

# Cumming School of Medicine

## Research Enhancement Program

In support of the Cumming School of Medicine strategic plan 'Reimaging Health for All, Ahead of Tomorrow,' the Grant Development Office has further expanded and enhanced the **Research Enhancement Program**. The program is designed to increase the competitive edge of Cumming School of Medicine faculty who are in pursuit of submitting a future grant application.

The **Research Enhancement Program** now enables 3 distinct funding streams, allowing faculty to obtain support at different stages of their project and grant application development.

### Eligibility

- Open to primary faculty members of the Cumming School of Medicine at all career stages

### **Stream 1: New Techniques/Methodologies**

We will provide up to \$4000/calendar year per faculty member or lab/team member to obtain training in new technologies and methodologies to strengthen their research programs. This initiative aims to enhance the expertise of CSM faculty, ensuring they remain at the forefront of their fields with state-of-the-art skills and knowledge. The goal of this program is to provide CSM faculty with a competitive advantage when applying for grant funding. Funding proposals will be considered for activities that help researchers develop advanced skills or techniques to strengthen future grant applications or quickly address specific experimental requests from reviewers for manuscripts close to publication in high-impact journals (as defined by your research area).

#### *Examples of Funding for Stream 1:*

- Canadian Light Microscopy course tuition
- Neuroscience School of Advanced Studies
- SMS Imaging Workshop
- SBI Exosome Training Course
- Training visit to another lab for a new technique
- Trainee attending a bioinformatics workshop
- Travel to a lab in Copenhagen to learn new techniques
- Cold Spring Harbor Course
- Learning how to use new software or analytic techniques
- Work within a Core facility <https://research.ucalgary.ca/research-services/additional-resources/core-facilities>

### **Stream 2: Grant Editing, Grant Writer, Illustrator, Project Management**

This stream focuses on supporting grants that address unique funding opportunities, with often short turnaround times, and large grant opportunities requiring the submission of complex applications with heavy administrative and organizational burdens. This funding is not intended to support the preparation of routine grants (e.g., CIHR Project Grant).

- A. We will provide up to \$2000/calendar year per faculty member towards the support of a grant writer, grant editor, illustrator, or graphic designer. This is for complex multi-

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investigator research grant applications. Please see below for examples of the competitions that could be supported.

- B. We will provide up to \$7500/calendar year per faculty member towards a project manager to assist in developing and assembling a complex multi-investigator research grant application. The list below is a sample of the types of competitions/applications that could be supported.

Before applying to this stream, consult with the Grant Development Office (Jenna Millar, [jenna.millar@ucalgary.ca](mailto:jenna.millar@ucalgary.ca)). The Office maintains a [list of grant writers, editors, illustrators, and project managers that is available upon request.](#)

### *Examples of eligible grant competitions for Stream 2:*

- New Frontier Research Fund (NFRF) Transformation Grant
- NSERC CREATE
- CIHR Health Research Training Platform (H RTP)
- Horizon Europe Applications
- Primary submission NIH RO1 (sub-site applications are not eligible)
- SSHRC Partnership Grant
- Canadian Foundation for Innovation (CFI) Innovation Fund (IF)
- CIHR Women's Health Hub
- Government of Canada (Public Health of Agency of Canada, Health Canada) applications exceeding \$500,000/year.

### **Application Process for Research Enhancement Program Streams 1 & 2:**

1. A one-page description of the work to be proposed in the context of the Stream of Funding you are applying for. A clear description of the grant competition you are applying for, the partners you will be engaging with outside UCalgary, and how these funds will enhance your application's success and competitive nature.
2. A table identifying the budget breakdown of proposed expenses and a budget justification for each proposed expenditure. Ensure you address any overlap with any currently held funding.
3. Applications should be submitted as a single PDF to Jenna Millar ([jenna.millar@ucalgary.ca](mailto:jenna.millar@ucalgary.ca))

### **Stream 3: External honoraria for scientific review**

We will provide up to \$500 per external reviewer and a maximum of \$1000 per CSM faculty member per calendar year towards external scientific review(s) for any grant application where they are the lead applicant. This funding is intended to obtain a review by a scientific peer that is external to the University of Calgary and will be paid as an honorarium. While external review funding is ideally requested after internal peer review is complete, we will consider supporting external reviewer input at earlier stages of grant development if there is a clear explanation of how this would benefit the proposal. To apply, email Jenna Millar ([jenna.millar@ucalgary.ca](mailto:jenna.millar@ucalgary.ca))

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with confirmation of the internal peer review (or justification as appropriate), a copy of the application, and the contact details of the external reviewer.