



Research
Manitoba

*Manitoba COVID-19
Rapid Response Grant*

PROGRAM GUIDE

1. Preface

Research Manitoba promotes, supports, and coordinates the funding of research excellence in health, natural and social sciences, engineering and the humanities in Manitoba.

2. Purpose

In April 2020 Research Manitoba and the Province of Manitoba announced a \$5,000,000 COVID-19 Research Fund to support Manitoba's response to the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

As part of this response, Research Manitoba has created this opportunity to support clinical trials, and applied health research related to COVID-19.

3. Award Amount and Duration

Award funds are to be used to defray the costs of research.

The Manitoba COVID-19 Rapid Response Grant will provide **up to \$500,000 maximum** for a one-year term. Projects which are shorter in duration, or have smaller funding needs, are welcome to apply.

A one (1) year automatic extension on the use of funds will be permitted, with no additional funding.

4. Partnered Funds

Funds leveraged from other sources is strongly encouraged wherever possible. We ask applicants to clearly indicate in their proposal other sources of funding applied to and/or received related to their COVID-19 research.

Research Manitoba is working with other funding organizations in Canada around COVID-19 research grants, including CIHR and Genome Canada. Should an opportunity arise to co-fund research grants with other organizations we will explore these options and work with that funder directly.

Applications funded through Waves 1 & 2 of the CIHR Canadian 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Rapid Research Funding Opportunity (March-April 2020) are not eligible to receive these funds.

5. Eligibility Requirements

Funding for this program is to support clinical trials, and applied health research projects related to COVID-19 only.

To apply, the *primary applicant* must:

- Hold an appointment from a Manitoba post-secondary institution, or research affiliate, that allows the applicant to:
 - Apply for and hold peer-reviewed funds as a principal investigator
 - Be a research supervisor for undergraduate, graduate, and/or post-graduate trainees
 - Publish their research results

6. Application Deadline

Applications can be submitted anytime between **April 1, 2020 – September 30, 2020**.

Applications will be reviewed monthly as they are received. This call will be closed once the entire funding budget has been allocated.

7. Intellectual Property Assessment and Ownership

Research Manitoba does not claim any rights or ownership to intellectual property arising from projects funded by the Manitoba COVID-19 Rapid Response Grant.

8. Application Requirements

Applications for the Manitoba COVID-19 Rapid Response Grant require the following information to be included:

- **Budget Table and Budget Justification (maximum 1 page)**
- **Abstract (maximum 200 words):** Provide a non-technical summary of your proposal written in simple and clear language suitable for a lay audience.
- **Summary of the Proposal (maximum 1500 words):** Provide background, objectives, activities planned, and how the results of the project will be implemented to support the Province of Manitoba in its response to the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.
- **Details of the Research Proposal (maximum 5 pages, does not include references, tables, charts and figures):** This should include:
 - Objectives
 - Experimental approaches and methodology
 - Timeline with a work plan to meet key deliverables (approximately one paragraph)
 - Details on how the knowledge and experience of the applicant relates to the expertise needed to accomplish the project objectives, and how the

contributions of team members (if applicable) will be integrated into the project's objectives.

- Details on the expected impact to the local, national and global response to the COVID-19 pandemic

Any materials provided in appendices must be supplemental in nature. The appendices must not be used as a means to provide essential details of methods or study rationale that would normally be included in the research project description

- **Support letter(s):** Letters of support are *not* required for this opportunity. Should you have any letters of support related to your application that you would like to include, you can upload them as one PDF in the GMS.
- **Signature Page:** Signatures are required from the Primary Applicants home institution. Once the signature page is completed, please upload the form into your GMS application.
- **Research Manitoba Canadian Common CV (CCV) Biosketch:** An updated Research Manitoba Canadian Common CV Biosketch (no older than six months) is required for all academic applicant and co-applicant(s) for submission. Applications cannot be submitted without at least one CCV attached.

For support completing the [Research Manitoba GMS Application](#) and [CCV](#) see the *PI GMS User Guide*.

9. Assessment Criteria

Applications will be evaluated considering the following criteria:

- **Research Excellence**
 - Objectives of the project are focused and coherent, and the proposal communicates a clear direction and strategic focus
 - Appropriateness of the research approach, methodology, and timeline
 - The budget provided is appropriate for the research outlined in the proposal
- **Quality of the Applicant(s)**
 - Track record of the applicant and team members (if applicable) in fields related to the proposed research
 - Ability of the applicant and project team (if applicable) to carry out the proposed research
 - Ability of the team to quickly mobilize the necessary resources to complete the research outlined in the proposal
- **Impact of the Research**
 - Potential to contribute to the local, national and global response to the COVID-19 pandemic

10. Reporting, policies and other information

Grant recipients will be asked to provide frequent updates/reports of their funded research project over the course of the grant term to ensure healthcare officials are kept informed of progress on projects. This will allow for decisions to be made around successes to ensure they have immediate impact in Manitoba.

Research Manitoba reserves the right to determine the eligibility of applications, based on the information therein. Research Manitoba also reserves the right to interpret the regulations and policies governing its funding opportunities.

All applicants and grant holders must comply with the regulations set out in the Research Manitoba [Finance and Administration Guide](#).

Research funds are to be spent according to budgets approved during the review and decision process. Occasionally, it may be necessary to reallocate grant funds between approved categories if the needs or circumstances of the research project have changed. Grant holders need Research Manitoba approval for such reallocation only if the change involved is 25% or more of the grant's total.

11. Contact Information

For questions regarding the application and submission process, please contact:

Jennifer Cleary

Manager, Programs

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204.924.7070

For support with GMS, please contact:

Research Manitoba Helpdesk

helpdesk@researchmb.ca

Monday – Friday – 8:30AM – 4:30PM