



CSM Grant Development Office

This message has been sent on behalf of the Cumming School of Medicine Grant Development Office. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact: [Jenna Millar](#).

Fall 2025/2026 CSM Grant Development RISE Program: Call for Applications

Apply by September 8, 2025

New! The CSM Grant Development RISE Program is now open to CSM researchers at all career stages.

What is the RISE program?

The CSM Grant Development Research funding Immersive Support and Education (RISE) Program is designed to guide independent researchers who have limited grant writing experience through the process of developing a competitive grant application.

What are the benefits for participants?

RISE participants will

- hone their grant-writing skills;
- establish effective grant development practices; and
- expand their research funding knowledge.

With the guidance of experienced faculty members and internal peer reviewers and support from the CSM Grant Development Office, participants will work throughout the 12-month program to develop a CIHR Project Grant application.

Upon completing the program, participants will be poised to

- submit their applications to the Fall 2026 CIHR Project Grant competition;
- further develop their applications for a future Project Grant competition; and/or
- apply their learnings to other funding opportunities.

While the RISE program uses the CIHR Project Grant as a model, the skills and

knowledge participants develop during the program will be relevant to a variety of funding opportunities.

RISE program participants who meet the **participant responsibilities** outlined below will be eligible to apply for RISE seed funding (valued at \$25,000 for one year).

Who is eligible?

The RISE program is intended to support independent researchers who actively conduct research and plan to apply to the CIHR Project Grant program in the near future (e.g., Fall 2026 or within 12 months of completing the program) but have limited experience applying for research funding and have thus far held limited research funding as a nominated principal applicant (e.g., less than \$500,000, have not been awarded a CIHR Project Grant as a nominated principal applicant).

To participate in the CSM Grant Development RISE Program, participants must

- hold their primary appointment in the Cumming School of Medicine;
- be an **independent researcher** as defined by CIHR (see CIHR's **Guidelines on Determining Eligibility of Nominated Applicants** for information on how to interpret CIHR's independent researcher definition); and
- not have been awarded a CIHR Project Grant as a nominated principal applicant.

A maximum of 12 independent researchers from across the **four pillars of health research** will be selected to participate. Eligible applicants who have been awarded less than \$500,000 in operating funding as a nominated principal applicant will be prioritized. The CSM Grant Development Office is committed to equitable and inclusive participation and may implement strategies to enhance equity, diversity, and inclusion. Researchers who do not meet the minimum eligibility criteria may be invited to participate if fewer than nine eligible researchers apply.

What are my responsibilities as a participant?

Applicants must commit to the following:

- writing a CIHR Project Grant over the course of the 12-month Program;
- having their grant internally peer-reviewed;
- attending at least four of the six half-day in-person learning sessions scheduled for **9 a.m. to noon** on **October 15, 2025; November 5, 2025*; December 10, 2025; March 11, 2025; May 20, 2026; and September 16, 2026;**
- participating in a **full-day** CIHR mock review committee meeting scheduled for **April 22, 2026;**
- completing reviewer training, reviewing three CIHR Project Grants, and preparing written reviews before the mock review committee meeting; and
- completing additional self-directed learning activities before and after each in-

person learning session.

*The November 5, 2025 session will run from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and will include a networking lunch.

How can I apply?

Submit the following items via the [online application portal](#) **by noon on September 8, 2025:**

1. **A RISE program application form:** Your department head and research institute (if applicable) must sign the application form.
2. **A copy of your CCV:** CIHR Biosketch or other CCV format that shows your current and past appointments and research funding history.

Applicants selected to participate in the program will be notified the week of September 15.

Questions?

Questions about the RISE program can be directed to Brandi Povitz (brandi.povitz@ucalgary.ca).

Grant Development Website

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