

MHRC OPPORTUNITIES GRANT PROGRAM

MHRC and our partners will be announcing request for applications in research areas including respiratory, cancer, eye, cardiovascular and aging. Pending the research area posted in the RFA, other Institutions may be listed as partners.

Note that the RFA is open to all applicants, whether they are affiliated with the partnering institution or not.

1. Purpose

Opportunity grants are intended to provide funding in specific health research areas and when appropriate, addressing a specific health concern in that research area. The research may be in one or more of the CIHR four “pillars”. The granting opportunity is intended to aid investigators to generate preliminary observations, data or knowledge, or to facilitate team formation, as a first step towards the pursuit of national and/or international funding opportunities by researchers or teams of researchers in Manitoba. The thematic area covered by the grants will vary on an annual basis.

2. Eligibility

Only investigators who hold an academic appointment at the Assistant Professor (or equivalent) or above in Manitoba are eligible to apply.

Each investigator is limited to one (individual or joint) Opportunities grant application per RFA.

3. Funding

The starting date for successful grants will be posted on the announced request for application.

Each award provides up to \$125,000 to be used within a two-year period.

Stipends may be paid to research trainees (graduate students and postdoctoral fellows); these stipends shall be up to a maximum of \$16,850 and \$35,750 respectively.

Up to a maximum of \$2500 may be used for travel related to the investigator's research program. The use of operating grant funds for travel in excess of the amounts noted above is NOT permitted without the prior written approval of Council.

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 MHRC approval for such reallocation only if the change involved is 10% or more of the grant's total.

4. Application

Applications for Opportunities grants are to be made on the 2010 Manitoba Health Research Council Opportunitites Grant application form. The application should include the correct number of hardcopies of the applicant's updated Common CV as an attachment to each application.

Instructions for completing the application and information as to the number of copies required are attached to the application form.

The deadline for applications is as posted on the RFA.

5. Review

Applications are evaluated in a competitive, peer-review process that considers the following criteria:

- importance of the research problem and the information sought in context of the RFA;
- adequacy of the research design;
- feasibility and promise of the methods proposed;
- novelty or originality of the application;
- training experience, productivity and research competence of the investigator(s);
- suitability of facilities, including the availability of any special resources required; and
- appropriateness of the requested budget relative to the work proposed.

6. Decisions

Funding decisions will be announced by the date posted in the RFA. All decisions are final.