

**Summary of Manitoba Regional Partnership Program (RPP) Policies**  
**(Revised December 2008 based on Strategic Plan)**

- The entry point for eligibility for CIHR RPP funding is 3.5 (New Investigator Awards entry is 3.8). Applications rated below 3.5 are not eligible for the RPP program.
- The Manitoba RPP Advisory Committee will award RPP grants in committee rank order of applications based on the CIHR rankings.
- An investigator may not hold consecutive RPP awards (i.e., new or renewal). A principal investigator will only be eligible to receive RPP funding again after a break in RPP support for a period of 12 months.
- An investigator from the University of Manitoba seeking RPP eligibility must be a member of an approved RPP Research Group. Questions about Research Groups may be directed to the Research Development Manager (University of Manitoba Bannatyne Campus).
- RPP awards for operating grants will be for a maximum period of 2 years. 18 months of funding will be provided at the outset and the remaining 6 months of funding will be provided upon the investigator verifying that he/she has submitted an reapplication to a national funding agency. If no verification is received, the last 6 months of funding will not be released.
- Only open Operating Grants on the RPP list with a committee percentile ranking of 50% or less will be considered for RPP funding.
- RPP operating grant applications can be classified as a CIHR renewal, if submitted 6 months prior to the termination of the RPP funding period. If resubmission is successful in obtaining full CIHR funding, the RPP funding will be cancelled effective the start date of the CIHR funding.
- RPP awards for Master's Awards will be for a maximum of 1 year, 3 years for Doctoral Awards, and 2 years for Postdoctoral Fellowships.
- RPP awards for a New Investigator will be considered for a maximum of 2 years.
- Applicants must list RPP funding for grants in the Common CV (validated for CIHR) when at least 1 year of funding has been received at the time of application.
- The Principal Investigator must be from an RPP eligible institution and 75% of the funds must stay in RPP eligible provinces. RPP funded grants may be transferred to another RPP eligible Province only if the Manitoba RPP Advisory Committee approves the transfer. By agreeing to the transfer, the new Province assumes the CIHR financial commitment from their designated CIHR-RPP envelope.
- The approved budget for RPP funded grants will include CIHR-imposed budget cuts.
- Internal peer review of RPP funded grants which are resubmitted to CIHR for full operating funding is mandatory. This review process is designed to assist RPP-funded investigators to achieve success in obtaining full CIHR funding in the next regular competition. The investigator will be expected to submit his/her next operating grant application to a panel of senior colleagues well in advance of the next CIHR deadline. Applicants will then revise the proposal consistent with the feedback provided by their colleagues.
- Assistance with this mandatory peer review process will be provided by the University of Winnipeg Office of the Vice-President (Research, International & External Affairs), Brandon University Office of the Vice-President (Academic and Research), or by the University of Manitoba Associate Vice-

President (Research), Associate Deans (Research), the Research Development Manager (Bannatyne Campus) and other personnel in the Office of Research Services as required.

### **Eligible Programs**

- As a first priority, the RPP program will support operating grants from the CIHR regular grant competitions (March 1 and September 15), subject to the conditions noted above.
- The RPP program will consider support for New Investigator Awards, postdoctoral awards, and graduate training awards for trainees working with a supervisor at a Manitoba university in an approved RPP Research Group whose application score is 3.5 or greater (3.8 for New Investigator). Support for trainees will be subject to the availability of funding in the CIHR RPP envelope and the availability of operating funds through the supervisor to support the trainee during the period they will hold the RPP award. No internal review is required, although supervisors are encouraged to have applications peer reviewed.

### **Partner Funding**

- CIHR's contribution remains 50% of the CIHR approved budget amount even if the partner may choose to contribute greater than 50% of the CIHR approved budget amount.
- Investigators awarded RPP grants shall have a 3-month time period from the approved start date of the grant to secure partner funding. An additional 3-month period may be granted upon written request to the Chair of the Manitoba RPP Advisory Committee in order to secure partner funding. In total, a maximum of 6 months from the approved start date of the RPP grant will be provided to investigators to secure partner funding.
- CIHR will allow pro-rating of budgets of individual grants funded through the RPP, down to 75% of the approved budget. CIHR's contribution will equal one-half of the pro-rated budget and the partner contribution will equal one-half of the pro-rated budget.
- Effective April 1, 2005, there will be a cap of \$100,000 (\$50,000 CIHR: \$50,000 partner) on the total annual budget commitment to individual RPP grants to maximize the number of grants funded through the program, while still providing an acceptable level of grant funding. Where \$100,000 is not equivalent to 75% or greater of the approved annual budget of an individual grant, then the 75% pro-rated budget amount will apply.