

2026 PAEDIATRIC CONSULTANTS PARTNERSHIP GRANTS FOR CREATIVE PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

Overall Objective

The aim of this program is to encourage and promote the creative professional activity of members of the Paediatric Consultants Partnership (PCP).

Goal of the Program

The goals are to:

- Enhance the career development and the potential for academic promotion of paediatricians within the Department of Paediatrics at the Hospital for Sick Children.
- Develop innovative scholarly approaches to the care of patients, thereby enhancing the health of infants, children and youth.
- Promote and encourage clinically relevant projects that are likely to have a positive impact on the care delivered to our patients.
- Fund projects that will advance the career of the primary applicant.

Application Deadline

The application deadline is Friday **May 8th, 2026**.

Eligible Projects and Areas of Focus

Proposals may address clinical care in the broadest sense. The mandate of the fund is broad, but projects must be highly clinically relevant. For examples of previously funded projects see our [website](#) or this [list](#). And [here](#) for a description of creative professional activities (CPA) as outlined in the University of Toronto promotion criteria. We also have calls for [projects](#) in the following three areas of focus (please refer to the calls for additional instructions):

- Health Equity and Inclusion
- Quality Improvement
- Informatics

A separate competition exists to support projects geared towards educational scholarship.

Eligibility

The principal applicant must be a full-time or part-time member of PCP.

*For 2026, some funds are available to support community-based activities by part-time faculty and paediatricians in the Department of Paediatrics, University of Toronto who are not members of PCP.

Priority will be given to:

- junior faculty
- those with an academic clinician Job Activity Profile
- those who have not been awarded a CPA grant in the last 3 years

Scientific rigor will continue to form the bar.

The principal applicant is responsible for the project concept, development of methods, overall supervision, and conduct of the study. Co-investigators - including non-PCP members (e.g., technical staff and trainees) - may participate as appropriate and must be named in the application.

This funding is not meant to supplement projects already funded.

Internal Scientific Review or SickKids QI Approval

Internal scientific review (use the [SickKids internal peer review form](#)) prior to submission is required and a copy of the review form must be submitted as part of the application package.

For QI projects, SickKids Quality Management QI Project Submission and Approval is required in lieu of the internal scientific review.

Please factor in the time for internal scientific review or QI project approval. Peer review and the QI project approval process provide a mechanism to improve the quality of your submission and chances of funding success. **Submissions that have not undergone internal scientific review or QI project approval will not be accepted.**

For projects needing REB approval, this will be required prior to granting of funds for successful grants.

Proposal

The proposal should be organized under the following headings: significance relative to creative professional activity, background and rationale, objective(s), hypothesis, methods (including study design, population, sample size considerations, analysis), patient partnership (if applicable) and feasibility (i.e. scope, timelines).

For Quality Improvement projects, the following headings should be used: significance relative to creative professional activity, background, SMART aim, family of measures, stakeholder engagement plan, intervention(s), and implementation plan anticipated, and data analysis.

The first section of the grant proposal titled *significance relative to creative professional activity* should include the following information: i) the relevance of the project to your personal CPA activity and career development ii) the clinical relevance to the health of children iii) whether other funding is being applied for and the importance of this funding related to the project/line of research.

Please provide details on how the principles of equity, diversity, and inclusion have been integrated into your proposal.

Submission Formatting Guidelines

Prepare the proposal using the following presentation style:

- use only 8.5" by 11" paper, printed on one side only
- use single space type no smaller than 12 points; no narrow fonts
- a margin of one inch around the page is needed
- maximum 2 pages (reference page excluded)
- maximum 1 page references
- one page budget and budget justification
- no appendices, except samples of standardized questionnaires

Budget

The funds requested must be adequately justified. Maximum funds requested should not exceed \$10,000. If there are any other sources of funding these must be clearly outlined. This fund is not meant for supplemental funding of pre-existing grants, for acquisition of equipment, or for travel to scientific meetings. The maximum funding available for any individual project is \$10,000.

Period of Funding

One year (Applicants may apply for a different funding duration under special circumstances).

Adjudication and Review Process

Final adjudication of grants will include a score derived from the first section of the grant proposal titled, *significance relative to creative professional activity* (i. the relevance of the project to your personal CPA activity and career development ii. the clinical relevance to the health of children iii. whether other funding is being applied for and the importance of this funding related to the project/line of research). The score based on assessment of these factors will be used in the final ranking of the projects with the highest scientific merit.

Failure to complete this section appropriately will disqualify your application from competition.

Projects will be reviewed by a subcommittee of the Department of Pediatrics recommended by the Associate Department Chair and approved by the Chief Executive Officer of PCP. Current composition of the peer review committee can be obtained by contacting Erin Crawford, Assistant to the Associate Paediatrician-in-Chief. The Review Committee will recommend which applications have sufficient merit to be forwarded to the Chief Executive Officer of PCP for final approval.

[Visit our website for the full application package.](#)

Submission Package

- 1) Complete application form (last page of this document), with original signature of the PCP member, as well as Division Head.
- 2) For projects involving human subjects, a copy of an internal scientific review or QM project approval is required.
- 3) Submit the proposal using the formatting guidelines as outlined above.

Submit your application in PDF format via E-mail: cpagrant.competition@sickkids.ca

Notification

Applicants will be notified, in writing, of the outcome of their submission within two months of the submission deadline.

Fund Number

A fund will be established in the Hospital for Sick Children Research Institute in the name of the successful applicant. Please contact Jessica.balmer@sickkids.ca at Research Awards. Send along your award confirmation as well as regulatory approvals required for the study and a fund number will be released to you as soon as possible.

Reporting

Successful applicants will provide a status report on the project after one year and submit a copy of all abstracts and publications emanating from this work after completion. Please acknowledge funding in all publications (e.g. *supported by a Creative Professional Activities grant from the Department of Pediatrics, The Hospital for Sick Children.*) This report should be forwarded directly to the Associate Pediatrician-in-Chief (Dr. Jeremy Friedman).

Contact

Erin Crawford Email: cpagrant.competition@sickkids.ca

