Realize. A better world through research

October 13, 2015

CIHR Project Scheme

Research Office
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Health Research Funding Officer
Presentation Overview

- Research Office and Services
- General Application Procedures
- Brief overview of new CIHR Funding Schemes
- Results of CIHR Foundation Scheme 2014-15 (what got funded and where did the funding go?)
- Introduction to the Project Scheme
- Remaining CIHR Legacy programs
Research Office

- New name: Research Office
- New email: research.office@uregina.ca
- New website: www.uregina.ca/research
- New personnel
- Grant Submission: Review and Signatures
- New Funded Research Approval Form
General Services Provided by Research Office

• Grant Review:
  – proof reading, eligibility, fit with criteria
• Budgets:
  – We will help develop your budget
  – Check for eligible expenses
• Assistance with Ethics, Animal Care applications
• Institutional Signatures
Application Process

- Notification of Intent to Apply
- Work with Research Funding Officer (esp. on budget)
- Internal review
  - Colleagues
  - Dept. Head
  - Dean
- Obtain signatures
- Submit to research office by internal deadline
  - usually 2 weeks ahead of external deadline for major applications
Signatures

• Research Office approval is required for **ALL** research-related funding prior to application:
  – Even if the funder does not require signatures
  – Even if the application is submitted electronically with eApproval
  – Even if it is not through a formal application process
• Dept. head and dean’s signatures required before institutional signature or e-approval
• Use **Funded Research Approval Form**
Signature Process

1. Department Head/Program Chair
   - Funded Research Approval Form
   - PI's Responsibility

2. Dean/Director
   - Funded Research Approval Form
   - PI's Responsibility

3. Institutional
   - Funded Research Approval Form
   - Funding Officer’s Responsibility
Funded Research Approval Form

• Replaces old Supplemental Signature Page
• Collects additional information useful for the Research Office to process successful applications
• Allows deans and department heads to quickly assess any resource commitments from the faculty or dept.
Who signs the Funded Research Approval Form?

- PI
- Dept. Head (where appropriate)
- Dean/Director or designate

- Co-applicants and their deans/directors and dept. heads sign **only if their departments or faculties will be committing resources**
  - (e.g., teaching releases, student stipends)
Changes to CIHR Programs and Review Process

- Open Programs rolled into two Schemes:
  - Foundation Scheme and Project Scheme
- Retained (increased) directed/targeted funding opportunities
- Response to:
  - Applicant and reviewer feedback - onerous application and review processes
  - Desire to improve success rates
  - Too many indistinguishable medium quality applications
  - Too many applicants not competitive compared to peers
### Key Changes

**Additional Changes**
- Shorter, structured application forms
- Multi-stage virtual review
- Schemes versus open programs
- College of Reviewers

**New CIHR focus**
- Targeted research funding is increasing
- Emphasis on multi-disciplinarity
- Greater focus on patient-centred and individualized healthcare
- Greater focus on prevention
What does CIHR say the changes mean?

- Shorter and fewer application processes
- Improved matching of reviewers to applications
- Greater flexibility in how funds are spent
- Better incentive to serve as a reviewer
Foundation Scheme

• Support a broad base of health research leaders across all career stages, areas, and health-related disciplines with a demonstrable track record of excellence and impact in their field of study;
• Develop and maintain Canadian capacity in health research and other related fields;
• Provide research leaders with the flexibility to pursue novel and innovative lines of inquiry;
• Contribute to the creation and application of health-related knowledge through a wide range of research and/or knowledge translation activities, including relevant collaborations.
Project Scheme

• Support a diverse portfolio of health-related research and knowledge translation projects at any stage, from discovery to application, including commercialization;
• Contribute to the creation and use of health-related knowledge;
• Promote relevant collaborations across disciplines, professions, and sectors.
The Two Schemes

**Foundation Scheme**
- Funds large-scale, long-term programs that have already been successfully funded
- Targets high-achieving researchers with proven track-records in research program management and high-impact KT.

**Project Scheme**
- Targets projects of any scale that meet the vision/mandate of CIHR.
- Special consideration for Partnered/Integrated Knowledge Translation (iKT) projects
When should I apply for a Foundation Scheme?

• Once you’ve outlined a long-term research program with high-impact objectives (national/international scale)
• Once your program has been successfully funded
• Once you’ve established a track record of publications and HQP
National Results: Foundation Scheme

- Stage 1: Total Applicants: 1366
- Stage 2: 467
- Stage 3: 189
- Funded: 150

Legend:
- Total Applicants
- Total # New/Early Career
Size and Distribution

- **Range:**
  - ~$450,000 - $9.7 million
- **Total investment:**
  - $408.9 million over 7 years
What got funded?

• Very broad, multi-disciplinary programs:
  – “From correlation to causation in genomics: identifying mechanisms underlying disease”
  – “Arthritis Care for Indigenous Populations”
  – “Deciphering the causes of, and developing interventions to reduce, cardio-metabolic risk factors among ethnic groups in Canada”
Strategy for Achieving Success with Foundation Scheme

• Collaboration
  – Bring early- and mid-career researchers together with later-career researchers
  – Foster external collaborations

• Career Planning
  – Strategies for graduating HQP, publishing, other KT

• Focus on getting Project Schemes
Project Scheme
## Important Dates

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<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Registration Deadline</td>
<td>January 18, 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Application Deadline</td>
<td>March 1, 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Notice of Decision</td>
<td>July 15, 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Funding Start Date</td>
<td>July 1, 2016</td>
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Objectives

- Support a diverse portfolio of health-related research and knowledge translation projects at any stage, from discovery to application, including commercialization;
- Contribute to the creation and use of health-related knowledge;
- Promote relevant collaborations across disciplines, professions, and sectors.
Funding Details

• $50 K - $750 K / Year
• 1 – 5 years
Special Consideration

• Partnered/Integrated KT / Commercialization
  – minimum threshold of funded knowledge translation and commercialization projects that include a partnered/iKT approach
  – Identify project as iKT/Commercialization
    • Evaluation is built into the overall evaluation process
Partner Participation

• No formal requirements for partnering
• Nature of the project will dictate whether reviewers would expect a commitment (cash or in-kind) from:
  – Interested or engaged knowledge user(s)
  – Commercialization partners
  – Others
Eligibility Criteria

- Nominated Principle Applicant (NPA) must be either a knowledge user or an independent researcher.
- If the NPA is a knowledge user, the application must also include an independent researcher as a co-PA.
- You may have multiple PAs but it is not required.
- Trainees can be co-applicants.
- **There is no limit to the number of applications an individual can submit to the Project Scheme.**
- Individuals who hold a Foundation Scheme grant in the role of Program Leader are not eligible to apply to the Project Scheme in the role of Nominated Principal Applicant or Principal Applicant.
Application Procedure

• 1 application and 2 review stages
• Stage 1 review
  – Structured evaluation, remote review, ranking on criteria by matched reviewers
  – Consolidated into an overall ranking
• Stage 2 review
  – Face-to-face discussion by interdisciplinary review committee
  – Makes final recommendations for funding
Adjudication Criteria

• **Criterion 1 – Concept (50%)**
  – Quality of the Idea (25%)
  – Importance of the Idea (25%)

• **Criterion 2 – Feasibility (50%)**
  – Approach (25%)
  – Expertise, Experience and Resources (25%)

• **Budget**
  – The budget requested will not be factored into the scientific assessment of the application;
  – CIHR will seek the advice of peer reviewers on the budget requested.
What should you focus on?

• Idea
  – Clear, interesting, well articulated idea well-supported by the literature
  – Strong rationale
  – Realistic, scientifically-sound methodology/approach
What to consider

• What is your hypothesis/research question?

• Why is it important? How will it generate tangible impacts (now or in the future) on Canadians’ health or the health care system? What will answering the research question provide/achieve?
Approach/Methodology

• What approach methodology will you use to answer the research question / test your hypothesis?
• What objectives will you set to ensure you are achieving the answer to the research question?
• How will you meet those objectives?
• Have you included/consulted patients, knowledge users and/or other stakeholders?
• Do you have the expertise to complete all aspects of the project or do you need to include a co-applicant or collaborator with that expertise?
Knowledge Translation and HQP

• How will you ensure the best quality and broadest dissemination of your results?
• How will you achieve the best possible knowledge user research uptake?
• How will you incorporate student training into your project?
• Describe in detail the value of the training/training environment – be specific.
Knowledge Users and Patients

• CIHR is increasing emphasis on interdisciplinarity and stakeholder inclusion
• Knowledge user- and client/patient-informed research is emphasized
  – They want to see patients and knowledge users and other stakeholders taking part in shaping the research questions and approaches.
Budget

• Let the Research Office help
• Make sure to include benefits in any RA or PDF salaries
• Remember that PA salaries are not eligible expenses
• Request enough money to do the work but not more than would be considered reasonable for you to need
What is the plan for integrating existing legacy open programs?

- The anticipated application deadlines for the final competition for each of these programs are:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Legacy Open Program</th>
<th>Competition Launch</th>
<th>Anticipated Application Deadline</th>
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<td>Knowledge Synthesis</td>
<td>June 2015</td>
<td>January 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Investigator Salary Awards</td>
<td>July 2015</td>
<td>December 2015</td>
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Knowledge Synthesis

- Knowledge syntheses and scoping reviews that will contribute to the use of synthesized evidence in decision-making and practice.

- Knowledge synthesis - $100k for up to 1 year
- Scoping review - $50 K for up to 1 year
New Investigator Salary Award

• $60 K / yr up to 5 years
• Eligibility: Nominated principle applicant must:
  – have obtained a full time professional degree (MD, DVM, etc.) or PhD degree within the last 10 years.
  – full-time academic or research appointment, or a formal commitment to a full-time academic or research appointment at an eligible institution.
  – full-time appointment as an independent researcher (i.e.: faculty appointment providing eligibility to apply for grants and/or supervise trainees) for a period of 0 to 60 months (part-time and leaves of absence can be considered)
  – Written commitment of 75% protected research time
  – Hold peer-reviewed operating funds as nominated PA or PA
Let’s work together

• Please start contacting me as soon as possible so that we can work together on your proposal.

• This will allow me the opportunity to potentially make connections between applicants with similar interests.
Questions?