Opportunity

Financial support of up to \$4,000 is available for developing grant applications to peer-reviewed, highly competitive grant competitions. This is not a grant, but rather rapid access to funds needed to complete a competitive grant application. Requests for these funds are accepted at any time by emailing the Director of Clinical Research, FoMD with the following details:

- A. Name of the grant competition;
- B. Investigator eligibility requirements (if applicable, i.e. early career details);
- C. Proposed title;
- D. Abstract;
- E. Evidence of internal peer-review for the application; and
- F. What contracted service is needed to complete your grant application?

The amount approved is dependent on the application length and dollar value of the grant application. After approving the applicant's eligibility and amount eligible for, individual costs need to be pre-approved by the Director of Clinical Research. The amounts below serve as a guide:

- Grants with a value of \$100K or more are eligible for up to \$800.
- Grants with a value of \$500K or more are eligible for up to \$1,600.
- Major grant applications for \$1M or more are eligible for up to \$4,000.

Eligibility

The criteria for eligibility to this fund are:

- A. Funds must be used for contracted service costs needed to prepare a grant application to be submitted to an identified, peer-reviewed grant competition with a value equal to or exceeding \$100K;
- B. Applicants must demonstrate a well-developed research plan/project (more details below);

- C. The applicant must be eligible for the proposed grant competition;
- D. For CIHR competitions or the New Frontiers in Research Fund – Exploration competition, the applicant must have participated in an internal peer review for the application **or** demonstrate a well-developed research plan/project;
- E. The applicant must hold an academic faculty appointment within FoMD; and
- F. Investigators are only eligible for financial support for the development of one grant application per competition and per research project.

The recipient of this support must be the grant applicant, and hold an academic faculty appointment within FoMD at the University of Alberta, that permits applying for and holding research funding as per the [University's Eligibility to Apply for and Hold Research Funding Policy](#).

For support of CIHR and other Tri-Agency competitions, priority is given to investigators who have participated in internal peer review. The operating plan or project will be evaluated by 1) scientific merit and 2) evidence of peer feedback. This will be evaluated by an internal committee composed of: Lawrence Richer, Vice-Dean Research (Clinical); Neesh Pannu, Associate Dean of Clinical Research Platforms and Health Outcomes; and Carol Ladner-Keay, Director of Clinical Research.

Eligible Expenses

The NACTRC grant development support fund will only pay for pre-approved contracted service expenses incurred solely for grant development of an approved grant application. The acquisition of these services must follow the University of Alberta's *Supply of Goods and Services Policy*. This support can be used for grant editing, graphic design, administrative support, consultation fees and other costs directly associated with preparing the approved grant application. It cannot be used for staff salary. All costs must be pre-approved, via email, by the Director of Clinical Research, FoMD. In addition, purchase orders must be in place before services are provided.

Conditions.

Grant development support is approved based on the competition that will be applied to and can only be used for expenses for that grant application.

Recipients of this support are required to inform the Director of Clinical Research of the result of the competition that is supported.

Contact Information

For further information on the NACTRC Grant Development Support Fund contact:
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