

Continuing Health Science Education Program (CHSE) Research and Innovation Fund

CALL FOR RESEARCH PROPOSALS

The Continuing Health Science Education Program (CHSE) seeks to promote scholarly activities in continuing healthcare professions education, as well as to build a community of scholars within the field. The CHSE is introducing the Research and Innovation Fund (RIF) to promote research, innovation and overall program evaluation within continuing education. RIF grants are intended to support scholarly projects that relate directly to the planning, implementation, delivery and evaluation of continuing education for health professionals. Grant funds may be used for expenses such as research assistants, meetings of the research group, transcription fees, and incentives for study participants. RIF funds cannot be used to provide salary support, computer or other equipment, travel (other than meetings of the research group), or institutional overhead costs. Funding is not intended to support educational events, but to support research within educational settings.

RESEARCH PRIORITIES:

1. Explore methods to capture unperceived learners needs
2. Examine process outcomes of continuing education activities (e.g., knowledge retention, attitude changes, etc).
3. Develop and evaluate best practices to promote lifelong learning
4. Promote rigorous application of self-directed learning
5. Measure continuing education impact on health outcomes

FUNDING

The funding is for a total of \$15,000 divided among a maximum of three (3) grants. Approval by a research ethics board must be received before funds will be released.

DURATION OF AWARD

Projects will be awarded for a one-year period.

ELIGIBILITY

The CHSE-RIF grant is available to researchers interested in advancing research in continuing health professions education. Applicants must be involved in continuing education planning, delivery, teaching and/or research. Applicants may be individual or joint, involving one or more departments, disciplines, or faculties. Students, residents and fellows are encouraged to apply but are required to have a co-investigator who has an affiliation with the Faculty of Health Sciences at McMaster University.

FORMAT

Full proposal applications can be obtained online: [fhs.mcmaster.ca/conted/documents/RICGrantProposal.docx](https://www.fhs.mcmaster.ca/conted/documents/RICGrantProposal.docx)

The proposal application includes the following information:

1. Principal and Co-Investigator Information which should include Principal and Co-Investigator's name, title, institutional affiliation, address, and e-mail address.
2. Detailed Proposal, which should not exceed 3000 words. All proposals should include the following:
 - a. A focused and relevant review of the literature (e.g., topic of proposed research/issues of concern and relevance)
 - b. Theoretical or conceptual framework (e.g., is the project aimed at testing newly developing theories, re-testing established theories, or aimed at developing new theories?)
 - c. Research questions
 - d. Study methods/research design (e.g., subjects, instrumentation, data analysis)
 - e. A description of the relevance of the project to continuing education and how potential findings will be disseminated and translated to practice. (e.g., conferences, presentations, rounds, manuscripts, publications, etc.)

3. **Budget:** The budget should provide details of required equipment, supplies, services and salaries (if relevant). Note: The budget should NOT cover administrative surcharge or travel expenses for the purposes of disseminating the results of the study, nor should it cover any costs related to event funding.
4. **References:** Cited references shall follow the American Medical Association (AMA) format.
5. **Brief 2-page CV** for principal and associate investigators, as applicable (not to exceed more than one half page per author and to include degree(s), positions, and relevant publications to the proposal being considered).

DEADLINE

Full proposals must be received no later than **5:00pm, February 13, 2015**. Funding decisions will be announced by the mid of April 2015. Please note that incomplete submissions will not be reviewed.

REVIEW CRITERIA

Proposals will be evaluated based on the relevance and innovativeness of the research question, strength of research question and background, fit of research design and methods to the research question, and potential contribution of the finished work to the field of continuing education and dissemination strategy.

EXPECTATIONS OF APPLICANTS UPON COMPLETION

Successful applicants will have the opportunity to receive feedback and guidance on their projects twice a year with the members of the Research and Innovation Committee. Successful applicants will be required to (1) submit a brief report upon completion of the project due six months following completion, and (2) give a 20-minute presentation on their research findings to CHSE's Advisory Committee.

It should be identified in all presentations and publications related to the funded project that the project was funded through a grant from the Research and Innovation fund, McMaster Continuing Health Sciences Education Program (CHSE-RIF)

Proposals should be completed using the online form (fhs.mcmaster.ca/conted/documents/RICGrantProposal.docx) and should be submitted electronically to the:

CHSE Assistant Dean Administrative Assistant

Jasmine Trejo

trejoj@mcmaster.ca

All questions regarding the RIF proposal should be directed to:

Meghan McConnell, PhD

Chair, Research and Innovation Committee
Continuing Health Sciences Education Program
mconn@mcmaster.ca