LAST CHANCE TO APPLY TO BE AN OBSERVER – Due Feb 20

CIHR Observer Program for Early Career Researchers (ECRs)
CIHR is once again offering the Observer program for early career researchers (ECRs) to participate in the peer review process for the Project Grant: Spring 2019 competition. All those with a faculty appointment 5 years or less are invited to apply. This program is designed as an opportunity for ECRs to observe face-to-face peer review committee meetings and gain valuable insights on the review process. This is a terrific opportunity to get involved with peer review at CIHR and see what goes on behind the scenes.

Please note that all ECRs who have submitted applications to previous CIHR Observer programs are required to submit an application again in order to be considered for this opportunity. All applications will be considered “new” and, as it was with previous rounds, a lottery approach will be used to select the final candidate(s) if there are more than two applicants for a single committee. All those McMaster ECR who have previously participated have indicated that they have benefited. This is a very popular program, and by application only; HRS will facilitate letters for this opportunity. Request by emailing hsresadm@mcmaster.ca --- submit to CIHR by the deadline of Feb 20.

The full details are now available on CIHR’s website.

Alton Ochsner Award Relating Smoking and Disease
The Alton Ochsner Award recognizes outstanding scientific achievements that have provided pivotal insights into the fundamental biological and clinical mechanisms that relate tobacco consumption with disease. This scientific work may be clinical, fundamental, epidemiological, or prevention in scope. The prime criterion for award is its scientific context and impact on this major health threat. All nominations, whatever the category of scientific inquiry, must be supported by letters and copies of peer-reviewed scientific publications as detailed below.

One to three investigators will receive an award of $15,000.

Nominations should be made by a letter describing in detail, but concisely, the scientific work and major contributions of the investigator to the field. Self-nominations are excluded. The nomination packet must also include and be supported by:

1. Nominee’s CV (including active mailing address, office and cell telephone numbers, e-mail address, and bibliography);
2. At least 2 additional supporting letters from scientific peers from outside the candidate’s institution;
3. Reprints of at least 3 pertinent major scientific contributions.

Submissions should be made as PDF attachment(s) sent electronically to the Ochsner Clinic at AOSRA@ochsner.org. Any nominees not receiving the award will automatically be considered for an additional two years. Unsuccessful candidates must wait two years before being re-nominated, after those three years of consideration.

Deadline: March 31, 2019

For more information please contact Danelle D’Alvise at dalvise@mcmaster.ca.

John C. Sibley 2019 Award for Excellence in Education for Part Time Faculty
Background: The John C. Sibley Award is named in honour of Jack Sibley who became Associate Dean, Education in 1979 and was known for his interdisciplinary approach to community health both locally and internationally.

The John C. Sibley award is presented annually to a part-time faculty member in the Faculty of Health Sciences who has contributed in an outstanding manner to the education of health professionals (preferably in more than one sector) (see reverse side for previous winners). The award, which includes a citation and a cheque in the amount of $2500.00 (gross), is presented at a formal meeting of the recipient’s department/school. The names of both the winners and nominees are announced publicly through email and newsletters. A permanent plaque in the 2J area (HSC) serves as a record of the awardees.

Nomination Guidelines:
Nominations are now being requested for this prestigious award, which highlights the importance of part-time faculty in fulfilling the academic mission. The nominees will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

▪ Development and evaluation of innovative educational activities in the health sciences
▪ Support of interprofessional education
▪ Sustained commitment to the academic mission
▪ Impact on teaching and learning in FHS programs and initiatives

If you know of an eligible part-time faculty member, we would strongly encourage you to submit a nomination. The nomination package should include an updated CV; a detailed letter by the proposer which addresses each of the above criteria highlighting examples in each area; two supporting letters commenting on the special contributions of the nominee in line with the criteria. Please send appropriate documentation to Dr. Alan Neville, Associate Dean, Health Professional Education and Chair, Sibley Selection Committee to HSC-2E18 or by email mcarthj@mcmaster.ca by Friday March 22nd, 2019.

CIHR PROJECT SPRING 2019 REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN. You must register by February 6, 2019 if you wish to submit a full application.

Webinars on the Project Grant: Spring 2019 Application

CIHR is holding a series of webinars on the Project Grant: Spring 2019 application. These Question and Answer webinars are designed to complement the Project Grant: Spring 2019 Applicant Learning Module, which are available now on the Learning for Applicants web page. Together, the module and webinars will give applicants an insightful understanding of the recent changes to the Project Grant competition and the application submission process.

The Project Grant: Spring 2018 webinars will be held between January 23rd and February 27th. Register for a webinar now.

Host a Clinical Trials Intern

Western University’s Clinical Trials Management post-degree diploma is now recruiting hosts and sites for summer practicums. If you are interested in more information, please connect with Katrina McIntosh, Katrina.mcintosh@uwo.ca, 519-661-2111 x85211, or check out further details at http://hostanintern.uwo.ca.

The Clinical Trials Management program is a one-year post-degree program that includes 9 clinical trials courses and a mandatory practicum. Enrollment is competitive and candidates must have an undergraduate Science or Health Science degree. In order to graduate from the program, students must complete a 400 hour practicum which is scheduled to run from May – August, 2019 (end dates vary based on hours/week at the site, which is flexible).

MIRA 2019 Funding Information Sessions

TRAINEE FUNDING

MIRA Graduate Student Travel Awards
Deadlines to apply: March 1 & September 6
Funding available: Up to 10 awards of $500

Graduate students travelling to collect data or to present research at an academic conference are eligible for up to $500 in travel funding from MIRA. For more details, click here; Download the application form here.

MIRA Undergraduate Summer Research Fellowship (USRF)

Deadline to apply: March 9
Funding available: Up to 10 awards of $1,000

Undergraduate students are encouraged to apply for MIRA’s Undergraduate Summer Fellowship Program (USRF), which will support up to 10 summer research positions supervised by MIRA faculty members. Students must approach faculty members and jointly develop a research proposal with a focus on aging for submission to MIRA. For more information, click here; Download the application form here.

MIRA Postdoctoral Fellowships

Deadline to apply: May 1
Funding available: Up to three awards of $50,000; requires supervisor match of at least $10,000 for benefits

Prospective post-doctoral Fellows are invited to submit a research plan that focuses on interdisciplinary, impact-driven approaches in the study of optimal aging through one or more of the following themes: 1) impact of exercise on mobility; 2) interrelationship between psychological function and social function; 3) causes and consequences of multimorbidity, frailty, and polypharmacy; 4) role of caregiving, equity, economics and transportation in optimal aging; 5) understanding the biological mechanisms of diseases of aging; 6) evaluating approaches to knowledge translation to improve optimal aging; and, 7) use of technology to promote optimal aging and aging in place. The applicant and principal supervisor are expected to involve at least two other researchers from two different McMaster Faculties (outside of the principal supervisor’s Faculty) as mentors in the development of an interdisciplinary research plan. For more information, click here; Download the application form here.

Labarge Graduate Scholarships in Mobility in Aging

Deadline to apply: May 15
Funding available: One award each of $15,000 (Master’s) and $18,000 (PhD)

Students beginning a new graduate degree are eligible to apply for the Labarge Graduate Scholarship. The student’s research focus must be related to aging and mobility, and requires both a MIRA supervisor and a mentor from a Faculty outside of the supervisor’s. For more information, click here.

AGE-WELL/MIRA Co-Funded Trainee Awards

Information Session: March 29, 9 – 10 a.m., MDCL 3504

Anticipated deadline: May 31

Available funding: Master’s level $15,000, PhD level $18,000, Postdoctoral $50,000

MIRA and AGE-WELL have partnered to co-fund awards for trainees who are working to drive innovation and create technologies and services that benefit older adults and caregivers. Projects must fit within AGE-WELL’s vision to harness and build upon the potential of emerging and advanced technologies in areas such as artificial intelligence (AI), e-health, information communication technologies (ICTS), and mobile technologies to stimulate technological, social, and policy innovation. Funding period is September 2019 - March 2020. To be eligible for this funding, McMaster applicants must notify MIRA research coordinator Audrey Patocs (patocsae@mcmaster.ca) of their intent to be considered for the award. More information.
AGE-WELL/MIRA Co-Funded Strategic Investment Program (SIP) Funding

Deadline to apply: March 1
Funding available: Up to $40,000 over 12 months

Do you have an innovative idea that has the potential for real-world impact at the intersection of technology and aging? AGE-WELL’s SIP Accelerator funding program supports innovative post-discovery projects focused on the commercialization and/or knowledge mobilization of solutions to real-world problems (e.g. technologies, services or policies) aligned with AGE-WELL’s mission and vision. The program will also provide strategic mentorship and training opportunities from the AGE-WELL network and its partners in addition to financial support. McMaster applicants should apply directly to the AGE-WELL 2019 SIP and notify Audrey Patocs at patocsae@mcmaster.ca of intent to apply. More information

Catalyst Grants: MIRA & Labarge Centre for Mobility in Aging

Deadline: April 30
Funding available: $40,000 over one year; six grants available (one per McMaster Faculty)

MIRA/Labarge Catalyst grants offer the opportunity to conduct collaborative and interdisciplinary research focused on mobility in aging, where mobility may include physiological, social, and financial mobility, as well as mobility within community or health systems. These grants are intended to stimulate new collaborations and allow researchers to collect preliminary data, conduct feasibility or pilot studies, or scaling of interventions. The ultimate goal of this funding is to support future proposals for full-scale studies. Each Faculty, through the Associate Dean (Research), is asked to nominate one proposal to be funded by MIRA. Submissions should include researchers from at least three different McMaster Faculties as meaningful contributors to the project. These grants require matching funds of at least $5000 (up to $2500 may be in-kind contributions) from alternate sources to support the project. For more details, click here; Download the application form here.

Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging: Call for Proposals

2019 application deadlines: February 25, June 3, and September 23

Funding available: MIRA can support access fees ($3,000) for up to 10 CLSA data applications

MIRA members are eligible for support in accessing CLSA data, a national database tracking 50,000 Canadians aged 45 to 85 over a period of 20 years. Data access applications are accepted three times per year. Researchers should notify Audrey Patocs by emailing her at patocsae@mcmaster.ca prior to applying for CLSA data access to be considered for MIRA funding. MIRA funds will be allocated only to projects that do not have any other funding for this purpose. More information

MIRA/LCMA Matching Funding for External, Competitive Funding Calls

Deadline: Rolling

Funding available: Matching funds up to $100,000

In order to improve the positioning of McMaster’s researchers in external funding competitions, MIRA and the Labarge Centre for Mobility in Aging have allocated funding that may be used to match or leverage external funds. This process is intended to be used for requests related to externally funded, peer-reviewed grant competitions that require a matching component. For more details, click here.

Research Project Management Course at UofT

Good project management is vital to the success of major research projects. UofT has developed a course specifically tailored for the project management of research projects. The course has been adapted for research project management through the collaboration of an Advisory Group of faculty and staff, the School of Continuing Studies, staff from the Division of the Vice-President, Research & Innovation, and the instructor, Dr. Alison Paprica. Dr. Paprica (Assistant Professor [status] at the U of T Institute of Health Policy, Management & Evaluation), was previously the Director responsible for up to $60
million/year of government research funding and has also led numerous large-scale R&D projects in the private, public and not-for-profit sectors. The course is designed for faculty researchers, staff scientists, post-doctoral fellows, research coordinators and those interested in a path to management and research leadership. This is the second year the course is being offered. Last year, given demand for the fall course, we mounted an additional section for the winter.

Information and registration can be found at 3382 Project Management for Research.

**Invitation for feedback: Prioritizing Future Challenges for Canada**

Canada’s three research granting agencies, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (CIHR, NSERC, SSHRC), and the Canada Foundation for Innovation, are seeking your expertise to help prioritize which future challenges identified through a recent horizon scan are considered most important for Canada.

Outcomes from this consultation may also be leveraged to support the priorities of the Canada Research Coordinating Committee (CRCC), notably to advance efforts in identifying key emerging research areas. Stakeholders from all four agencies are invited to participate in this consultation. Information on the CRCC’s priorities is available on the CRCC’s website. Building upon the success of SSHRC’s 2014 Imagining Canada’s Future initiative, the granting agencies partnered with Policy Horizons Canada, a federal centre of foresight expertise, to undertake a horizon scan as a first step in identifying future challenges for Canada over the next 10 to 15 years.

Policy Horizons Canada drew on sources from across digital media, academic studies, and foresight projects to identify and analyze change data for its global scan. They also conducted a literature review of over 600 early change indicators, and examined additional materials produced by Policy Horizons Canada, government departments and agencies, and other organizations around the world. These approaches were complemented by an online questionnaire engaging various key networks and foresight communities from more than 60 countries.

The scan has identified 16 future challenges with the potential to shape society in profound ways, and which are all multi-disciplinary and require broad collaboration to address. The granting agencies ask that you select one top challenge and explore its possible impacts through a brief survey. For the challenge you select, you will be asked a series of questions. You will have the option of repeating the exercise for a challenge you deem of next-most importance. The granting agencies are inviting input from a variety of individuals across the academic, private, public and not-for-profit sectors, in Canada and internationally. Beyond the 16 challenges identified in the horizon scan, you have the opportunity to identify additional challenges deemed critical to Canada’s future.

By taking part in their brief prioritization exercise, using the Futurescaper crowdsourcing tool, you will help to identify which challenges to consider for possible future programming and/or corporate activities. Once you have reviewed the 16 future challenges, the exercise will take you about 10 to 15 minutes to complete. To begin, please follow this link: FUTURE CHALLENGES PRIORITIZATION

Results of this foresight exercise will be available by spring 2019. Responses are anonymous, and results will be aggregated to ensure anonymity.

Associated Links:

- Imagining Canada’s Future initiative
- Policy Horizons Canada
- Canada Research Coordinating Committee
- Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada
- Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada
- Canadian Institutes of Health Research
- Canada Foundation for Innovation
Compilation of GDPR Guidances Now Available

The Office for Human Research Protections has developed a new resource for IRBs, researchers, and sponsors that are involved in human subjects research in Europe. Titled Compilation of European GDPR Guidances, the document lists the data protection authorities of all European countries that fall under the new E.U. General Data Protection Directive (GDPR). For each country, the compilation also provides the links to any general GDPR guidances, as well as specific guidances on the topics of Research, Legal Basis, Consent, and International Data Transfer.

The new Compilation is available here:
https://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/international/index.html

Health Research Grant Competitions

*Programs administered by Health Research Services, unless otherwise indicated. Email: hsresadm@mcmaster.ca*

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**CIHR – Planning and Dissemination Grants**

CIHR’s mandate is to excel, according to internationally accepted standards of scientific excellence, in the creation of new knowledge and its translation into improved health, more effective health services and products, and a strengthened health care system through a unique interdisciplinary structure made up of virtual Institutes and Initiatives. The Institutes and Initiatives are networks of researchers and stakeholders brought together to focus on important health problems, with each Institute/Initiative dedicated to a specific area of focus, linking and supporting researchers pursuing common goals.

One of the mechanisms for the Institutes/Initiatives to achieve their mandates is by offering planning and/or dissemination grants within the Institute Community Support (ICS) Program. The Planning and Dissemination Grants are intended to provide support for planning and/or dissemination activities consistent with the mandate of CIHR and relevant to CIHR Institutes, or Initiatives. Events/activities may focus on, but are not limited to, the following:

**Planning:**
- Activities that assist potential teams of researchers, knowledge-users and/or partners in working together to identify research questions or emerging issues and priorities that could form the basis of a grant application
- Stakeholder consultations, including citizen engagement activities regarding needs, gaps and opportunities in the health research landscape, priority policy issues and/or priority research questions, where such common understanding is currently lacking or requires further development
- Initial planning and discussion of a research project among potential team members, including researchers, knowledge-users and/or partners to assess the viability of the research project and the partnership
- Conducting an environmental scan or preliminary synthesis of relevant literature, activities or programs
- Early-stage planning to determine possible commercial viability of a discovery
- Opportunities for knowledge exchange involving stakeholder linkages to inform practice, care, and/or policy that could potentially lead to an application to a funding opportunity
- Gatherings of partners, health researchers, and/or knowledge-users where the main objective is to facilitate regional/national and/or international collaboration among individuals or groups from a variety of backgrounds (ex., building new and existing multi-sectored partnerships that include a significant number of participants from outside the conventional scientific community, consensus meetings, networking and partnership development events) interested in applying to a funding opportunity

**Dissemination:**
- Education of groups, such as patients, health professionals, community organizations, policy makers, and the general public
- Knowledge dissemination that will inform practice, clinical care, partnership best practices, policy and decision making
- Dissemination and/or discussion of research findings at scientific meetings, workshops, conferences, congresses or symposia
- Development and dissemination of knowledge translation products and tools (e.g., written materials in various formats, plain language summaries, decision support tools, educational materials, and web sites)
Note: This funding opportunity is not intended to support the direct cost of research (e.g., pilot projects, feasibility studies or operating grants), principal and co-investigator salaries or research equipment. Primary research or primary data collection will not be supported through this funding opportunity. Any activity that may be perceived as such should be justified (e.g., surveying individuals for the purpose of the project).

Funding Details: The total amount available for this funding opportunity is $1,480,000. This amount may increase if additional funding partners participate.

- Of this $1,480,000:
  - $100,000 is available to fund applications relevant to the CIHR Institute of Aging (IA)
  - $50,000 is available to fund applications relevant to the CIHR Institute of Cancer Research (ICR)
  - $45,000 is available to fund applications relevant to the CIHR Institute of Circulatory and Respiratory Health (ICRHR)
  - $40,000 is available to fund applications relevant to the CIHR Institute of Gender and Health (IGH)
  - $60,000 is available to fund applications relevant to the CIHR Institute of Genetics (IG)
  - $50,000 is available to fund applications relevant to the CIHR Institute of Health Services and Policy Research (IHSPR)
  - $60,000 is available to fund applications relevant to the CIHR Institute of Human Development, Child and Youth Health (IHDCYH)
  - $100,000 is available to fund applications relevant to the CIHR Institute of Indigenous Peoples’ Health (IIPH)
  - $70,000 is available to fund applications relevant to the CIHR Institute of Infection and Immunity (III)
  - $50,000 is available to fund applications relevant to the CIHR Institute of Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis (IMHA)
  - $100,000 is available to fund applications relevant to the CIHR Institute of Neurosciences, Mental Health and Addiction (INMA)
  - $90,000 is available to fund applications relevant to the CIHR Institute of Nutrition, Metabolism and Diabetes (INMD)
  - $300,000 is available to fund applications relevant to the CIHR Institute of Population and Public Health (IPPH) – Equitable Artificial Intelligence for Public Health
  - A total of $225,000 is available to fund applications relevant to the CIHR Healthy Cities Research Initiative. Of this, $25,000 is available to fund applications relevant to the mandate of the CIHR Institute of Indigenous Peoples’ Health (IIPH)
  - $140,000 is available to fund applications relevant to the CIHR HIV/AIDS and/or other Sexually Transmitted and Blood-borne Infections (STBBIs)

Addional Details

Internal HRS Deadline: February 19, 2019
Sponsor Deadline: March 5, 2019

CIHR – Health System Impact Fellowship

The Health System Impact (HSI) Fellowship (for doctoral trainees and post-doctoral fellows) provides highly-qualified doctoral trainees and post-doctoral fellows studying health services and policy research (HSPR), or related fields, a unique opportunity to apply their research and analytic talents to critical challenges in health care that are being addressed by health system and related organizations (e.g., public, private for-profit, not-for-profit, and Indigenous health organizations that are not universities) outside of the traditional scholarly setting, and to also develop professional experience, new skills, and networks.

About the Program

The HSI Fellowship provides doctoral and post-doctoral awardees, both referred to as fellows, with a paid experiential learning opportunity within health system and related organizations where they will dedicate the majority of their time towards a co-developed program of work that advances the organization’s impact goals and contributes to improved health system performance. Fellows will be exposed to how the health system and related organizations work, how decisions are made, how research and analytic skills can contribute to an organization’s performance, and the organization’s role in contributing to improved health and health system performance.

The HSI Fellowship contains a stream for doctoral trainees and a stream for post-doctoral fellows:

- **Doctoral fellows** receive a paid one-year experiential learning opportunity where they are embedded in their health system partner organization for at least 60% of their time focused on an impact-oriented project of direct relevance to their partner organization. The remaining time (up to 40%), is protected to continue with their doctoral program commitments.

- **Post-doctoral fellows** receive a paid two-year experiential learning opportunity where they are embedded in their health system partner organization for at least 70% of their time focused on their impact-oriented program of work. The remaining time (up to 30%), is protected for academic research.

Flexibility in the time commitment will enable fellows to make meaningful contributions to an organization’s impact goal, become immersed in the culture and operations of the organization, and benefit from mentorship by executive leaders, while also protecting time to continue with doctoral program commitments or post-doctoral academic research with an academic supervisor. This
immersion in both the health system and academic communities, and the co-mentorship by a health system leader and an academic supervisor, are unique elements of the HSI Fellowship program.

HSI Fellows’ experiential learning will also be enhanced through two training offerings:

- Professional development training in a core set of enriched competencies (e.g., leadership, negotiation, project management, change management) designed to accelerate their professional growth and better prepare them to embark on a wider range of career paths with greater impact; and
- Participation in a national cohort of HSI Fellows and leaders from academic and health system and related organizations.

Program Motivation
The HSI Fellowship for doctoral trainees and post-doctoral fellows is a core component of a three-pronged multi-year training modernization funding initiative that stems from the Canadian Health Services and Policy Research Alliance’s (CHSPRA’s) Training Modernization Strategy [ PDF (324 KB) - external link ] . The Training Modernization Strategy identifies key strategic directions to modernize university-based HSPR doctoral and post-doctoral training programs for optimized career readiness and impact. The strategy recognizes and addresses the disconnect between the prospective career trajectories of today’s PhD graduates - which are diverse and which often involve multiple sectors other than the university - and existing PhD training programs that remain predominantly geared towards academic careers. Within health services and policy, the potential contribution of well-prepared PhD graduates to inform health policy and system transformation is considerable. The Training Modernization Strategy outlines a roadmap to harness this potential.

In addition to preparing PhD trainees and post-doctoral fellows with the professional skills, competencies, experiences and networks to make meaningful and impactful contributions to our health system, the HSI Fellowship also aims to build demand and capacity among health system and related employer organizations for PhD talent. The program links health system organizations with a cohort of the country’s rising stars in HSPR and related fields (including, but are not limited to, population health, health economics, artificial intelligence, health policy, public health, epidemiology, gerontology, data science, etc.). In doing so, the program aims to move Canada along the path towards learning health systems.

Overall, the HSI Fellowship blends research and professional competency development with practical, hands on experience that is complemented with unique mentorship, leadership, and capacity strengthening opportunities. It welcomes a diversity of types of projects and programs of work - including applied research, policy analysis, quality improvement, intervention research, surveillance, priority setting and strategic planning, data management/stewardship, and more – as long as the work relates to critical challenges in health care that are being addressed by the organization and that the work contributes to achieving the health system organization’s impact goal. This is the third launch of the program, and examples of previously funded HSI Fellows, their host partner organizations, and programs of work can be found on CIHR’s website.

Funding Details: See Additional Details.

Additional Details
Internal HRS Deadline: March 19, 2019
Sponsor Deadline: April 2, 2019

CIHR – Operating Grant: CEEHRC (Epigenetics) 2019
This funding opportunity is expected to:

- Promote the continued coordination and integration of epigenetic and epigenomic research across Canada and internationally
- Promote the continued coordination and integration of knowledge translation activities across the CEEHRC funded components

Funding Details:

- $250,000 per year is available for four years to support the activities of the research consortia.
- $80,000 is available in year 1 of the grant, specifically for the planning, organization and hosting of the 2019 International Human Epigenome Consortium (IHEC) meeting.

Additional Details
Internal HRS Deadline: March 26, 2019
Sponsor Deadline: April 9, 2019

CIHR – Operating Grant: New Investigator Grants in Child and Youth Health
The SickKids Foundation–CIHR-IHDCYH New Investigator Research Grants in Child and Youth Health in Child and Youth Health program seeks to strengthen Canada’s capacity and knowledge to respond to children’s health challenges and needs. The grants are
jointly sponsored by SickKids Foundation and the CIHR Institute of Human Development, Child and Youth Health (IHDCYH). New investigators (also referred to by CIHR as early career investigators) may obtain up to three years of support for research in biomedical, clinical, health systems and services, population and public health sectors that has the potential for significant impact on children’s health outcomes.

Research Areas
This funding opportunity will support projects relevant to both SickKids Foundation’s mission and IHDCYH’s mandate: SickKids Foundation’s mission is to improve the lives of children and their families in Canada and around the world. For more information, please consult the SickKids Foundation website.

IHDCYH’s mandate is to support research that ensures the best start in life for all Canadians and the achievement of their potential for optimal growth and development. This broad mandate covers defined time periods and a wide range of issues pertaining to human development: pre-conception, fertilization, embryonic and fetal development, the health of the mother and father, and the health and development of infants, children and youth (up to 25 years of age).

The aim of the SickKids Foundation–CIHR-IHDCYH New Investigator Research Grants in Child and Youth Health program is to provide important early career development support to child health researchers and enhance their ability to compete for future research grants.

Funding Details: The total amount available for this funding opportunity is $1,800,000, enough to fund approximately six (6) grants. The maximum amount for a single grant is $100,000 per annum for up to three (3) years, for a total of $300,000 per grant.

- Of this $1,800,000:
  - $300,000 is available to fund applications relevant to IHDCY’s mandate;
  - $1,500,000 is available to fund applications relevant to the mission of SickKids Foundation.

Additional Details
Internal HRS Deadline: April 8, 2019
Sponsor Deadline: April 22, 2019

CIHR – Team Grant: Indigenous Component of Healthy Life Trajectories (I-HeLTI)

Non-communicable diseases (NCDs) are responsible for more than 60% of deaths globally, and 80% of these NCD-associated deaths occur in countries that have experienced rapid changes in population demographics (2–4 generations) and environments, including urbanisation, lifestyle changes and changes in diet. To address these issues, CIHR developed the Healthy Life Trajectories Initiative (HeLTI), which follows a Developmental Origins of Health and Disease (DOHaD) approach, by exploring how the interaction of environmental factors with genes prior to and during conception, pregnancy, infancy and early childhood impacts an individual’s health and the development of NCDs in later life. CIHR is currently funding an International component of HeLTI, through a partnership among research teams, the World Health Organization, and funding agencies based in Canada, South Africa, China and India. These countries have experienced rapid changes in population demographics and environments, and have a high incidence of NCDs.

NCDs, including diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, and respiratory diseases, are also a priority issue for Indigenous Peoples (First Nations, Inuit and Métis) in Canada. CIHR has therefore launched the Indigenous component of HeLTI (I-HeLTI) to address similar issues faced by and specific to Indigenous Peoples in Canada. I-HeLTI will take a DOHaD approach, supporting the development, implementation, testing and evaluation of Indigenous-focused early interventions (preconception, pregnancy, infancy and early childhood) designed to improve health outcomes in later life for Indigenous boys, girls, women, men, gender-diverse and Two-Spirit individuals in Canada.

Development Grants have been funded to bring interested Indigenous communities together with self-identified relevant organizations to build community participation in I-HeLTI and to establish needed expertise to support Indigenous-driven health research. Recipients of these Development Grants participated in a Strengthening Workshop that addressed community readiness, priorities, research capacity, data capacity considerations, sex and gender considerations and governance, as well as building relationships with researchers.

This funding opportunity will fund four (4) I-HeLTI research teams that will build the infrastructure and capacity that is needed to conduct an Indigenous-driven I-HeLTI DOHaD Intervention Cohort Research Study. This funding opportunity is not restricted only to those who received a development grant. I-HeLTI will operate according to Indigenous self-governance and self-determination, recognizing the need to respect how Indigenous Peoples must be involved in health research.

A subsequent funding opportunity for one (1) Indigenous-driven I-HeLTI DOHaD Intervention Cohort will coincide with the renewal date of the team grant funding. It is expected that the four funded teams will collaborate to respond to the intervention cohort
funding opportunity and establish one Indigenous-driven I-HeLTI DOHaD Intervention Cohort. As such, the funded research teams will collaborate to develop the partnerships, and leverage the necessary expertise and resources to establish an Indigenous-driven I-HeLTI DOHaD Intervention Cohort. This will include working together to define roles and responsibilities around research governance, and research data management.

As part of this, the funded teams will be provided with the common dataset variables that are being collected by the International component of HeLTI in order to determine which of the variables are culturally appropriate and feasible for use in I-HeLTI. They will also evaluate the data management processes established by the International cohorts for utility in I-HeLTI. Funded teams will then develop data management processes including how data and biosamples will be collected, documented and stored during the lifecycle of the project in a manner that will optimize the opportunity to share, link, integrate and harmonize data, if and when Indigenous Peoples make the decision to do so.

This funding opportunity is to support research over two (2) fiscal years (2019-20 to 2020-21) with the possibility of renewals for a total of eight years of support up to 2026-27. In order to enable the development of infrastructure and capacity by each of the teams in preparation for joining the Indigenous-driven I-HeLTI DOHaD Intervention Cohort, in the first two years (fiscal years 2019-20 to 2020-21), the teams will receive infrastructure funding to support capacity building and infrastructure in addition to baseline funding. Upon renewal, the baseline funding will then continue for the remaining term (up to fiscal year 2026-27) of the team grants to provide local funding to each of the teams to support their roles within the overall I-HeLTI DOHaD Intervention Cohort collaboration.

I-HeLTI team grants will sustain the I-HeLTI investment through long-term Indigenous community engagement and institutional commitments.

Research Areas
This funding opportunity will support teams to build infrastructure and capacity along the continuum of care and prevention from preconception to pregnancy, infancy and early childhood, with a life trajectory perspective relevant to the following research areas:

- A DOHaD / life trajectory approach;
- A focus on the prevention of NCDs; and
- An intervention cohort design.

Interventions must target evidence-based, modifiable risk factors for one or more NCDs. Interventions can be natural experiments (e.g., policy, programs, or other interventions not under the control of a researcher), or newly implemented or adapted interventions delivered by the researcher team or others.

For this I-HeLTI funding opportunity, the objectives will need to be addressed within an Indigenous health research context. That is, the approach to the funding opportunity objectives will need to be conducted by, grounded in, or engaged with First Nations, Inuit or Métis communities, societies or individuals and their wisdom, cultures, experiences or knowledge systems, as expressed in their dynamic forms, past and present.

Funding Details: The total amount available for this funding opportunity is $4,050,000, enough to fund four (4) grants over two (2) years. The maximum amount per grant for this funding opportunity is $1,012,500, with the possibility of renewals.

- Of the $1,012,500 per grant:
  - $325,000 is available for the team activities (baseline funding – $125,000 in year 1 and $200,000 in year 2)
  - $687,500 is available per grant to support infrastructure, capacity building and partnerships. ($325,000 in year 1 and $362,500 in year 2).
- There is the possibility of renewals for an additional total amount of $4,800,000. An additional $1,200,000 per grant ($200,000 per year for up to six [6] years) will be available for renewals if successful in joining the one (1) funded Indigenous-driven I-HeLTI DOHaD Intervention Cohort.

Additional Details
Internal HRS Deadline: April 17, 2019
Sponsor Deadline: May 1, 2019

Operating Grant: Early Career investigator Grants in Maternal, Reproductive, Child & Youth Health
This funding opportunity is a collaboration between three CIHR institutes with a goal to build research capacity in maternal, reproductive, child and youth health by funding operating grants to early career investigators.

The program will fund research across the four CIHR research themes (biomedical, clinical, health services, and social, cultural, environmental, and population health) that has the potential to have a significant impact on maternal, reproductive, child and youth
health outcomes according to the mandates of the participating CIHR institutes. Ultimately, the program aims to strengthen Canada's capacity and knowledge to respond to challenges and needs by providing important early career development support to researchers in these fields.

This funding opportunity does not require applicants to participate in a mentoring program or have a formal mentorship plan; however, having a system of research support/advice is something that applicants should think carefully about. CIHR has a Training and Mentoring Learning Module. While the module was developed for applicants to the Foundation Grant program, there is a subsection on “Best Practices” that provides information on what makes an effective mentor and mentoring program and is generally applicable.

Research Areas
All applications in the area of maternal, reproductive, child and youth health research as per IHDCYH's mandate will be eligible for support.

In addition, funding is available to support projects that are determined to be relevant to the following specific research areas:

- ECIIs in MRCYH – Infection and Immunity: Maternal, reproductive, child and/or youth health research relevant to the Institute of Infection and Immunity’s mandate.
- ECIIs in MRCYH - Neurosciences, Mental Health and Addiction: Maternal, reproductive, child and/or youth health research relevant to the Institute of Neurosciences, Mental Health and Addiction’s mandate.

In keeping with the CIHR Sex, Gender and Health Research policy, all proposals are expected to consider how sex and/or gender might shape the research described. Applicants are encouraged to visit the CIHR sex- and gender-based analysis resource page for more information on key considerations for the appropriate integration of sex and gender in their proposal.

Funding Details: The total amount available from CIHR for this funding opportunity is $945,000, enough to fund up to 9 grants. The maximum amount per grant from CIHR is $35,000 per year for up to 3 years, for a total of $105,000.

- Of the $945,000:
  - $210,000 is available to fund applications in the research area relevant to III (2 grants).
  - $105,000 is available to fund applications in the research area relevant to INMHA (1 grant).
  - $630,000 is available to fund applications in a general pool, which will be comprised, of all remaining fundable applications in the competition. (6 grants).

- Applicants must secure partner contribution from non-federal sources to match the CIHR contribution at a minimum of 1:1 ratio by the successful applicant’s host institution and/or other partner(s), which may include but are not limited to foundations, health charities, community groups, industry and private sector.
  - Matching funds must be 100% cash contributions; cash equivalent matching contributions are not eligible.
  - Matching funds must be committed by the application deadline date; details must be committed in the Partnership Details form (see How to Apply section).
  - Start-up funds provided to an applicant by their host institution are eligible as matching funds if some, or all, of those funds can be committed to the project. Any portion of start-up funding already committed to another research project is not eligible. The details must be provided in a letter of support (see How to Apply section).

Additional Details
Registration Deadline: April 2, 2019
Internal HRS Deadline: April 30, 2019
Sponsor Deadline: May 14, 2019

CIHR – Team Grant: ERA-Net PerMed
ERA PerMed will foster research and innovation activities building close linkages between basic biomedical research, clinical research, bioinformatics, epidemiology, socio-economic research, as well as research on the integration of Personalised Medicine into clinical practice and on ethical, legal and social implications. The overarching goal is to improve disease management, with better patient stratification, diagnostics and treatment protocols, and disease prevention. Proposals submitted under this call are expected to demonstrate the applicability of project outcomes into clinical practice as well as to describe the impact on the health care systems. Proposals are expected to include research on ethical, legal and socio-economic implications, including health economics and regulation, and/or research on optimisation of health care systems.

Research Areas
This funding opportunity will support projects relevant to the following research areas, as described on the IC PerMed International Consortium website.

CIHR will ONLY support applications that respond to the specific call-topics listed under:

1. Research Area 1: “Translating Basic to Clinical Research and Beyond”.

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1. Module 1B: Clinical Research.

2. **Research Area 2:** “Integrating Big Data and ICT Solutions”:
   a. Module 2A: Data and ICT – Enabling Technology; **AND/OR**

3. **Research Area 3:** “Research towards Implementation of Personalised Medicine”
   a. Module 3A: Optimising Health Care System **AND/OR**
   b. Module 3B: Ethical, Legal and Social aspects

Applicants must address at least one module of Research Area 3 (Module 3A or 3B) AND at least one of the following: Research Area 1 (Module 1B) AND/OR Research Area 2 (Module 2A or 2B).

*IMPORTANT: CIHR will NOT support applications that respond to Research Area 1, Module 1A.

The coherent integration and combination of the different Research Areas and Modules in the proposals will be part of the evaluation process.

**Funding Details:** The total amount available for this funding opportunity is up to a maximum of CAD $1,850,000, which can fund up to 4 grants from all Canadian funding sources. This amount may increase if additional funding partners participate. The maximum amount per grant is $150,000 per year for a maximum of 3 years for a total of $450,000 per grant.

- Of this CAD $1,850,000:
  - Up to CAD $1,350,000 is available from CIHR for eligible teams from Canada; and
  - Up to CAD $500,000 is available to fund applications relevant to the mandate of the Fonds de recherche du Québec – Santé FRQS.

**Additional Details**

**Pre-Proposal Deadline:** March 7, 2019  
**Internal HRS Deadline:** June 3, 2019  
**Sponsor Deadline:** June 17, 2019

**CIHR – Joint Programme on Neurodegenerative Disease Research (JPND)**

All Canadian applications must additionally meet eligibility; for more information, please consult [JPco-fuND](#).

Neurodegenerative diseases are debilitating and largely untreatable conditions that are strongly linked with age. Worldwide, there are estimated to be 47 million people suffering from Alzheimer’s disease and related disorders, the most common class of neurodegenerative diseases. This figure is expected to double every 20 years as the population ages. Existing treatments for neurodegenerative diseases are limited in effect and mainly address the symptoms rather than the cause or the progressive course. In this context, the EU Joint Programme – Neurodegenerative Disease Research (JPND) was established in order to better coordinate research efforts across countries and disciplines to more rapidly find causes, develop cures and identify better ways to care for people with neurodegenerative disease. The [JPND Research and Innovation Strategy](#), published in 2012 and refreshed in 2018, identified research priorities and provided a framework for future investment.

One of the greatest challenges for treating neurodegenerative diseases is the deciphering of this variability, which can be addressed through personalised medicine. “Personalised Medicine,” as defined by the Horizon 2020 advisory group, “refers to a medical model using characterisation of individuals’ phenotypes and genotypes (e.g., molecular profiling, medical imaging, lifestyle data) for tailoring the right therapeutic strategy for the right person at the right time, and/or to determine the predisposition to disease and/or to deliver timely and targeted prevention.”

The goal of this call [Multinational research projects on Personalised Medicine for Neurodegenerative Diseases (JPco-fuND)](#) is to increase the number of high quality transnational scientific projects. These projects must demonstrate clear scientific added value from working across national borders.

Proposals to be funded under this call will need adequately to involve patients, carers and the public. Consortia are expected to make every effort to include approaches on Patient and Public Involvement, where appropriate, at each stage of the research process including the preparation of the application.

For more information, please consult [JPco-fuND](#).

**Research Areas**

This funding opportunity will support projects relevant, but are not limited, to the following research areas. Proposals can focus on one or several of these areas:

- **Diagnosis** (e.g., biomarkers, imaging data, omics approaches, big data analyses)
- **Prevention** (e.g., biomarkers for studying novel treatments and interventions, co-morbidities, digital technologies, stratification within cohort studies and clinical trials)
• Care (e.g., improvement of social and health care systems, molecular profiling, imaging, lifestyle data)

Proposals on personalized approaches can apply to any or several of the following neurodegenerative diseases:

• Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias
• Parkinson’s disease and PD-related disorders
• Prion diseases
• Motor neuron diseases
• Huntington’s disease
• Spinocerebellar ataxia (SCA)
• Spinal muscular atrophy (SMA)

**Funding Details:** The total amount available for the Canadian component of this funding opportunity is CAD 700,000, enough to fund two grants. This amount may increase if additional funding partners participate. The maximum amount per grant is CAD 116,666 per year for up to three years, for a total of $349,998 per grant.

**Additional Details**

**Pre-Proposal Deadline:** March 12, 2019  
**Internal HRS Deadline:** June 11, 2019  
**Sponsor Deadline:** June 25, 2019

**CIHR – Team Grant: Mental Wellness in Public Safety**

The overall objectives of the Mental Wellness in Public Safety Team Grant program are expected to:

• Promote interdisciplinary and multi-sectoral collaboration in PTSD research
• Promote knowledge dissemination and translation of PTSD research in the public safety and related contexts
• Improve the mental wellness and resilience of Canada’s PSP through innovative research
• Improve understanding of sex and gender differences in the etiology, prevention, diagnosis and treatment for PTSD among PSPs

**Funding Details:**

• $990,000 is available to support an application relevant to Firefighters  
• $990,000 is available to support an application relevant to Paramedics  
• $990,000 is available to support an application relevant to Police  
• $990,000 is available to support an application relevant to Correctional Services Personnel  
• $3.96 million is available to support four applications relevant to any of the pools above and/or the General Pool – other areas of research related to mental wellness in PSP.

See [Funding Decision](#) section for further details.

**Additional Details**

**LOI/Registration Deadline:** March 19, 2019  
**Internal HRS Deadline:** October 22, 2019  
**Sponsor Deadline:** November 5, 2019

**Stiftelsen Promobilia: Grants for Research and Development Projects**

The aim of the Foundation is to promote the development of technical aids so that disabled persons could benefit of a more active life. Our task is to support research and development of technical aids as well as ensure they get into production and reach the needy.

The Foundation mainly gives support for development of tools for mobility handicapped but has also supported research about the comprehension of reading and writing difficulties. The Foundation has also supported research around diseases that could lead to severe motion problems.

**Funding Details:** SEK 100,000 – 500,000 (in USD about 10,000 – 100,000).

**Additional Details**

**Internal HRS Deadline:** February 28, 2019  
**Sponsor Deadline:** March 14, 2019

**The Kidney Foundation of Canada (KFOC): Allied Health Doctoral Fellowships**

The Kidney Foundation of Canada offers a limited number of fellowships designed to provide for full-time academic and research preparation at the doctoral level. The objective of this program is to promote and enhance the development of nephrology/organ donation allied health investigators in Canada.
**Funding Details:** Up to $31,000 per year and is tenable in Canada or abroad (for programs outside Canada, the applicant must provide a statement indicating the intention to return to Canada).

**Additional Details**
**Internal HRS Deadline:** March 1, 2019  
**Sponsor Deadline:** March 15, 2019

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**The Kidney Foundation of Canada (KFOC): Allied Health Scholarship**
The purpose of the Allied Health Scholarship award is to assist the student with a demonstrated interest in nephrology/organ donation in pursuing education at the Masters level to promote and enhance the development of nephrology allied health investigators in Canada.

Applicants must meet the following eligibility requirements:
- Serve as a nephrology nurse or technician, social worker, pharmacist, dietitian, transplant coordinator or other allied health professional;
- Have a demonstrated commitment to the area of nephrology or organ donation with an interest in kidney research.
- Preference will be given to applicants with a minimum of two years full time equivalent experience;
- Have Canadian citizenship or landed immigrant status;
- Be accepted in proposed course of full-time or part-time study

**Funding Details:** See Additional Details.

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**Banting Research Foundation: Discovery Award**
The objective of the Discovery Award is to support outstanding, new investigators (i.e., investigators who are within the first three years of their independent appointment at a university/research institute in Canada) in any area of health and biomedical research.

The award provides seed funding to gather pilot data to enhance competitiveness for other sources of funding.

The application must be accompanied by a letter of nomination from the applicant’s host department or division head that:
1. Confirms all eligibility criteria have been met (review Eligibility at [https://www.bantingresearchfoundation.ca/grants/guidelines/](https://www.bantingresearchfoundation.ca/grants/guidelines/))
2. Details the operating and the institutional start-up funds available to the applicant;
3. Confirms the candidate has been provided the space and access to institutional infrastructure necessary to conduct the proposed research;
4. Details a mentorship plan, including the name of a mentor, who will assist the applicant in launching their career by a) providing guidance with formulating research proposals, and b) defining career goals and the timelines required to achieve them.

A department/division head will be permitted to nominate only one potential applicant during each annual granting cycle.

**Funding Details:** Maximum $25,000 for 1 year from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020.

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**The Newton International Fellowship 2019**
This scheme is for non-UK scientists who are at an early stage of their research career and wish to conduct research in the UK.

The scheme provides the opportunity for the best early stage post-doctoral researchers from all over the world to work at UK research institutions for a period of two years.

The scheme is jointly run by the British Academy, the Academy of Medical Sciences and the Royal Society. Currently there is one round per year which opens in January.

The Royal Society’s remit covers the natural and physical sciences, including biological research, chemistry, engineering, mathematics and physics.
**Funding Details:** Grants of £24,000 (tax exempt) per annum to cover subsistence and up to £8,000 per annum to cover research expenses, plus a one-off relocation allowance of up to £3,000 (£2,000 for EEA nationals). The Fellowship also provides a contribution to overheads. In addition, Newton International Fellows may be eligible for follow-up funding of up to £6,000 per annum for up to 5 years following the completion of the Fellowship.

**Additional Details**

**Internal HRS Deadline:** March 13, 2019  
**Sponsor Deadline:** March 27, 2019

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**Canadian Liver Foundation: Research Grant Program**

Through its research grants program, the CLF has supported the work of Canada’s leading researchers and scientists. The CLF is proud to have played an indispensable role in several important scientific breakthroughs including the discovery of genes responsible for Wilson’s Disease and hemochromatosis as well as various new treatments for hepatitis C and other forms of liver disease.

- One operating grant may be awarded to a researcher in Canada whose research project is related to liver cancer.
- One operating grant may be awarded to a researcher in Canada whose research project is related to liver transplant.

**Funding Details:** Up to $60,000 per year for a maximum of two years.

**Additional Details**

**Internal HRS Deadline:** March 18, 2019  
**Sponsor Deadline:** March 31, 2019

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**HHS: New Investigator Fund**

Hamilton Health Sciences’ commitment to “first stage” research led to the creation of the New Investigator Fund (NIF). The NIF provides a unique opportunity to foster and support a culture of inquiry for novice investigators under the mentorship of senior researchers. The NIF provides project funding to front-line staff (who are healthcare professionals and medical staff) towards research initiatives directly relevant to the Clinical Mission, Strategy–Pillars and Strategic Directions of Hamilton Health Sciences. Priority areas for funding include the following:

- Consistent with, and likely to enhance, the main clinical programs/priorities at HHS;
- Enhances research enterprise/profile at HHS
- Multidisciplinary and collaborative (involving more than one department or program or healthcare discipline and institution);
- Builds on existing research strengths;
- Advances and creates new knowledge that informs patient care by bringing evidence into practice through translation and application;
- Conduct of pilot or feasibility studies which could facilitate obtaining funding for full scale studies through independent peer review or other mechanisms.

**Funding Details:** Grants will be awarded based on the excellence exhibited by the research and a maximum of $50,000 awarded per project. Where a research project exceeds the maximum available award amount, the application must include a detailed explanation and budget of what will be completed with the NIF funds and explain a plan for obtaining additional funding to complete the full project.

**Additional Details**

**Internal HRS Deadline:** March 18, 2019  
**Sponsor Deadline:** April 1, 2019

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**ERS Short-Term Research Fellowship 2019**

Short-Term Research Fellowships are established to enable young scientists and clinicians in the early-stages of their research career in respiratory medicine to visit a Host Unit in a country other than the candidate’s own, with the aim of learning a research technique not available in the Home Unit. The research training should benefit the Home Unit when the applicant returns there, by leading to research developments and activities back onsite.

**Funding Details:** Subsistence monthly rate - €2,900. Child allowance (monthly rate per child) - €380. See additional details for more information.

**Additional Details**

**Internal HRS Deadline:** March 18, 2019  
**Sponsor Deadline:** April 1, 2019
ERS Clinical Training Fellowship 2019
ERS Clinical Training Fellowships enable members in the early stages of their careers in respiratory medicine to visit a host institution in a European country other than their own to learn a skill or procedure not available at their home institution. This medical training should benefit the home institution when the successful applicant returns there.

Funding Details: Subsistence monthly rate - €2,900. Child allowance (monthly rate per child) - €380. See additional details for more information.

Additional Details
Internal HRS Deadline: March 18, 2019
Sponsor Deadline: April 1, 2019

Autism Speaks: Grants
We are seeking novel grant applications to increase our basic understanding of autism – from genetics to behavior – by analyzing important datasets generated by Autism Speaks through its many programs and partnerships (see below). Applications that co-analyze both Autism Speaks and non-Autism Speaks datasets in combination are encouraged. However, these grants are not for collecting new data but are to give researchers support to investigate new hypotheses or relationships using these datasets. These autism-specific datasets include the Autism Genetics Research Exchange (AGRE) and MSSNG genetics resource (pronounced “Missing” to represent information we are missing to understand autism.

AGRE (research.agre.org) is a dataset housing phenotypic data and biomaterials from AGRE-participating families, most of whom have two or more children on the autism spectrum. This resource not only houses rich phenotypic data, it is a biorepository of blood and/or cells from affected individuals and family members. All families had blood collected from at least one parent and siblings affected with ASD. Data is from 1,736 families with 3,348 affected individuals with ASD, including some 1,271 multiplex families. Additionally, the dataset includes clinical and biomaterial data available on over 500 twin families with zygotity testing. Most families had fragile X testing by a CLIA-accredited lab. Reliable, UMACC Certified ADI and ADOS raters collected phenotypic data. They completed ADIs for every family and collected additional phenotypic data that frequently included ADOS, Vineland, Raven’s, PPV, Stanford-Binet assessments and other demographic information. More than 1,700 whole genome sequences from AGRE biosamples are included in the MSSNG dataset.

MSSNG (https://research.mss.ng/) is a groundbreaking collaboration between Autism Speaks, Google, Verily, DNASTack and Hospital for Sick Children/University of Toronto to create one of the world’s largest whole genome database on autism spectrum disorder with insightful phenotypic information about individuals with ASD and their family members. A new version of MSSNG (DB6) will be rolled out in early 2019, to coincide with the launching of this new grant program to use high-quality whole genome sequencing of blood DNA (minimum 30x high-quality coverage) of approximately 10,000 individuals from families from AGRE repository and other important, well-phenotyped cohorts. (See above.) The MSSNG database, built using the Google Cloud Platform and Google Genomics, intends to make its data as useful and widely accessible to researchers as possible, including supporting access to local compute and storage resources, and providing genomic exploration tools for standard and custom analyses. Within the database there are 1,500+ simplex families and greater than 650 multiplex families, amounting to 7,321 WGS, in which 3,446 are from people on the autism spectrum. In early 2019, approximately 2,700 addition WGS will be added to the database to expand this free resource. MSSNG’s philosophy is to promote and enable “open science” research to lead to a better understanding of autism.

The goal of this Request for Applications (RFA) is to advance our understanding of the molecular underpinnings of ASD and how these changes relate to behavioral outcomes and might be assessed as autism subtypes. A successful application will require the use of at least one of these two resources as the primary source of data to be analyzed to support the hypothesis proposed. Other non-Autism Speaks datasets can be co-analyzed to allow larger dataset to be studied in aggregate. We invite a wide variety of proposals to use these Autism Speaks datasets to advance our understanding of ASD risk by exploring novel hypotheses, new genetic-phenotypic relationships and new science to support clinical assessments or treatments.

Grant proposals using AGRE and/or MSSNG datasets can include, but are not exclusive to developing methods to: identify ASD subtypes, advance our understanding of how genetics can improve diagnostic certainty, enable earlier diagnosis and/or deepen understanding of genetic pathways in ways that could lead to identifying targets for improved treatments and health outcomes. Finally, an important goal this program is to bring early career investigators to autism genetics and have them explore MSSNG resources. Additionally, we encourage investigators from other fields to apply.

Funding Details: A maximum of $100,000 for 1 year.

Additional Details
LOI Deadline: March 6, 2019
Internal HRS Deadline: March 27, 2019
Ontario Institute for Cancer Research (OICR), Cancer Therapeutics Innovation Pipeline: Late Accelerator Projects

The Ontario Institute for Cancer Research (OICR) established the Cancer Therapeutics Innovation Pipeline (CTIP) strategic initiative to capitalize on Ontario’s expertise in cancer biology and drug discovery. CTIP aims to support the translation of Ontario discoveries into therapeutic assets with the potential for improving the lives of cancer patients. To stimulate collaborative research with the Ontario cancer research community in the area of cancer therapeutics discovery, OICR invites applications for early stage drug discovery.

Focus on screening, using validated primary and secondary assays and to deliver confirmed Hit molecules against a defined target.

**Funding Details:** Up to $250,000 per year for a maximum of 2 years.

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**Canadian Research Society: Next Generation of Scientists**

Scholarships for the Next Generation of Scientists is a Cancer Research Society funding program with the goal of supporting the future generation of Canadian researchers. The award consists of two part covering a period of three years, with no possibility for renewal.

The one-year postdoctoral salary award are for a candidate finishing his/her fellowship. The candidate must have completed at least two (2) years of postdoctoral training when he/she will accept the salary award on September 1st.

There is a possibility of extending Part 1 of this award for a maximum period of six months.

The operating grant is awarded once the candidate has obtained a faculty position at a recognized Canadian institution. This grant is for a maximum of two years.

**IMPORTANT:** Applying for only one part of the award is prohibited.

**Funding Details:** Part 1: 1 year - $50,000. Part 2: 2 years $120,000.

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**Alliance for Cancer Gene Therapy: Investigator’s Award**

Alliance for Cancer Gene Therapy, Inc. (ACGT) funds research aimed at furthering the development of cell and gene therapy approaches to the treatment of cancer.

This award is for those conducting cell and gene therapy research in the following areas:

- Technology for systemic delivery and treatment of metastatic disease that could involve novel tumor-targeted delivery vehicles (e.g. tumor-homing cells, nanoparticles and new recombinant viruses).
- Altering the tumor cell microenvironment to support the induction of anti-tumor immunity
- Identification of novel tumor targets
- Novel approaches to either protective adoptively transferred cells from metabolic changes or alter the metabolism of transferred cells.

Preference will be given to those working in solid tumors, orphan tumors or pediatric tumors, and to research not previously funded, thus highly innovative proposals.

**Funding Details:** Up to a maximum of $500,000 distributed over 2-3 years, inclusive of a maximum of 10% indirect costs.

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**Weston Brain Institute Rapid Response Parkinson’s & Related Diseases**
The Weston Brain Institute (the “Institute”) supports research that accelerates the development of therapeutics for neurodegenerative diseases of aging. To help achieve this, the Institute addresses gaps and inefficiencies in the funding market by supporting high-risk, high-reward translational projects, while leveraging world-class business and scientific expertise in a fast and flexible granting process. Neurodegenerative diseases of aging are among the least understood and most undertreated diseases today. Diseases such as Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s are placing a large and increasing burden on society. If ignored, the social and economic costs to manage these diseases will rise significantly within a generation. Meeting this challenge requires pioneering approaches to accelerating treatments. The Rapid Response: Canada program was created to provide seed funding to catalyze novel, high-risk, high-reward, translational research.

Projects must meet two conditions to be eligible:

- Be translational research that helps accelerate the development of therapeutics for neurodegenerative diseases of aging
- Be the development of a therapeutic and/or tool

**Funding Details:** A max of $300,000 over up to 18 months per project.

**Additional Details**

**LOI Deadline:** March 13, 2019  
**Internal HRS Deadline:** July 2, 2019  
**Sponsor Deadline:** July 16, 2019

### Weston Brain Institute Transformational Research Parkinson’s & Related Diseases

The Weston Brain Institute (the “Institute”) supports research that accelerates the development of therapeutics for neurodegenerative diseases of aging. To help achieve this, the Institute addresses gaps and inefficiencies in the funding market by supporting high-risk, high-reward translational projects, while leveraging world-class business and scientific expertise in a fast and flexible granting process. Neurodegenerative diseases of aging are among the least understood and most undertreated diseases today. Diseases such as Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s are placing a large and increasing burden on society. If ignored, the social and economic costs to manage these diseases will rise significantly within a generation. Meeting this challenge requires pioneering approaches to accelerating treatments. The Transformational Research Program was created to provide significant support for larger, longer projects.

Projects must meet the following conditions to be eligible:

- Be translational research (excluding clinical trials and clinical trial sub-studies) that accelerates the development of therapeutics for neurodegenerative diseases of aging.
  - Clinical trials and clinical trial sub-studies should be submitted to the Early-Phase Clinical Trials or Rapid Response programs; however other translational research using humans or human samples/data is in scope.
- Be the development of a therapeutic and/or tool and/or complementary approaches

**Funding Details:** A max of $1,500,000 over a max of 3 years.

**Additional Details**

**LOI Deadline:** March 13, 2019  
**Internal HRS Deadline:** July 2, 2019  
**Sponsor Deadline:** July 16, 2019

### Weston Brain Institute Rapid Response Alzheimer’s & Related Diseases

The Weston Brain Institute (the “Institute”) supports research that accelerates the development of therapeutics for neurodegenerative diseases of aging. To help achieve this, the Institute addresses gaps and inefficiencies in the funding market by supporting high-risk, high-reward translational projects, while leveraging world-class business and scientific expertise in a fast and flexible granting process. Neurodegenerative diseases of aging are among the least understood and most undertreated diseases today. Diseases such as Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s are placing a large and increasing burden on society. If ignored, the social and economic costs to manage these diseases will rise significantly within a generation. Meeting this challenge requires pioneering approaches to accelerating treatments. The Rapid Response: Canada program was created to provide seed funding to catalyze novel, high-risk, high-reward, translational research.

Projects must meet two conditions to be eligible:

- Be translational research that helps accelerate the development of therapeutics for neurodegenerative diseases of aging
- Be the development of a therapeutic and/or tool

**Funding Details:** A max of $300,000 over up to 18 months per project.
Weston Brain Institute Translational Research Alzheimer’s & Related Diseases
The Weston Brain Institute (the “Institute”) supports research that accelerates the development of therapeutics for neurodegenerative diseases of aging. To help achieve this, the Institute addresses gaps and inefficiencies in the funding market by supporting high-risk, high-reward translational projects, while leveraging world-class business and scientific expertise in a fast and flexible granting process. Neurodegenerative diseases of aging are among the least understood and most undertreated diseases today. Diseases such as Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s are placing a large and increasing burden on society. If ignored, the social and economic costs to manage these diseases will rise significantly within a generation. Meeting this challenge requires pioneering approaches to accelerating treatments. The Transformational Research Program was created to provide significant support for larger, longer projects.

Projects must meet the following conditions to be eligible:
• Be translational research (excluding clinical trials and clinical trial sub-studies) that accelerates the development of therapeutics for neurodegenerative diseases of aging.
  ➢ Clinical trials and clinical trial sub-studies should be submitted to the Early-Phase Clinical Trials or Rapid Response programs; however other translational research using humans or human samples/data is in scope.
• Be the development of a therapeutic and/or tool and/or complementary approaches

Funding Details: A max of 1,500,000 over a max of 3 years.

Additional Details
LOI Deadline: April 1, 2019
Internal HRS Deadline: July 16, 2019
Sponsor Deadline: July 30, 2019

The objective of the Applied Research Competition is to 1) support studies that expand the body of knowledge related to autism intervention and treatment, 2) produce practical and clearly objective results, 3) impact public policy, and 4) provide outcomes that offer to enhance quality of life for persons with autism, and their families.

The OAR has placed an emphasis on research that addresses the following targeted areas:
• Community-Based Assessment and Intervention for Challenging Behavior.
• Effectiveness of Augmentative Communication Systems.
• Improving Access to and Effectiveness of Existing Systems and Services.
• Integrated Employment.
• Intersectionality, Equity and Diversity.
• Mental Health Assessment and Intervention.
• Mid-life and Older Adults.
• Residential/Community Services and Supports.

Funding Details: A maximum of $40,000 over 1-2 years.

Additional Details
Pre-Proposal Deadline: March 25, 2019
Internal HRS Deadline: July 22, 2019
Sponsor Deadline: August 5, 2019

Cancer Research Society: Translational Research Partnership Program
The Translational Research Partnership Program supports collaborative projects in cancer research to help accelerate the development of new treatments and/or technologies for the benefit of patients. Our Translational Research Partnership strategy is bold and ambitious. We aim to break down the boundaries between research disciplines, which may include researchers from non-cancer backgrounds, in order to find innovative solutions to prevent, detect and treat cancer. We partner with a range of organizations to maximize the impact of research on patient outcomes.

Projects must meet the following conditions:
• Be translational research and may include clinical trial studies
• Basic research projects are out of scope
• Aim the development of a therapeutic and/or novel technologies
• Have excellent preliminary data to support the proposed project

The research team must consist of at least one principal investigator and one co-investigator. The inclusion of a variety of non-cancer disciplines is encouraged to drive the development of novel technologies and to take thinking from other fields that have not yet been applied to cancer.

All projects are evaluated based on the following criteria:
• Scientific excellence and innovativeness of proposed project
• Expertise of the multidisciplinary team
• Quality of preliminary data and feasibility
• Financial partner’s engagement
• Anticipated benefits for cancer patients

Funding Details: A maximum of $1,500,000 over up to 3 years per project of which up to 50% may come from the Cancer Research Society

Additional Details
Sponsor Deadline: Applications are being accepted on a rolling basis.

HHS: Clinical Health Professional Travel Awards
The Clinical Health Professionals Research Travel Award provides support for eligible non-physician Health Professionals to present their work at a scientific meeting of relevance to their practice/research.

Funding Details: Up to six awards on a competitive basis will be given within a calendar year, and are each valued up to a maximum of $2,500 for a national conference or $3,500 for international (funds in Canadian dollars).

Additional Details
Sponsor Deadline: Applications are being accepted on a rolling basis.

The Ontario HIV Treatment Network (OHTN), Endgame Funding Program: Community-Based Research and Evaluation (CBR&E) Awards
The OHTN Community-Based Research & Evaluation Fund (CBR & E Fund) is designed to help achieve the mission of the OHTN; to improve the health and well-being of people living with and at risk of HIV in Ontario, through a network that promotes research and evidence to drive change. The CBR & E Fund will assist communities by supporting both the production and discovery of knowledge through community-based research, and the use of evidence to drive programming through participatory program evaluation.

OHTN is committed to funding scientifically rigorous, community relevant research that will have a short-to medium-term impact on those most affected by HIV in Ontario:
• People living with HIV/AIDS
• Gay men and other men who have sex with men, including gay, bi, and queer trans men, youth and newcomers
• African, Caribbean and Black men and women, including youth
• Aboriginal men and women, including youth
• Men and women who use drugs
• Women, including trans women, who are at risk (e.g. have unprotected sex or share drug equipment with people from the populations listed above)

The CBR & E fund will provide grant support to eligible community-initiated HIV research and evaluation projects that explore questions of importance to community-based organizations, and have the potential to have a meaningful impact on those most affected by HIV in Ontario in the next 2-5 years.

Funding Details: $25,000 to $50,000 for 1 year.

Additional Details
Sponsor Deadline: Applications are being accepted on a rolling basis March 1, June 7, September 6 and December 6, 2019.

Ontario Brain Institute (OBI): Event Funding Program
The Ontario Brain Institute (OBI) is committed to working together with brain health-related organizations in order to increase the capacity of their work in Ontario. The program especially looks to support events that embody OBI’s principles of integration and collaboration.

**Funding Details:** Up to $5,000.

**Additional Details**

**Sponsor Deadline:** Applications are being accepted on a rolling basis in January, May and September.

**Crohn’s & Colitis Foundation: IBD Ventures**

Is your organization engaged in the discovery or development of a novel product with the potential to help patients with inflammatory bowel diseases? If so, we want to hear from you!

The Crohn's & Colitis Foundation seeks to accelerate the development of products that aim to improve the quality of life of patients with inflammatory bowel diseases. Toward that end, the Foundation has launched IBD Ventures, a new program and dedicated funding mechanism to support product-oriented research and development. Companies and academic investigators can apply.

**Funding Details:** Up to $500,000 per project per year will be considered. In addition, funded programs will be offered accelerator resources and advising.

**Additional Details**

**Sponsor Deadline:** Applications are being accepted on a rolling basis.

**Ontario Genomics: Genomic Applications Partnership Program (GAPP)**

The Genomic Applications Partnership Program (GAPP) funds downstream research and development (R&D) projects that address real world opportunities and challenges defined by “Receptor” organizations such as industry, government, or not-for-profit entities. These organizations should be committed to commercializing or implementing the outcomes of the project.

Projects are led by the Receptor organization (Canadian or international) but are active collaborations with a Canadian academic researcher. These projects are co-funded by Receptors and other stakeholders and must have the potential to generate significant social and/or economic benefits for Canada.

The GAPP aims to:

- Accelerate the application of Canadian genomics-derived solutions from academia to real-world opportunities and challenges defined by industry, not-for-profit and public-sector Receptors.
- Channel Canada’s genomics capacity into sustainable innovations that benefit Canadians.
- Enhance the value of Canadian genomics technologies by de-risking and incentivizing follow-on investment from industry and other partners.
- Foster mutually beneficial collaboration and knowledge exchange between Canadian academia and technology receptors.

**Funding Details:** 1/3 investment from Genome Canada, 1/3 provided by the Receptor partner (cash and/or in-kind) and 1/3 of other co-funding (non-Genome Canada). For more information see Section 9 and Appendix 2 of the [GAPP Investment Strategy and Guidelines](https://example.com).

**Additional Details**

**LOI Deadline:** Accepted on a rolling basis February 19, May 20.

**Weston Brain Institute Postdoctoral Scholars at Oxford**

The Weston Brain Institute Postdoctoral Scholars at Oxford program supports top-tier Canadian postdoctoral scholars by providing international training at the University of Oxford and affiliation with Merton College. Prior to submitting an application, candidates should independently identify a host lab and potential supervisor at the University of Oxford who agrees to supervise them if awarded. Awardees will receive salary support for their postdoctoral positions at Oxford.

**Funding Details:** £57,000 per year (£44,000 per year + benefits) for 2 years.

**Additional Details**

**Sponsor Deadline:** Applications are being accepted on a rolling basis, until 2 positions at a time are filled.

**Weston Brain Institute International Fellowships: Canada**

Neurodegenerative diseases of aging are among the least understood and most undertreated diseases today. If ignored, the social and economic costs of managing these diseases will continue to rise. Meeting these challenges requires pioneering approaches to accelerating treatments. The Weston Brain Institute is pleased to launch our International Fellowships: Canada program. The
program will support top Canadian PhD students to travel to and work in world-renowned international labs for up to 12 months, to further their translational research on neurodegenerative diseases of aging.

Funding Details: $60,000 per year, prorated at $5,000 per month to fit shorter travel and specific project needs.

Additional Details

Sponsor Deadline: Applications are being accepted on a rolling basis.

Alzheimer’s Drug Discovery Foundation: Drug Discovery Program

The Alzheimer's Drug Discovery Foundation (ADDF) has long recognized the need to bridge the translational funding gap between early-stage drug discovery and clinical development for Alzheimer’s disease, related dementias, and cognitive aging by supporting promising therapeutic approaches.

The Drug Discovery RFP supports:

- Novel drug programs aiming to advance novel lead molecules to the clinical candidate selection stage. This includes small molecules and biologics (e.g., antibodies, peptides, gene therapies).
- Repurposed/repositioned programs aiming to build preclinical evidence in relevant animal models for repurposed drugs (existing drugs that are approved for other diseases and conditions) and repositioned drugs (existing drugs that have entered clinical trials for other indications and have not yet been approved).

Funding Details: $150,000-$600,000 based on stage and scope of research. For studies requiring additional support, co-funding from other funding agencies or investors is encouraged. One year with potential for follow-on funding. Multi-year proposals can be considered.

Additional Details

LOI Deadline: Accepted on a rolling basis January 18, April 12, July 12, October 11.

Sponsor Deadline: Accepted on a rolling basis February 8, May 10, August 9, November 8.

Alzheimer’s Drug Discovery Foundation: Neuroimaging & CSF Biomarker Development Program

Given the pathological heterogeneity of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias, new biomarkers are needed to more accurately characterize specific underlying pathophysiology.

This RFP seeks to support the development of CSF and neuroimaging biomarkers for multiple contexts of use (see below) that include but are not limited to:

- Clearly demonstrate target engagement for novel therapeutics
  The development of biomarkers that can serve as measures of target engagement for novel targets such as neuroinflammation features (e.g. microglial activity, cytokine production, astrocytic activity), synaptic damage, metabolic activity, mitochondrial dysfunction, vascular health and epigenetic changes, among others, are of particular interest. High priority will be given to projects developing biomarkers that can be used in combination with therapies currently in development and serve as companion biomarkers.
- Detect signs of disease earlier and monitor progression
  We are seeking programs developing sensitive biomarkers that can detect disease earlier than currently available tests. This includes biomarkers that can predict and monitor conversion from cognitively healthy to mild cognitive impairment (MCI) or MCI to Alzheimer’s disease. We also seek prognostic markers that can predict rates of cognitive decline.
- More accurately diagnose and distinguish between dementia subtypes
  Many types of dementias can present with similar clinical features, and patients often show overlapping pathologies. At present, it is challenging to distinguish between dementia subtypes. Biomarkers that can distinguish between subtypes and stratify patients in clinical trials are of high priority.

Funding Details: $150,000-$600,000 based on stage and scope of research. Larger amounts will be considered for PET ligand development for regulatory or clinical work. For studies requiring additional support, co-funding from other funding agencies or investors is encouraged. One year with potential for follow-on funding. Multi-year proposals can be considered.

Additional Details

LOI Deadline: Accepted on a rolling basis January 18, April 12, July 12, October 11.

Sponsor Deadline: Accepted on a rolling basis February 8, May 10, August 9, November 8.

McMaster University, McMaster Institute for Research on Aging (MIRA), Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (CLSA): Call for Proposals

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The CLSA is a large, national, long-term study of more than 50,000 men and women who were between the ages of 45 and 85 when recruited. These participants will be followed until 2033, or death. The aim of the CLSA is to find ways to help us live long and live well, and understand why some people age in healthy fashion while others do not.

Researchers must notify Laura Harrington, Managing Director, MIRA, of their intent to apply for CLSA data access to be considered for MIRA funding. MIRA funds are allocated only to projects that do not have any other funding for this purpose.

MIRA membership is required to be eligible.

Data access applications are accepted three times per year.

**Funding Details:** MIRA can support access fees of $3,000 for a maximum 10 applications.


**Sponsor Deadline:** Ongoing

**McMaster University, McMaster Institute for Research on Aging (MIRA), Labarge Centre for Mobility in Aging (LCMA): Matching Funds for Research Opportunities**

The McMaster Institute for Research on Aging (MIRA) aims to optimize the health and longevity of the aging population through leading-edge research, education and stakeholder collaborations. The institute intends to amplify McMaster’s strength in aging-focused research through stimulating new partnerships, facilitating access to research funding, raising the profile of McMaster’s research platforms, and building capacity among students and faculty members. In order to improve the positioning of McMaster’s researchers in external funding competition, MIRA and the Labarge Centre for Mobility in Aging (LCMA) have allocated funding that could be used to match or leverage external funds. This process is intended to be used for requests related to externally funded, peer-reviewed grant competitions that require a matching component.

**Funding Details:** Maximum $100,000 (total cash and/or in-kind) non-renewable funding anticipated support 1-2 projects per year.

**Additional Details**

**Sponsor Deadline:** Ongoing

**MITACS Globalink Research Award**

The Mitacs Globalink Research Award provides funding for senior undergraduate and graduate students, and postdoctoral fellows in Canada to conduct 12–24-week research projects at universities overseas. The following opportunities support travel and research from Canada to universities in: Australia, Brazil, China, EU member countries: In France, both universities and Inria Research Centres are eligible host institutions, Israel, India, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Norway, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, United Kingdom, United States.

**Funding Details:** $6,000 to conduct 12-24-week research projects at universities overseas.

**Additional Details**

**Sponsor Deadline:** Ongoing

**MITACS Accelerate Fellowship**

The Mitacs Accelerate Fellowship provides a long-term funding and internship option for master’s and PhD students. Recipients can also access professional development training that helps them ensure project success and gain in-demand career skills. Interested applicants can apply for the Accelerate Fellowship at any time. All other Accelerate program guidelines apply.

**Funding Details:**

- **Master’s students** - $40,000 total research award for 18 mos. Minimum intern stipend is $30,000 and partner organization contribution is $18,000
- **PhD students** - $80,000 total research award for 36 mos. Minimum intern stipend is $72,000 (24,000/year) and partner organization contribution is $36,000

**Additional Details**

**Sponsor Deadline:** Ongoing

*To Apply, Contact Bertha Monrose, Contracts Advisor, MILO at monrose@mcmaster.ca or extension 22416*

**Weston Brain Institute: Big Ideas**

Neurodegenerative diseases of aging are among the least understood and most undertreated diseases today. If ignored, the social and economic costs of managing these diseases will continue to rise. Meeting these challenges requires pioneering approaches to accelerating treatments.
Based on success of previous programs, the Institute is expanding our support to new formats while maintaining the same mandate of accelerating the developments of therapeutics for neurodegenerative diseases of aging through translational research.

The Institute is considering supporting a large-scale, pivotal project to significantly advance research in our field. With this call, we are seeking to identify highly impactful ideas for consideration. Of particular interest are ideas that will establish Canada as the world leader in a particular area.

Goal: To support a large-scale, pivotal project that will significantly and sustainably advance research in the field of translational research on neurodegenerative diseases of aging.

**Funding Details:** From $5,000,000 to $20,000,000.

**Additional Details**

**Sponsor Deadline:** Ongoing

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**Weston Brain Institute: Early Phase Clinical Trials: Canada**

Neurodegenerative diseases of aging are among the least understood and most undertreated diseases today. If ignored, the social and economic costs of managing these diseases will continue to rise. Meeting these challenges requires pioneering approaches to accelerating treatments. The Early Phase Clinical Trials: Canada program was created to provide funding support for clinical trials and clinical trial sub-studies that have excellent preliminary data. Eligible Principal Applicants must be at or above the level of Assistant Professor or equivalent and be affiliated with a Canada Revenue Agency-qualified donee institution located in Canada. Co-applicants and Collaborators must be at the post-doctoral level or above and can be working outside Canada.

An application requires the submission of a Letter of Intent which will be reviewed by our scientific review committee. Applicants with high potential projects will then be invited to submit a Proposal. Instructions for submitting the Proposal will be forwarded to those invited. Applicants can expect to receive the outcome of their LOI application approximately 2 months after submission.

**Funding Details:** A maximum of $1,500,000 per project over up to 4 years.

**Additional Details**

**Sponsor Deadline:** Ongoing

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**OCE Voucher for Innovation and Productivity II (VIP II) Program**

The VIP II program helps established Ontario-based companies develop, implement and commercialize technical innovations by supporting partnerships with publicly-funded post-secondary institutions. Projects funded through VIP II address company needs by enabling the development of new products and/or processes, or facilitating productivity improvements, by leveraging post-secondary institutions’ skills and resources. Projects must ultimately help generate new revenues and create high-value jobs for Ontario companies. You can also leverage your sponsor’s contribution through the NSERC CRD program for additional research funds.

**Funding Details:** The VIP II program supports collaborations between companies and publicly-funded post-secondary institutions for durations of 12 and 24 months to a maximum of $150,000.

**Additional Details**

**Sponsor Deadline:** Ongoing

*To Apply, Contact Bertha Monrose, Contracts Advisor, MILO at monrose@mcmaster.ca or extension 22416*

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**MITACS Accelerate Program**

Canada’s premiere research internship program provides interns with the opportunity to transfer their skills from theory to real-world application, while companies gain a competitive advantage by accessing high-quality research expertise. Interns spend approximately half their time on-site with the industry partner; the remainder is spent at the university advancing the research under the guidance of a faculty supervisor. Not-for-profit organizations are eligible.

**Funding Details:** Funding starts at $15,000

**Additional Details**

**Sponsor Deadline:** Ongoing

*To Apply, Contact Bertha Monrose, Contracts Advisor, MILO at monrose@mcmaster.ca or extension 22416*

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**Department of Defense (DoD) Breast Cancer Research Program (BCRP): Breakthrough Award Levels 1 and 2**
The intent of the Breakthrough Award is to support promising research that has high potential to lead to or make breakthroughs in breast cancer. The critical components of this award mechanism are:

Impact: Research supported by the Breakthrough Award will have the potential for a major impact and accelerate progress toward ending breast cancer. The impact may be near-term or long-term, but must move beyond a minor advancement and have the potential to lead to a new approach that is fundamentally better than interventions already approved or in clinical development. Applications are expected to identify the breast cancer patients or at-risk individuals who would ultimately benefit from the proposed research.

Research Scope: The Breakthrough Award is structured with four different funding levels. The levels are designed to support major (but not all) stages of research that will lead to clinical application. Each level has a defined research scope. It is the responsibility of the Principal Investigator (PI) to select the level that aligns with the scope of the proposed research. The funding level should be selected based on the research scope defined in the Program Announcement, and not on the amount of the budget. An application that does not meet the intent of the funding level selected will not be recommended for funding, even if it might meet the intent of a different funding level.

The current Program Announcement discusses the Breakthrough Award Levels 1 and 2. Funding Levels 3 and 4 are available under other Program Announcements (W81XWH-19-BCRP-BTA3 and W81XWH-19-BCRP-BTA4, respectively). The PI is strongly encouraged to review the research scopes defined under each funding level as described in the corresponding Breakthrough Award Program Announcement before submitting the pre-application.

The following are general descriptions, although not all-inclusive, of the scope of research projects that would be appropriate to propose under the current Program Announcement:

- **Funding Level 1**: Innovative, high-risk/high-reward research that is in the earliest stages of idea development. To foster research with clearly defined potential to yield new avenues of investigation, preliminary data are not required. Proof of concept is the anticipated outcome.

- **Funding Level 2**: Preclinical research that is already supported by substantial preliminary or published data and strongly validates clinical translation in a well-defined context within the breast cancer landscape.

- **Funding Level 2**: Population Science and Prevention Studies: Preclinical research that is already supported by substantial preliminary or published data and strongly validates clinical translation in a well-defined context within the breast cancer landscape. With compelling justification, population science and prevention studies may request higher levels of funding and an additional year in the period of performance. Such studies may require additional resources due to the participation of human subjects and/or use of human biospecimens.

**Partnering PI Option:** The Breakthrough Award encourages applications that include meaningful and productive collaborations between investigators. The Partnering PI Option is structured to accommodate two PIs, referred to as the Initiating PI and the Partnering PI, each of whom will be funded with a separate award. There are different submission requirements for the Initiating and Partnering PIs’ applications; however, both PIs should contribute significantly to the development of the proposed research project including the Project Narrative, Statement of Work (SOW), and other required components. The PIs may have expertise in similar or disparate scientific disciplines, but each PI is expected to bring distinct contributions to the application. New collaborations are encouraged, but not required. The application is expected to describe how the PIs’ combined expertise will better address the research question and explain why the work should be done together rather than through separate efforts. To meet the intent of the Partnering PI Option, applicants are discouraged from being named as a Partnering PI on multiple Breakthrough Award Levels 1 and 2 applications unless they are clearly addressing distinct research questions. Applications in which a mentor and his/her current postdoctoral fellow or junior investigator are named as Initiating and Partnering PIs do not meet the intent of the Partnering PI Option.

**Personnel:** Applications are expected to include an appropriate and robust research team with the combined backgrounds and breast cancer-related expertise to enable successful conduct of the project.

Research involving human subjects and human anatomical substances is permitted; however, clinical trials are not allowed under this funding opportunity. Applications seeking support for a clinical trial may be submitted to the FY19 BCRP Breakthrough Award Level 3 and Level 4 Program Announcements (W81XWH-19-BCRP-BTA3 and W81XWH-19-BCRP-BTA4, respectively).

**Funding Details:** The anticipated direct costs budgeted for the entire period of performance for FY19 BCRP Breakthrough Award Funding Level 1 applications will not exceed $450,000 for a single PI or $750,000 if applying under the Partnering PI Option. The anticipated direct costs budgeted for the entire period of performance for FY19 BCRP Breakthrough Award Funding Level 2 applications will not exceed $1M for a single PI or $1.5M if applying under the Partnering PI Option. The anticipated direct costs
budgeted for the entire period of performance for FY19 BCRP Breakthrough Award Funding Level 2 Population Science and Prevention Studies applications will not exceed $1.5M for a single PI or $2.0M if applying under the Partnering PI Option. Refer to Section II.D.5, Funding Restrictions, for detailed funding information.

**Additional Details**

**LOI Deadline:** March 14, 2019 (A pre-application is required and must be submitted through eBRAP)

**Internal HRS Deadline:** March 14, 2019

**Sponsor Deadline:** March 28, 2019

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**Department of Defense (DoD) Breast Cancer Research Program (BCRP): Era of Hope Scholar Award**

The Era of Hope Scholar Award supports individuals early in their careers who have demonstrated significant potential to effect meaningful change in breast cancer. These individuals should be exceptionally talented scientists who have shown that they are the “best and brightest” in their field(s) through extraordinary creativity, vision, innovation, and productivity. They should have demonstrated experience in forming effective partnerships and collaborations and must exhibit strong potential for future leadership in breast cancer research.

As the intent of the Era of Hope Scholar Award is to recognize creative and innovative individuals rather than projects, the central features of the award are the demonstrated ability of the individual named as the Principal Investigator (PI) in the application to go beyond conventional thinking in his/her field and the innovative contribution that the PI can make toward ending breast cancer. The application should articulate a vision that challenges current dogma and demonstrates an ability to look beyond tradition and convention.

Experience in breast cancer research is not required; however, the application must focus on breast cancer, and the PI must maintain a 50% dedication of his/her full-time professional effort during the award period to breast cancer research. This professional effort in breast cancer research can be through a combination of this award and other current support. Individuals from other disciplines who will apply novel concepts to breast cancer are encouraged to submit.

The PI is encouraged to assemble a research team that will provide the necessary expertise and collaborative efforts toward accomplishing the research goals. The PI’s research team must include two or more breast cancer consumer advocates. As lay representatives, the consumer advocates must be individuals who have been diagnosed with breast cancer and are actively involved in a breast cancer advocacy organization. Their role should be independent of their employment, and they may not be employees of any of the organizations participating in the application. The consumer advocates should have a high level of knowledge of current breast cancer issues and the appropriate background or training in breast cancer research to contribute to the project. Their role should be focused on providing objective input throughout the research effort and its potential impact for individuals with, or at risk for, breast cancer.

**Funding Details:** The anticipated direct costs budgeted for the entire period of performance for an FY19 BCRP Era of Hope Scholar Award will not exceed $3M. Refer to Section II.D.5, Funding Restrictions, for detailed funding information.

**Additional Details**

**LOI Deadline:** March 14, 2019 (A pre-application is required and must be submitted through eBRAP)

**Internal HRS Deadline:** March 14, 2019

**Sponsor Deadline:** March 28, 2019

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**Department of Defense (DoD) Breast Cancer Research Program (BCRP): Breakthrough Fellowship Award**

The Breakthrough Fellowship Award supports recent doctoral or medical graduates in pursuit of innovative, high-impact breast cancer research during their postdoctoral fellowship and allows them to obtain the necessary experience for an independent career at the forefront of breast cancer research. Those individuals should be exceptionally talented researchers who have demonstrated that they are the “best and brightest” of their peers. Applicants must demonstrate that the proposed research has high potential to lead to or make breakthroughs in breast cancer. Applicants for this award must also exhibit a strong desire to pursue a career in breast cancer research, with clear evidence for a researcher development plan that will lead to a successful independent career in breast cancer. The critical components of this award mechanism are:

**Impact:** Research supported by the Breakthrough Fellowship Award will have the potential for a major impact and accelerate progress toward ending breast cancer. The impact may be near-term or long-term, but must move beyond a minor advancement and have the potential to lead to a new approach that is fundamentally better than interventions already approved or in clinical
development. Applications are expected to identify the breast cancer patients or at-risk individuals who would ultimately benefit from the proposed research.

Research Strategy: The research proposed as part of the Breakthrough Fellowship Award must have high potential to lead to or make breakthroughs in breast cancer. The scope of the research should include innovative, high-risk/high-reward research in the early stages of idea development or research already supported by preliminary data with the potential to make significant advancements toward clinical translation. The research strategy should demonstrate sound rationale, logical reasoning, and, if available, preliminary data. The proposed research should show evidence of rigorous experimental design, sufficient experimental details, appropriate controls, a statistical plan, and consideration of pitfalls and alternatives.

Principal Investigator (PI): Under this award mechanism, the postdoctoral fellow is considered the PI and, as such, should write the project narrative, researcher development plan, and other application components, with appropriate guidance from the mentor. While the PI is not required to have previous experience in breast cancer research, the proposed project and researcher development plan must focus on breast cancer. Applications must emphasize the PI’s high potential for success in becoming an independent breast cancer researcher based on his/her qualifications, achievements (including first-author publications), and letters of recommendation.

Mentor: The mentor (or co-mentor, if applicable) must possess the appropriate expertise and experience in breast cancer research and/or patient care, to include recent publications and active peer-reviewed breast cancer funding, and clearly demonstrate a commitment to guiding the PI’s research and development as a researcher. If the mentor is not an experienced breast cancer researcher, then formal co-mentorship by an established breast cancer researcher is required. The application must include information about the mentor’s experience in conducting innovative research and how he/she intends to support the PI’s endeavors in breast cancer. Mentorship by an investigator without an established record of mentoring pre- and/or postdoctoral trainees may be offset by the overall strength of the researcher development plan.

Researcher Development Plan: Applications must provide details on the suitability of the PI’s overall researcher development plan for attaining the goals of this award mechanism. Applications must elaborate on the qualities of the research environment in which the candidate will work, provide details on the individualized breast cancer-focused researcher development plan, and describe how it will facilitate the PI’s career development as an independent, innovative breast cancer researcher. A multidisciplinary research approach to breast cancer is highly encouraged, but not required; however, if there are multidisciplinary aspects, they should be clearly outlined in the application.

Research involving human subjects and human anatomical substances is permitted; however, clinical trials are not allowed under this Program Announcement.

**Funding Details:** The anticipated direct costs budgeted for the entire period of performance for an FY19 BCRP Breakthrough Fellowship Award will not exceed $300,000. Refer to Section II.D.5, Funding Restrictions, for detailed funding information.

**Additional Details**
**LOI Deadline:** March 14, 2019 (A pre-application is required and must be submitted through eBRAP)
**Internal HRS Deadline:** March 14, 2019
**Sponsor Deadline:** March 28, 2019

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**Department of Defense (DoD) Peer Reviewed Medical Research Program (PRMRP): Discovery Award**

The intent of the PRMRP Discovery Award is to support innovative, non-incremental, high-risk/potentially high-reward research that will provide new insights, paradigms, technologies, or applications. Studies supported by this award are expected to lay the groundwork for future avenues of scientific investigation. The proposed research project should include a well-formulated, testable hypothesis based on a sound scientific rationale and study design. Refer to Section II.D.5, Funding Restrictions, for detailed funding information. Innovation is the most important review criterion. Innovative research may introduce a new paradigm, look at existing problems from new perspectives, or exhibit other highly creative qualities. Research that represents an incremental advancement on previously published work is not considered innovative. The following list, although not all-inclusive, provides examples of research that is not innovative:

- Exploring a previously tested hypothesis in a different cell line or in a new population
- Using a published series of in-vitro assays to further characterize a model system
- Incorporating known biomarkers into in-vivo or clinical models of the disease or condition
- Investigating the next logical step or continuation of a previous research project
- Proposing work that is an incremental advancement of published data
Inclusion of preliminary data is not required, but is allowed. The strength of the proposed research should be based on sound scientific rationale and logical reasoning. The presentation of substantial preliminary data suggests that the proposed research project would be more appropriately submitted to a different award mechanism. The outcome of research supported by this award should be the generation of robust preliminary data that can be used as a foundation for future research projects. Absence of preliminary data will not negatively affect scientific or programmatic review of the application.

**Funding Details:** The anticipated direct costs budgeted for the entire period of performance for an FY19 PRMRP Discovery Award will not exceed $200,000.

**Additional Details**

**LOI Deadline:** March 28, 2019 (A pre-application is required and must be submitted through eBRAP)

**Internal HRS Deadline:** March 28, 2019

**Sponsor Deadline:** April 11, 2019

### Department of Defense (DoD) Breast Cancer Research Program (BCRP): Breakthrough Award

#### Levels 3 and 4

The intent of the Breakthrough Award is to support promising research that has high potential to lead to or make breakthroughs in breast cancer. The critical components of this award mechanism are:

**Impact:** Research supported by the Breakthrough Award will have the potential for a major impact and accelerate progress toward ending breast cancer. The impact may be near-term or long-term, but must move beyond a minor advancement and have the potential to lead to a new approach that is fundamentally better than interventions already approved or in clinical development. Applications are expected to identify the breast cancer patients or at-risk individuals who would ultimately benefit from the proposed research.

**Research Scope:** The Breakthrough Award is structured with four different funding levels. The levels are designed to support major (but not all) stages of research that will lead to clinical application. Each level has a defined research scope. It is the responsibility of the Principal Investigator (PI) to select the level that aligns with the scope of the proposed research. The funding level should be selected based on the research scope defined in the Program Announcement, and not on the amount of the budget. An application that does not meet the intent of the funding level selected will not be recommended for funding, even if it might meet the intent of a different funding level.

**Level 3**

The current Program Announcement discusses the Breakthrough Award Level 3. Funding Levels 1, 2, and 4 are available under other Program Announcements (W81XWH-19-BCRPBTA12 for Levels 1 and 2 and W81XWH-19-BCRP-BTA4 for Level 4). The PI is strongly encouraged to review the research scopes defined under each funding level as described in the corresponding Breakthrough Award Program Announcements before submitting the pre-application.

The following are general descriptions, although not all-inclusive, of the scope of research projects that would be appropriate to propose under the current Program Announcement:

**Funding Level 3:** Advanced translational studies with a high degree of project readiness. Where relevant, proof of availability of and access to necessary data, human samples, cohort(s) and/or critical reagents must be provided. If the proposed research would ultimately require U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) involvement, applications must demonstrate availability of and access to clinical reagents (e.g., therapeutic molecules) and patient population(s). Applications must state a realistic timeline for near-term clinical investigation. Small-scale clinical trials (e.g., first in human, Phase I/IIb) may be appropriate.

**Partnering PI Option:** The Breakthrough Award encourages applications that include meaningful and productive collaborations between investigators. The Partnering PI Option is structured to accommodate two PIs, referred to as the Initiating PI and the Partnering PI, each of whom will be funded with a separate award. There are different submission requirements for the Initiating and Partnering PIs’ applications; however, both PIs should contribute significantly to the development of the proposed research project including the Project Narrative, Statement of Work (SOW), and other required components. The PIs may have expertise in similar or disparate scientific disciplines, but each PI is expected to bring distinct contributions to the application. New collaborations are encouraged, but not required. The application is expected to describe how the PIs’ combined expertise will better address the research question and explain why the work should be done together rather than through separate efforts. To meet the intent of the Partnering PI Option, applicants are discouraged from being named as a Partnering PI on multiple Breakthrough Award Level 3 applications unless they are clearly addressing distinct research questions.
Personnel: Applications are expected to include an appropriate and robust research team with the combined backgrounds and breast cancer-related expertise to enable successful conduct of the project.

Consumer Advocates: Applications are required to include consumer advocate involvement. The research team must include two or more breast cancer consumer advocates, who will be integral throughout the planning and implementation of the research project. Consumer advocates should be involved in the development of the research question, project design, oversight, recruitment, and evaluation, as well as other significant aspects of the proposed project. Interactions with other team members should be well integrated and ongoing, not limited to attending seminars and semi-annual meetings. As lay representatives, the consumer advocates must be individuals who have been diagnosed with breast cancer, and they should be active in a breast cancer advocacy organization. Their role in the project should be independent of their employment, and they cannot be employees of any of the organizations participating in the application. Their role should be focused on providing objective input on the research and its potential impact for individuals with, or at risk for, breast cancer. The consumer advocates should have a high level of knowledge of current breast cancer issues and the appropriate background or training in breast cancer research to contribute to the project.

Level 4
The current Program Announcement discusses the Breakthrough Award Level 4. Funding Levels 1, 2, and 3 are available under other Program Announcements (W81XWH-19-BCRPBTA12 for Levels 1 and 2 and W81XWH-19-BCRP-BTA3 for Level 3). The PI is strongly encouraged to review the research scopes defined under each funding level as described in the corresponding Breakthrough Award Program Announcements before submitting the pre-application.

The following are general descriptions, although not all-inclusive, of the scope of research projects that would be appropriate to propose under the current Program Announcement:

Funding Level 4: Large-scale projects that will transform and revolutionize the clinical management and/or prevention of breast cancer. Human clinical trials are required. PIs are expected to have experience in successfully leading large-scale projects and demonstrated ability (through personal experience or via a commitment from a collaborating clinical investigator) to implement a clinical project successfully. Where relevant, applications must demonstrate availability of and access to necessary data, human samples, cohort(s), and/or critical reagents. For proposed research that will require U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) involvement, project readiness requirements at the time of application submission include: proof of availability of and access to clinical reagents (e.g., therapeutics) that meet regulatory compliance guidelines, proof of availability of and access to appropriate subject population(s), validated projections for patient recruitment, and submission of an Investigational New Drug (IND) or Investigational Device Exemption (IDE) application to the FDA, if applicable.

Funding from this award mechanism must support a clinical trial. A clinical trial is defined as a prospective accrual of human subjects in whom an intervention (e.g., device, drug, biologic, surgical procedure, rehabilitative modality, behavioral intervention, or other) is tested for a measurable outcome with respect to safety, effectiveness, and/or efficacy. This outcome represents a direct effect on the subject of that intervention or interaction. The term “human subjects” is used in this Program Announcement to refer to individuals who will be recruited for or who will participate in the proposed clinical trial. For more information, a Human Subject Resource Document is provided at https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm. PIs seeking funding for a preclinical research project should consider one of the other FY19 BCRP Program Announcements being offered.

If the proposed clinical trial involves the use of a drug that has not been approved by the FDA for the proposed investigational use, then an IND application to the FDA that meets all requirements under the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 21, Part 312 (21 CFR 312) may be required. It is the responsibility of the applicant to provide evidence from the Institutional Review Board (IRB) of record or the FDA if an IND is not required. If an IND is required, the IND application must be submitted to the FDA by the BCRP Breakthrough Award Level 4 application submission deadline. The IND should be specific for the product (i.e., the product should not represent a derivative or alternate version of the investigational agent described in the IND application) and indication to be tested in the proposed clinical trial. For more information on IND applications, the FDA has provided guidance at https://www.fda.gov/drugs/developmentapprovalprocess/howdrugsaredevelopedandapproved/approvalapplications/investigationalnewdrugapplication/default.htm.

If the investigational product is a device, then an IDE application to the FDA that meets all requirements under 21 CFR 812 may be required. It is the responsibility of the applicant to provide evidence from the IRB of record or the FDA if an IDE is not required, or if the device qualifies for an abbreviated IDE. If an IDE is required, the IDE application must be submitted to the FDA by the BCRP Breakthrough Award Level 4 application submission deadline. The IDE should be specific for the device (i.e., should not represent a derivative or modified version of the device described in the IDE application) and indication to be tested in the proposed clinical trial.

If the clinical trial of an investigational product will be conducted at international sites, evidence that an application to the relevant national regulatory agency of the host country(ies) has been submitted by the BCRP Breakthrough Award Level 4 application submission deadline is required.
Refer to Attachment 10, Regulatory Strategy, for additional details on documentation of FDA applications. The Government reserves the right to withdraw funding if an IND or IDE application and/or international regulatory application is necessary but has not been submitted prior to the application submission deadline.

Refer to Attachment 10, Regulatory Strategy, for additional details on documentation of FDA applications. The Government reserves the right to withdraw funding if an IND or IDE application and/or international regulatory application is necessary but has not been submitted prior to the application submission deadline.

Note: An invited oral presentation is a requirement for application review of Funding Level 4 projects, as described in Section II.D, Full Application Submission Content.

Partnering PI Option: The Breakthrough Award encourages applications that include meaningful and productive collaborations between investigators. The Partnering PI Option is structured to accommodate two PIs, referred to as the Initiating PI and the Partnering PI, each of whom will be funded with a separate award. There are different submission requirements for the Initiating and Partnering PIs’ applications; however, both PIs should contribute significantly to the development of the proposed research project including the Project Narrative, SOW, and other required components. The PIs may have expertise in similar or disparate scientific disciplines, but each PI is expected to bring distinct contributions to the application. New collaborations are encouraged, but not required. The application is expected to describe how the PIs’ combined expertise will better address the research question and explain why the work should be done together rather than through separate efforts. To meet the intent of the Partnering PI Option, applicants are discouraged from being named as a Partnering PI on multiple Breakthrough Award Level 4 applications unless they are clearly addressing distinct research questions.

Personnel: Applications are expected to include an appropriate and robust research team with the combined backgrounds and breast cancer-related expertise to enable successful conduct of the project.

Consumer Advocates: Applications are required to include consumer advocate involvement. The research team must include two or more breast cancer consumer advocates, who will be integral throughout the planning and implementation of the research project. Consumer advocates should be involved in the development of the research question, project design, oversight, recruitment, and evaluation, as well as other significant aspects of the proposed project. Interactions with other team members should be well integrated and ongoing, not limited to attending seminars and semi-annual meetings. As lay representatives, the consumer advocates must be individuals who have been diagnosed with breast cancer, and they should be active in a breast cancer advocacy organization. Their role in the project should be independent of their employment, and they cannot be employees of any of the organizations participating in the application. Their role should be focused on providing objective input on the research and its potential impact for individuals with, or at risk for, breast cancer. The consumer advocates should have a high level of knowledge of current breast cancer issues and the appropriate background or training in breast cancer research to contribute to the project.

Funding Details: The anticipated direct costs budgeted for the entire period of performance for an FY19 BCRP Breakthrough Award Funding Level 3 will not exceed $3M for a single PI or $4M if applying under the Partnering PI Option. Refer to Section II.D.5, Funding Restrictions, for detailed funding information.

The anticipated direct costs budgeted for the entire period of performance for an FY19 BCRP Breakthrough Award Funding Level 4 (single PI or Partnering PI Option) will not exceed $10M. Refer to Section II.D.5, Funding Restrictions, for detailed funding information.

Additional Details & Additional Details

LOI Deadline: March 12, 2019 (A pre-application is required and must be submitted through eBRAP)
Internal HRS Deadline: May 30, 2019
Sponsor Deadline: June 13, 2019

Department of Defense (DoD) Breast Cancer Research Program (BCRP): Innovator Award

The Innovator Award supports visionary individuals who have demonstrated exceptional creativity, innovative work, and paradigm-shifting leadership in any field including, but not limited to, breast cancer. The Innovator Award will provide these individuals with the funding and freedom to pursue their most novel, visionary, high-risk ideas that could accelerate progress to ending breast cancer.

Because the intent of the Innovator Award mechanism is to recognize these remarkably creative and innovative visionary individuals, rather than projects, the central feature of the award is the innovative contribution that the Principal Investigator (PI) can make toward ending breast cancer. The PI should have a record of challenging the status quo, shifting paradigms by changing a field of research or approach to patient care, exhibiting high levels of creativity, and demonstrating promise for continued innovation in future work. These rare individuals will be able to articulate a vision for ending breast cancer that challenges current dogma and
demonstrates an ability to look beyond tradition and convention. The PI is also expected to be established in his/her field and have demonstrated success at forming and leading effective partnerships and collaborations. To further the development of innovative individuals and spark the generation of novel ideas, applications are required to incorporate the mentoring of promising junior investigators.

Experience in breast cancer research is not required; however, the application must focus on breast cancer, and the PI must maintain a 50% dedication of his/her full-time professional effort during the award period to breast cancer research. This professional effort in breast cancer research can be through a combination of this award and other current support. Individuals from other disciplines who will apply novel concepts to breast cancer are encouraged to submit.

The PI is expected to assemble a research team that will provide the necessary expertise and collaborative efforts toward accomplishing the research goals. The PI's research team must include two or more breast cancer consumer advocates. As lay representatives, the consumer advocates must be individuals who have been diagnosed with breast cancer and are actively involved in a breast cancer advocacy organization. Their role should be independent of their employment, and they cannot be employees of any of the organizations participating in the application. The consumer advocates should have a high level of knowledge of current breast cancer issues and the appropriate background or training in breast cancer research to contribute to the project. Their role should be focused on providing objective input on the research and its potential impact for individuals with, or at risk for, breast cancer.

**Funding Details:** The anticipated direct costs budgeted for the entire period of performance for an FY19 BCRP Innovator Award will not exceed $5M. Refer to Section II.D.5, Funding Restrictions, for detailed funding information.

**Additional Details**

**LOI Deadline:** March 12, 2019 (A pre-application is required and must be submitted through eBRAP)

**Internal HRS Deadline:** May 30, 2019

**Sponsor Deadline:** June 13, 2019

**Department of Defense (DoD) Breast Cancer Research Program (BCRP): Distinguished Investigator Award**

The Breakthrough Fellowship Award supports recent doctoral or medical graduates in pursuit of innovative, high-impact breast cancer research during their postdoctoral fellowship and allows them to obtain the necessary experience for an independent career at the forefront of breast cancer research. Those individuals should be exceptionally talented researchers who have demonstrated that they are the “best and brightest” of their peers. Applicants must demonstrate that the proposed research has high potential to lead to or make breakthroughs in breast cancer. Applicants for this award must also exhibit a strong desire to pursue a career in breast cancer research, with clear evidence for a researcher development plan that will lead to a successful independent career in breast cancer.

The critical components of this award mechanism are:

**Impact:** Research supported by the Breakthrough Fellowship Award will have the potential for a major impact and accelerate progress toward ending breast cancer. The impact may be near-term or long-term, but must move beyond a minor advancement and have the potential to lead to a new approach that is fundamentally better than interventions already approved or in clinical development. Applications are expected to identify the breast cancer patients or at-risk individuals who would ultimately benefit from the proposed research.

**Research Strategy:** The research proposed as part of the Breakthrough Fellowship Award must have high potential to lead to or make breakthroughs in breast cancer. The scope of the research should include innovative, high-risk/high-reward research in the early stages of idea development or research already supported by preliminary data with the potential to make significant advancements toward clinical translation. The research strategy should demonstrate sound rationale, logical reasoning, and, if available, preliminary data. The proposed research should show evidence of rigorous experimental design, sufficient experimental details, appropriate controls, a statistical plan, and consideration of pitfalls and alternatives.

**Principal Investigator (PI):** Under this award mechanism, the postdoctoral fellow is considered the PI and, as such, should write the project narrative, researcher development plan, and other application components, with appropriate guidance from the mentor. While the PI is not required to have previous experience in breast cancer research, the proposed project and researcher development plan must focus on breast cancer. Applications must emphasize the PI's high potential for success in becoming an independent breast cancer researcher based on his/her qualifications, achievements (including first-author publications), and letters of recommendation.
Mentor: The mentor (or co-mentor, if applicable) must possess the appropriate expertise and experience in breast cancer research and/or patient care, to include recent publications and active peer-reviewed breast cancer funding, and clearly demonstrate a commitment to guiding the PI’s research and development as a researcher. If the mentor is not an experienced breast cancer researcher, then formal co-mentorship by an established breast cancer researcher is required. The application must include information about the mentor’s experience in conducting innovative research and how he/she intends to support the PI’s endeavors in breast cancer. Mentorship by an investigator without an established record of mentoring pre- and/or postdoctoral trainees may be offset by the overall strength of the researcher development plan.

Researcher Development Plan: Applications must provide details on the suitability of the PI’s overall researcher development plan for attaining the goals of this award mechanism. Applications must elaborate on the qualities of the research environment in which the candidate will work, provide details on the individualized breast cancer-focused researcher development plan, and describe how it will facilitate the PI’s career development as an independent, innovative breast cancer researcher. A multidisciplinary research approach to breast cancer is highly encouraged, but not required; however, if there are multidisciplinary aspects, they should be clearly outlined in the application.

Research involving human subjects and human anatomical substances is permitted; however, clinical trials are not allowed under this Program Announcement.

**Funding Details:** The anticipated direct costs budgeted for the entire period of performance for an FY19 BCRP Breakthrough Fellowship Award will not exceed $300,000. Refer to Section II.D.5, Funding Restrictions, for detailed funding information.

**Additional Details**

**LOI Deadline:** March 12, 2019 (A pre-application is required and must be submitted through eBRAP)

**Internal HRS Deadline:** May 30, 2019

**Sponsor Deadline:** June 13, 2019

**Department of Defense (DoD) Peer Reviewed Medical Research Program (PRMRP): Clinical Trial Award**

The PRMRP Clinical Trial Award supports the rapid implementation of clinical trials with the potential to have a significant impact on a disease or condition addressed in at least one of the Congressionally directed FY19 PRMRP Topic Areas. Clinical trials may be designed to evaluate promising new products, pharmacologic agents (drugs or biologics), devices, clinical guidance, and/or emerging approaches and technologies. Proposed projects may range from small proof-of-concept trials (e.g., pilot, first in human, Phase 0), to demonstrate feasibility or inform the design of more advanced trials, through large-scale trials to determine efficacy in relevant patient populations.

Funding from this award mechanism must support a clinical trial and cannot be used for preclinical research studies. A clinical trial is defined as a prospective accrual of human subjects in whom an intervention (e.g., device, drug, biologic, surgical procedure, rehabilitative modality, behavioral intervention, or other) is tested for a measurable outcome with respect to safety, effectiveness, and/or efficacy. This outcome represents a direct effect on the subject of that intervention or interaction. The term “human subjects” is used in this Program Announcement to refer to individuals who will be recruited for or who will participate in the proposed clinical trial. For more information, a Human Subject Resource Document is provided at https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm. Principal Investigators (PIs) seeking funding for a preclinical research project should consider one of the other FY19 PRMRP Program Announcements being offered.

If the proposed clinical trial involves the use of a drug that has not been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the proposed investigational use, then an Investigational New Drug (IND) application to the FDA that meets all requirements under the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 21, Part 312 (21 CFR 312) may be required. It is the responsibility of the applicant to provide evidence from the Institutional Review Board (IRB) of record or the FDA if an IND is not required. If an IND is required, an active IND deemed safe to proceed that covers the proposed trial must be in place by the PRMRP Clinical Trial Award application submission deadline. The IND should be specific for the product (i.e., the product should not represent a derivative or alternate version of the investigational agent described in the IND application) and indication to be tested in the proposed clinical trial. For more information on IND applications, the FDA has provided guidance at https://www.fda.gov/drugs/developmentapprovalprocess/howdrugsaredevelopedandapproved/approvalapplications/ investigationalnewdrugapplication/default.htm.

If the investigational product is a device, then an Investigational Device Exemption (IDE) application to the FDA that meets all requirements under 21 CFR 812 may be required. It is the responsibility of the applicant to provide evidence from the IRB of record or the FDA if an IDE is not required, or if the device qualifies for an abbreviated IDE. If an IDE is required, an active IDE deemed safe to proceed that covers the proposed trial must be in place by the PRMRP Clinical Trial Award application submission deadline. The
IDE should be specific for the device (i.e., should not represent a derivative or modified version of the device described in the IDE application) and indication to be tested in the proposed clinical trial.

If the clinical trial of an investigational product will be conducted at international sites, evidence is required that an approval from the relevant national regulatory agency of the host country(ies) has been received by the PRMRP Clinical Trial Award application submission deadline. Refer to Attachment 13, Regulatory Strategy, for additional details on documentation of FDA applications. The Government reserves the right to withdraw the application if an active IND or IDE and/or international regulatory approval is necessary but is not in place prior to the application submission deadline.

**Funding Details**: The CDMRP expects to allot approximately $58.5M to fund approximately 9 Clinical Trial Award applications. Funding of applications received is contingent upon the availability of Federal funds for this program as well as the number of applications received, the quality and merit of the applications as evaluated by scientific and programmatic review, and the requirements of the Government. Funds to be obligated on any award resulting from this funding opportunity will be available for use for a limited time period based on the fiscal year of the funds. It is anticipated that awards made from this FY19 funding opportunity will be funded with FY19 funds, which will expire for use on September 30, 2025.

**Additional Details**

**LOI Deadline**: March 14, 2019 (A pre-application is required and must be submitted through eBRAP)

**Internal HRS Deadline**: June 18, 2019

**Sponsor Deadline**: July 2, 2019

**Department of Defense (DoD) Peer Reviewed Medical Research Program (PRMRP): Focused Program Award**

The PRMRP Focused Program Award mechanism is intended to optimize research and accelerate solutions to a critical question related to at least one of the Congressionally directed FY19 PRMRP Topic Areas through a synergistic, multidisciplinary research program.

Key aspects of this award include:

- **Overarching Challenge**: Focused Program Award applications must describe a unifying, overarching challenge that will be addressed by a set of research projects. The overarching challenge must be relevant to a critical problem or question in the field of research and/or patient care in at least one of the FY19 PRMRP Topic Areas.

- **Research Projects**: Applications shall include multiple, distinct research projects led by individual project leaders that address complementary aspects of the overarching challenge. Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit a minimum of four research projects; additional studies are allowed. While individual projects must be capable of standing on their own high scientific merits, they must also be interrelated and synergistic with the other proposed projects and advance a solution beyond what would be possible through individual efforts. The exploration of multiple hypotheses or viewpoints of the same line of questioning is encouraged. This award mechanism is not intended to support a series of research projects that are dependent on the success of any other project. Each project should propose a unique approach to addressing the overarching challenge and be capable of producing research findings with potential to impact the field and/or patient care. Individual research projects may range from exploratory, hypothesis-developing studies through small-scale clinical trials (i.e., up to and including Phase II or equivalent). There should be a clear intent to progress toward translational/clinical work over the course of the effort.

- **Implementation**: The research strategy to address the overarching challenge must be supported by a detailed implementation plan that identifies critical milestones; and outlines the knowledge, resources, and technical innovations that will be utilized to achieve the milestones. A robust statistical plan and statistical expertise should be included where applicable. A plan for assessing individual project performance and progress toward addressing the overarching challenge must be included in the implementation plan. Plans to include an External Advisory Board (EAB) are encouraged; however, applicants must be careful to avoid potential conflicts of interest (COIs) during review of the application by ensuring no contact with, recruiting of, or naming of specific EAB members in the application. For multi-institutional collaborations, plans for communication and data transfer among the collaborating institutions, as well as how data, specimens, and/or imaging products obtained during the study will be handled, must be included. An intellectual and material property plan agreed to by participating organizations is required in the application’s supporting documentation.

- **Research Team**: The overall effort will be led by a Principal Investigator (PI) with demonstrated success in leading large, focused projects. The PI is required to devote a minimum DoD FY19 Peer Reviewed Medical Focused Program Award 6 of 20% effort to this award. The PI should create an environment that fosters and supports collaboration and innovation in a way that engages all members of the team in all aspects of the research plan. The research team assembled by the PI should be highly qualified and multidisciplinary, with identified project leaders for each of the complementary and synergistic research projects. The resources and expertise brought to the team by each project leader should combine to create a robust, synergistic collaboration. The PRMRP
Science Officer assigned to a resulting award must be invited to participate in research team meetings such as annual meetings of the entire research team. The plan for such meetings should be noted in the application.

Milestone Meeting: The PI will be required to present an update on progress toward accomplishing the goals of the award at a Milestone Meeting to be held in the National Capital Area after the conclusion of Year 2 of the period of performance. The PI may bring up to three additional members of the research team to the meeting. The Milestone Meeting will be attended by members of the PRMRP Programmatic Panel, CDMRP staff, and the USAMRAA Grants Officer.

Funding Details: The anticipated direct costs budgeted for the entire period of performance for an FY19 PRMRP Focused Program Award will not exceed $7.2M. Refer to Section II.D.5, Funding Restrictions, for detailed funding information.

**Additional Details**

**LOI Deadline:** March 14, 2019 (A pre-application is required and must be submitted through eBRAP)

**Internal HRS Deadline:** June 18, 2019

**Sponsor Deadline:** July 2, 2019

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**Department of Defense (DoD) Peer Reviewed Medical Research Program (PRMRP): Investigator-Initiated Research Award**

The PRMRP Investigator-Initiated Research Award (IIRA) is intended to support studies that will make an important contribution toward research and/or patient care for a disease or condition related to at least one of the FY19 PRMRP Topic Areas.

The rationale for a research area may be derived from a laboratory discovery, population-based studies, a clinician’s first-hand knowledge of patients, or anecdotal data. Applications must include relevant data that support the rationale for the proposed study. These data may be unpublished or from the published literature.

Impact: The Investigator-Initiated Research Award is designed to support research with the potential to yield highly impactful data that could lead to critical discoveries or major advancements. The application must clearly demonstrate the project’s potential immediate and long-range outcome(s)/product(s) (knowledge and/or materiel) and how they will impact a central critical problem or question in the field of research and/or patient care in the FY19 PRMRP Topic Area(s) addressed.

Research projects may focus on any phase of research from basic laboratory research through translational research, including preclinical studies in animal models and human subjects, as well as correlative studies associated with an existing clinical trial. Research involving human subjects and human anatomical substances is permitted; however, this award may not be used to conduct clinical trials. A clinical trial is defined as a prospective accrual of patients (human subjects) in whom an intervention (e.g., device, drug, biologic, surgical procedure, rehabilitative modality, behavioral intervention, or other) is tested for a measurable outcome with respect to safety, effectiveness, and/or efficacy. This outcome represents a direct effect on the subject of that intervention or interaction. For more information on how to distinguish clinical research from clinical trials, see the Human Subject Resource Document at https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/ public/Program.htm. Principal Investigators (PIs) seeking funding for a clinical trial should apply to the FY19 PRMRP Clinical Trial Award mechanism (Funding Opportunity Number: W81XWH-19-PRMRP-CTA).

Funding Details: The anticipated direct costs budgeted for the entire period of performance for a single PI FY19 PRMRP IIRA award will not exceed $1.2M. The anticipated direct costs budgeted for the entire period of performance for an FY19 PRMRP IIRA award with the Partnering PI Option will not exceed $1.5M. Refer to Section II.D.5, Funding Restrictions, for detailed funding information.

**Additional Details**

**LOI Deadline:** March 14, 2019 (A pre-application is required and must be submitted through eBRAP)

**Internal HRS Deadline:** June 27, 2019

**Sponsor Deadline:** July 11, 2019

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**Department of Defense (DoD) Peer Reviewed Medical Research Program (PRMRP): Technology/Therapeutic Development Award**

The PRMRP Technology/Therapeutic Development Award (TTDA) is a product-driven award mechanism intended to provide support for the translation of promising preclinical findings into products for clinical applications, including prevention, detection, diagnosis, treatment, or quality of life, in at least one of the Congressionally directed FY19 PRMRP Topic Areas. Products in development should be responsive to the healthcare needs of military Service members, Veterans, and/or beneficiaries.

The product(s) to be developed may be a tangible item such as a pharmacologic agent (drugs or biologics) or device, or a knowledge-based product. A “Knowledge Product” is a non-materiel product that addresses an identified need in a Topic Area, is based on current evidence and research, aims to transition into medical practice, training, tools, or to support materiel solutions (systems to develop, acquire, provide, and sustain medical solutions and capabilities), and educates or impacts behavior throughout the
continuum of care, including primary prevention of negative outcomes. The Principal Investigator (PI) must provide a transition plan (including potential funding and resources, see Attachment 8) showing how the product will progress to the next level of development (e.g., clinical trials, delivery to the military or civilian market) after the completion of the PRMRP award. PIs are encouraged to develop relationships with industry and/or other funding agencies to facilitate moving the product into the next phase of development.

Proof-of-concept demonstrating the potential utility of the proposed product, or a prototype/preliminary version of the proposed product, should already be established. Applications must include relevant data that support the rationale for the proposed study. These data may be unpublished and/or from the published literature. Investigators seeking to identify a product or demonstrate initial proof-of-concept should consider submitting to the FY19 PRMRP Investigator-Initiated Research Award (Funding Opportunity Number: W81XWH-19-PRMRP-IIRA) or the FY19 PRMRP Discovery Award (Funding Opportunity Number: W81XWH-19-PRMRP-DA), as appropriate.

- Examples of the types of research that may be supported include, but are not limited to:
  - Developing and validating clinical guidance/guidelines for standard of care
  - Testing new therapeutic modalities (agents, delivery systems, and chemical modification of lead compounds) using established or validated preclinical systems
  - Designing and implementing pilot or full-scale Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) production of therapeutics and/or delivery systems for use in advanced preclinical and initial clinical trials
  - Developing pharmacologic agents through absorption, distribution, metabolism, excretion, and toxicity (ADMET) studies
  - Developing pharmacologic agents to Investigational New Drug (IND) stage for initiation of Phase I clinical trials
  - Developing prototype devices to Investigational Device Exemption (IDE) stage or abbreviated IDE stage for initiation of clinical trials
  - Optimizing diagnostic or treatment devices for field deployment

Funding Details: The anticipated direct costs budgeted for the entire period of performance for an FY19 PRMRP TTDA award will not exceed $3M. Refer to Section II.D.5, Funding Restrictions, for detailed funding information.

Additional Details

LOI Deadline: March 14, 2019 (A pre-application is required and must be submitted through eBRAP)

Internal HRS Deadline: June 27, 2019

Sponsor Deadline: July 11, 2019

Department of Defense (DoD) Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Research Program (ALSRP): Therapeutic Development Award

The Therapeutic Development Award supports research ranging from validation of therapeutic leads through U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Investigational New Drug (IND)-enabling studies. The proposed studies are expected to be empirical in nature and product-driven. Applicants with limited ALS experience are strongly encouraged to collaborate with those having substantial expertise in ALS research and/or ALS model systems. Examples of activities that will be supported by this award include:

- Confirmation of candidate therapeutics obtained from screening or by other means, including optimization of potency and pharmacological properties and testing of derivatives and sister compounds
- Validation of early pilot studies, including the use of multiple ALS model systems and/or replicating preliminary data with more time points or additional doses
- Studies on formulation and stability leading to Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) production methods
- IND-enabling studies, to include compound characterization, absorption, distribution, metabolism, and excretion (ADME) studies, and dose/response and toxicology studies in relevant model systems

Funding Details:

- The anticipated direct costs budgeted for the entire period of performance will not exceed $1,250,000. If indirect cost rates have been negotiated, indirect costs are to be budgeted in accordance with the organization’s negotiated rate. No budget will be approved by the Government exceeding $1,250,000 direct costs or using an indirect cost rate exceeding the organization’s negotiated rate.
- A Therapeutic Development Award application including Therapeutically Relevant Marker Option that does not meet the criteria specified for that option may be funded at the lower maximum direct costs of $1,000,000, i.e., at the level of the standard Therapeutic Development Award as described above.
All direct and indirect costs of any subaward or contract must be included in the total direct costs of the primary award. The applicant may request the entire maximum funding amount for a project that may have a period of performance less than the maximum 2 years.

**Additional Details**

**LOI Deadline:** March 22, 2019 (A pre-application is required and must be submitted through eBRAP)

**Internal HRS Deadline:** July 11, 2019

**Sponsor Deadline:** July 25, 2019

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**Department of Defense (DoD) Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Research Program (ALSHP): Therapeutic Idea Award**

The Therapeutic Idea Award is designed to promote new ideas aimed at drug or treatment discovery that are still in the early stages of development. Projects that focus primarily on investigating the pathophysiology of ALS are not within the scope of this Funding Opportunity. Development and/or modification of preclinical model systems or the application of high-through-put screens to define or assess lead compounds for ALS treatment are of interest. Development of methods to adequately measure target binding and proximal downstream effects (target engagement) and the potential for undesirable activities at related but unintended targets (selectivity) are also encouraged. While the inclusion of preliminary data is not prohibited, the strength of the application should not rely on preliminary data, but on the innovative approach. All proposed research projects should include a well-formulated, testable hypothesis based on strong scientific rationale that holds translational potential to improve ALS treatment and/or advance a novel treatment modality.

Innovation and impact are important aspects of the Therapeutic Idea Award. Research deemed innovative may introduce a new paradigm, challenge current paradigms, introduce novel concepts or technologies, or exhibit other uniquely creative qualities that may lead to potential therapeutics for ALS. Impact may be near-term or long-term, but must be significant and move beyond an incremental advancement.

**Funding Details:** The maximum period of performance is 2 years. The anticipated direct costs budgeted for the entire period of performance will not exceed $500,000. If indirect cost rates have been negotiated, indirect costs are to be budgeted in accordance with the organization’s negotiated rate. No budget will be approved by the Government exceeding $500,000 direct costs or using an indirect cost rate exceeding the organization’s negotiated rate.

**Additional Details**

**LOI Deadline:** March 22, 2019 (A pre-application is required and must be submitted through eBRAP)

**Internal HRS Deadline:** July 11, 2019

**Sponsor Deadline:** July 25, 2019