

Health Professional-led Research Funding

The purpose of the Health Professional-led Research Funding is to develop patient-oriented research and evaluation capacity amongst health professionals. We anticipate running two competitions per financial year and up to five grants will be funded per annum. Funding will be available to successful applicants starting in January 2023. The value of this award will be up to \$10,000 per annum.

We highly encourage the evaluation of patient engagement in all work funded by NL SUPPORT. Following completion of the research project, we will ask all members of the research team to report back on patient engagement using a standard survey to outline how patients were involved in the project.

How to Apply

Part 1

Applicants must provide a summary (**4 pages maximum**, letter size, single spaced, Arial 10 font, 2cm margins) of their proposal which includes the following sections:

Title	Please indicate whether this project is research (the intent is generalizable knowledge) or evaluation (evaluates a current or existing program for assessment, management or improvement purposes).
Study Lead	The study lead is the person spearheading and ultimately responsible for the project. The study lead for the Health Professional-led Research Funding should be a health professional.
Study Team	It is expected that research will be conducted by multi-disciplinary teams in collaboration with all stakeholders where patients, researchers and health practitioners work together to contribute to improved and sustainable health systems and outcomes.
Project Summary	This is a clear and concise statement of the problem you are going to investigate in your work. Provide some background of your topic, including appropriate literature references or local contextual knowledge (e.g. in the case of program evaluation). Provide a brief overview of the steps/methods you are going to undertake, and expected outcomes from your work, particularly for patients.
Population	Briefly describe the population that will be the focus of the study (community, in-patients and/or out-patients, caregivers and family, etc.). Include considerations for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion and Sex and Gender-Based Analysis (EDI/SGBA). For example, how will you remove barriers to the recruitment and full participation of individuals from underserved groups in your research project? For more information about EDI in research, please visit https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/52543.html .

Patient Engagement	<p>Describe how you have and will engage patients as partners in your project. Patients as partners is not the same as “patient subjects” for data collection.</p> <p>For example, patient partners can help:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform research priorities • Design interventions • Clarify the research questions and affirm their importance • Define outcomes that are important • Assist in creating a recruitment strategy • Ensure that the methods selected are appropriate for patients • Review and comment on proposed data collection methods • Assist in writing patient information and informed consent forms • Assist in collecting and/or interpreting data • Share results • Develop and implement new services or programs, etc. <p>These are not activities normally undertaken by study subjects.</p>
Research or Evaluation Question	<p>Clearly state the research or evaluation question(s) and objectives of your project. The FINER criteria highlight useful points that may increase the chances of developing good questions: Feasible, Interesting, Novel, Ethical and Relevant.</p>
Design	<p>Describe the ways in which you will gather your data and perform the analysis.</p>
Intervention	<p>Describe the intervention(s), if applicable, you suggest for use to improve patient care and outcomes.</p>
Timeline	<p>Briefly describe your timeline or include a basic timeline table. The duration for the NL SUPPORT Health Professional-led Research Funding is 12 months maximum.</p>
Budget justification	<p>Include a budget justification. For example, list the budget needed for research staff, knowledge dissemination, equipment, supplies, etc. In-kind contributions can also be listed.</p>

Part 2

Together with the summary of their proposal, applicants are asked to please provide the answers to the following questions.

What gender do you identify with?

- Male
 Female
 Non-binary
 Prefer not to answer
 Prefer to self-describe _____

Please select the age bracket below that applies to you.

- 18-24 years
- 25-64 years
- 65 and over
- Prefer not to answer

Where were you born?

- Newfoundland and Labrador
- Canada
- Outside of Canada (please specify) _____

If you were not born in Newfoundland and Labrador, please skip this question.

Are you from an urban or rural region of Newfoundland and Labrador?

- Urban (please specify): _____
- Rural (please specify): _____

Please specify your ethnicity at birth.

- White
- South Asian (e.g., East Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, etc.)
- Chinese
- Black
- Filipino
- Latin American
- Arab
- Southeast Asian (e.g., Vietnamese, Cambodian, Laotian, Thai, etc.)
- West Asian (e.g., Iranian, Afghan, etc.)
- Korean
- Japanese
- Other (please specify) _____
- Prefer not to answer

How would you best describe yourself? (Select all that apply)

- White
- South Asian (e.g., East Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, etc.)
- Chinese
- Black
- Filipino
- Latin American
- Arab
- Southeast Asian (e.g., Vietnamese, Cambodian, Laotian, Thai, etc.)

- West Asian (e.g., Iranian, Afghan, etc.)
- Korean
- Japanese
- Other (please specify) _____
- Prefer not to answer

Do you identify as Indigenous?

- No
- Yes
- Prefer not to answer

If so, please indicate: First Nations, Inuit, or Métis?

- First Nations
- Inuit
- Métis
- Prefer not to answer

Are you a member of any of the groups below? (Select all that apply or skip if none apply)

- Member of a rural community
- Newcomer to Canada (moved to Canada within the last 5 years)
- Visible minority
- 2SLGBTQIA+
- People who have immigrated to Canada/NL (more than 5 years ago)
- People with a physical disability
- People who experience sensory impairments
- People who experience mental illness
- Other (please specify) _____

Are you registered for the Patient-Oriented Research Training Program Letter of Completion?

- Yes
- No

Would you like to receive our training newsletter?

- Yes
- No

Part 3

Applicants must provide confirmation that any required research clearance(s) are in place, or a timeline for submission to the appropriate committee for review. **Funding will not be released until applicable documentation has been received by NL SUPPORT.**

Please complete the following statements:

Clearances required?

- Yes
- No

Clearances attached?

- To follow (please specify date) _____
- N/A

Indigenous consent (must be in place at the application stage)

- Required
- N/A

Part 4

Institutions that employ holders of Health Professional-led Research Funding are called **host institutions**. Signatures are required from host institution representatives on all grant applications.

By signing, host institutions agree to accept the responsibilities outlined below on behalf of their grant-holding employees:

- Acceptance of the terms and conditions as outlined in Funding Guide and Letter of Agreement;
- The financial administration of the grants;
- Reporting to NL SUPPORT any change in the funding recipient's status that may affect the fulfillment of their research commitment, for example resignation or termination;
- Submission of an annual financial statement (Form 300), a copy of which will be included in the Letter of Agreement, with back up documentation (receipts, etc.), covering the period from April 1 to March 31 for funding; the statement(s) are due no later than **May 1** of each year.

(Signature of Host Institution representative)

(Date)

Eligibility

The purpose of the Health Professional-led Research Funding is to encourage clinical staff to conduct research, preferably on an issue they have identified through their clinical work. Applicants must therefore be a clinician, nurse or other health professional working actively in a clinical role within a research, health or community care institution in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Applications for Health Professional-led Research Funding will be judged according to the following selection criteria:

- Incorporation of patients as partners rather than subjects throughout the project's lifecycle;
- Expertise and research experience, and past contributions to patient-oriented research and related fields;
- Merit of the proposal, based on:
 - potential for meaningful real world outcomes
 - quality and clarity of research question
 - originality
 - potential contribution to patient-oriented research
 - scalability of the proposed work
 - relevance to health-related decision-making
 - systems improvement or positive patient impacts
 - value to the health care system
 - considerations for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion and Sex and Gender-Based Analysis (EDI/SGBA)
- Clarity of presentation and appropriateness of design and research plan
- Feasibility of the proposed work
- Appropriateness and justification of the budget

Eligible Costs

The funds are to be used for eligible expenses directly related to the research and in accordance with the Tri-Agency Financial Administration Guide – Use of Grant Funds (https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/InterAgency-Interorganismes/TAFA-AFTO/guide-guide_eng.asp)

Grantee Reporting Requirements

In addition to providing the required financial reporting information, the successful grantees will be required to:

- Provide a 6 month progress report
- Provide an end of study report
- Present their research findings at the Quality of Care NL and NL SUPPORT **Science, Health, and Research Education (SHARE) Summit** and/or other public events

Role of NL SUPPORT

The NL SUPPORT team will make available to applicants and grant holders as needed support services in the areas of patient engagement and methods development.

Submission

Please submit your application package in an electronic format to Aimee Roebathan and Chelsey McPhee:

Aimee.Hand@med.mun.ca and chelsey.mcphee@med.mun.ca

The email should be titled **Health Professional-Led Funding application – Name of study lead, date submitted**. Applicants will be informed via email the outcome of the assessment.

Applications must be received by 5:00 p.m. Newfoundland Time on Friday, October 28th, 2022. Memorial University applicants should contact their academic departments regarding internal deadlines.

Please Note:

- Grant funds will be released only upon the receipt of a **letter of approval from the appropriate ethics review committee**.
- Once an application has been funded, major changes in the project design will require prior approval from the NL SUPPORT/Quality of Care NL review committee.
- Funding will be issued by way of Letter of Agreement issued to the Host Institution.
- Research teams can only hold one Health Professional-led Research Funding from NL SUPPORT at a time so teams who do not currently hold a grant are welcome to apply.

For further information or clarification on the application guidelines, please contact Aimee Roebathan at Aimee.Hand@med.mun.ca or 709-864-3609 or Chelsey McPhee at chelsey.mcphee@med.mun.ca or 709-864-6654.