

## Heart Centre Innovation Fund - Overview

### Purpose of Funding

The goal is to provide seed funding for innovative projects with strong potential for impact in childhood onset heart disease. Please use this application form to provide project details. Note: ALL sections have a specified maximum character count. The research proposal (max 4 pages) should be provided as an attachment to this application form.

### Eligibility/Application Requirements (Specific to \$25K Competition)

- All applications must include at least one Heart Centre PI, co-PI or co-investigator.
- A PI may submit up to two different applications in a single competition, but a maximum of one project can be chosen for funding after review by the committee.
- New Investigators (within 5 years of first faculty position) or non-MD applicants, may hold an Innovation Fund Award as PI and apply for an additional Innovation Fund award in consecutive application cycles but cannot hold more than two awards at any given time.
- Mid-Career or Senior Investigators may not apply for an Innovation Fund Award, while holding a current Innovation Fund Award and can only hold one innovation award at any given time.
- Trainees may not apply for Innovation Fund Awards with a mid-career or senior PI as primary supervisor who currently holds an Innovation Fund Award.

### Budget

All projects should have a maximum duration of 1 year. Please include a detailed budget with justification within the application. The total budget requested cannot exceed \$25,000.

### Evaluation Criteria

1. Innovation: Proposed work represents novel, unique, creative, and high-risk, high-reward projects.
2. Potential for future development / dissemination: Proposed research represents work that will lead to future expansion. For research, is this an important proof of concept or pilot work that will lead to new research directions or larger funding applications or development of new research teams? For clinical, is this a program that might be applied in other settings and other centres and achieve wider dissemination? For education, is this a program that can be disseminated or expanded?
3. Measures of impact: How will the work impact its intended target or field of inquiry? Measures must be clearly delineated and specific to the proposed work.
4. Quality of the proposal: Is the proposal scientifically sound, well-organized and well written? Are the aims clearly specified? Is the work clearly described? Is there a rigorous and relevant evaluation of outcomes?
5. Feasibility: Can the work be successfully performed given the expertise and resources available and requested?
6. Team: Do the applicants have sufficient expertise and experience to perform and publish/disseminate the work?
7. Budget: Is the budget sufficient to perform the work proposed successfully? Is the budget reasonable and well justified?

### Funding threshold

Each application will be evaluated based on the criteria above and given a score out of 5. Applications that score below the threshold of 3.7 will not be funded.

### Submission process:

Electronic applications are due **Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> (Fall Competition)** and **April 30<sup>th</sup> (Spring Competition)** and can be emailed to Christine Kerr by end of day on the deadline date: [christine.kerr@sickkids.ca](mailto:christine.kerr@sickkids.ca)

**Labatt Family Heart Centre**  
**Innovation Fund Application**

<b>Main Applicant Name:</b>		<b>Main Applicant's PI (If Applicable):</b>	
<b>Phone Extension:</b>		<b>Department/Area:</b>	
<b>Email Address:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	
<b>Position:</b>			

**Please Answer the Following:**

**a) Is your request:**

A new application

A resubmission of a previous application (attach a maximum half page summary that addresses the reviewer's comments)

**b) Please indicate Participant Type (Main Applicant):**

- Early career investigator (5 years since appointment)
- Mid-Career Investigator (5-15 years since appointment)
- Senior Career Investigator (15 years since appointment)
- Trainee (Fellow, Graduate Student)
- Allied Health Professional
- Nursing
- Clinical Research Staff (E.g. – project assistant/coordinator/manager)
- Other (Please specify)



3. **Lay Summary:** (max 1700 characters with spaces/Approximately 250 words)

- *Summarize the proposed research using non-technical language. Ensure the description can be understood by a multidisciplinary review panel. Please type in the field below*

**4. Budget, Budget Justification and Budget Overlap:**

*INSTRUCTIONS:*

- *Complete the table below with the costs for each item.*
- *Eligible costs: salaries (research coordinator, etc.), equipment, supplies, etc.*

*\*\* (Note: if you are requesting graduate student stipend, you must provide assurance of availability of funds to cover any top-up stipend and/or subsequent years' stipend for the student and cannot be a cost that will need to be re-requested in the second year of the program/project)*

- *Ineligible costs: travel, costs for publication, fellow salaries*

ITEM	ESTIMATED COST
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED</b>	

5. **Budget Justification** (max 3500 characters with spaces/Approximately 500 words):

*INSTRUCTIONS:*

- Provide a clear and concise explanation (1-2 sentences) for each requested item.
- \*For requests for salary support, provide the person's name, title, responsibilities, contract end date, and current FTE. For a pending hire, funding will not be released until the above information is provided.

6. **Other Funding/Budget Overlap for this Project**

*INSTRUCTIONS:*

- Please describe below any existing or planned operating grant funding (internal or external) for the proposed project including your role (E.g. PI, Co-PI, Co-I) on the grants Also indicate the percentage of budgetary overlap.

Funding Agency	Amount of Funding Requested/Awarded	% of overlap	Role on Project	Term of Funding (E.g. Sept 2022-Aug 2025)	Submitted or Awarded?

## 7. **Research Proposal**

### *INSTRUCTIONS:*

- ***Please attach a maximum 4-page research proposal that includes the following headers:***
  - Background & Rationale
  - Goals/Objectives
  - Methods
  - Expected results and anticipated problems
  - Innovation
  - Measures of impact
  - PI/Team Experience
  - Timeline
  - Future directions
  - References
- Within the allotted page limits, your research proposal may include text, tables, charts, figures, and photographs. You may not attach extra pages for these.
- ***Please adhere to the following formatting requirements.***
  - ***Font:*** 12-point font size (you may use smaller font for figure/table/chart/graphs as long as legible at 100%)
  - ***Line Spacing:*** A minimum of single line spacing
  - ***Text Colour:*** Black
  - ***Margins:*** 2cm (3/4 inch) on all sides.