**News & Events**

*NEW* **Association of Clinical Research Professionals (ACRP) E-Learning Program**

Together, McMaster University, Hamilton Health Sciences and the Research Institute of St. Joe’s Hamilton have partnered with the Association of Clinical Research Professionals (ACRP) to make an e-learning training program available to our esteemed and valued research staff at no cost. We are delighted to share this exciting news with you and encourage you to partake in this opportunity.

Please visit the Health Research Services website: [https://fhs.mcmaster.ca/healthresearch/ACRP.htm](https://fhs.mcmaster.ca/healthresearch/ACRP.htm) to learn about ACRP and how you can register.

*NEW* **New HRS Checklist and Research Account Forms**

As we endeavor to provide streamlined administration to the Faculty of Health Sciences research community, HRS has renovated our internal forms, thereby requiring less information when applying for funds and facilitating quicker administration and account opening following funding notification.

When applying for grant funding, HRS will utilize the new shorter version of our HRS Checklist. A new HRS Checklist will need to be submitted whenever you are applying for a grant. Should your application be funded, a companion form to the HRS Checklist - the Research Account Request Form will need to be completed and submitted to HRS.

We anticipate that this will assist in promoting both a quicker application process and smoother account opening requests. If you are uncertain about how to use/complete these new forms please contact HRS by emailing hsresadm@mcmaster.ca or contacting your Senior Grants Advisor.

The forms are also available on the HRS website [https://fhs.mcmaster.ca/healthresearch/forms_and_templates.html](https://fhs.mcmaster.ca/healthresearch/forms_and_templates.html)

**OBIO Event in Toronto re: Accessing US National Institutes of Health (NIH) Funding**

OBIO is partnering with NRC-IRAP’s Biomedical Sector Team on a workshop on how Canadian companies and researchers can access funding, directly or indirectly, from the US National Institutes of Health (NIH). Although less straightforward for Canadian companies than American, various pathways exist for Canadian companies to work with the NIH. The NIH is one of the largest investors in medical research and development and is currently sponsoring 160+ projects in Canada totaling more than $60M USD. NIH funding is vastly underutilized by Canadian companies.

**When:** Monday March 5, 2018  
**Time:** 9:30 am – 11:30 am  
**Where:** ONRamp 100 College St. Suite 158, Toronto ON  
[Registration](#)

**Additional Information**
N2 and Health Canada Request for Feedback: Guidance Document Part C, Division 5 of the Food and Drug Regulations “Drugs for Clinical Trials Involving Human Subjects”

N2 is working in partnership with Health Canada (HC) on their consultation to seek input from Canadians and key stakeholders on their draft of GUI-0100: Guidance Document-Part C, Division 5 of the Food and Drug Regulations “Drugs for Clinical Trials Involving Human Subjects”.

HC is looking for comments on the clarity and expectations on how to comply with Part C, Division 5, including the interpretation of ICH-E6(R2) in the Canadian context. Health Canada, as a member of ICH, will formally adopt ICH-E6(R2) on April 1st, 2018.

This GUI-0100 guide is designed to make Part C, Division 5 of the Food and Drug Regulations “Drugs for Clinical Trials Involving Human Subjects” easier to understand. It is intended to:

- promote stakeholder compliance with Part C, Division 5
- promote consistency and quality in the conduct of Health Canada compliance activities
- provide interpretation of Part C, Division 5, and specifically in terms of its relationship to ICH E6(R2)

Health Canada is looking for comments on:

- The clarity and expectations on how to comply with Part C, Division 5, including the interpretation of ICH E6(R2) in the Canadian context

Health Canada is not looking for comments on:

- The wording or specific provisions of Part C, Division 5 of the Food and Drug Regulations
- The wording and provisions of ICH E6(R2)

TIMELINE

Feedback will be collected between December 15th, 2017 and April 15th, 2018.

As an N2 member, we encourage you to provide your feedback through the N2 mechanism to support Health Canada’s structured approach and to facilitate collation of the feedback.

Please find the GUI-0100 draft guidance documents here, and use the following link to provide your comments/feedback: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2WDY26Q

If you have questions, related to N2’s involvement with Health Canada’s consultation on GUI-0100 please contact:

Karen Arts- N2 Chair, Board of Directors  
karen.arts@n2canada.ca  
Tel: 416.673.6637

Susanna Sellmann-N2 Quality Committee  
Susanna.Sellmann@uhnresearch.ca  
Tel: 416.946.4501 x3221

Health Research Grant Competitions

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Opportunity (CIHR)</th>
<th>LOI Deadline</th>
<th>Internal HRS Deadline</th>
<th>Sponsor Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CIHR – Health System Impact Fellowship 2018</td>
<td>Mar 22</td>
<td>Apr 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NEW</strong> CIHR – Team Grant: Nutrition and the Epigenome</td>
<td>Mar 29</td>
<td>Apr 12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NEW</strong> CIHR – Team Grant: Canada-EU Data Flagship Collaboration</td>
<td>Apr 4</td>
<td>Apr 18</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NEW</strong> CIHR – Operating Grant: ECI Grants in Maternal, Reproductive, Child &amp; Youth Health</td>
<td>Apr 17</td>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>May 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NEW</strong> CIHR – Operating Grant: Network Environments for Indigenous Health Research</td>
<td>Apr 26</td>
<td>May 22</td>
<td>Jun 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIHR – Team Grant: Research Network on Lyme Disease</td>
<td>Mar 6</td>
<td>May 23</td>
<td>Jun 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIHR – Team Grant: Transnational Cardiovascular Research Projects</td>
<td>Jan 1</td>
<td>Jun 15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NEW</strong> CIHR Team Grant: E-Rare-3 Joint Transnational Call (2018)</td>
<td>Jun 5</td>
<td>Jun 19</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIHR – Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR) National Data Platform</td>
<td>Apr 17</td>
<td>Jun 5</td>
<td>Jun 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIHR – Operating Grant: Joint Programme on Neurodegenerative Disease Research (JPND) 2018</td>
<td>Mar 6</td>
<td>Jun 11</td>
<td>Jun 25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CIHR – Team Grant: NEURON 2018 *(Please consult the [ERA NET NEURON](https://www.neron.eu) website)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Opportunity (Non-CIHR)</th>
<th>LOI Deadline</th>
<th>Internal HRS Deadline</th>
<th>Sponsor Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age-Well 2018 Catalyst Funding Program</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Alton Ochsner Award Relating Smoking and Disease 2018</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Liver Foundation, Research Grant Competition: Operating Grants</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Urological Association Scholarship Fund (CUASF): Bladder Cancer Canada Research Grant</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) Discovery Fund</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael G. DeGroote Fellowship Awards</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Apr 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes Canada 2018 Research Competitions</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Apr 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HHS New Investigator Fund (NIF) 2018 Round 1</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Apr 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Orphan Disease Centre 2018 CDKL5 Program of Excellence Grant</td>
<td>Mar 8</td>
<td>Mar 23</td>
<td>Apr 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;NEW&quot; National Defence and the Canadian Armed Forces Targeted Engagement Grant (Special Project)</td>
<td>Mar 23</td>
<td>Apr 6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Health Sciences Education Innovation Fund</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Apr 13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The University of British Columbia Faculty of Medicine Call for Nominations: National Research Prizes</td>
<td>April 1</td>
<td>Apr 15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brain Canada Foundation and Azrieli Foundation Early-Career Capacity Building Grants</td>
<td>Apr 3</td>
<td>Apr 17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alzheimer’s Association: The PART THE CLOUD to RESCUE Brain Cell Degeneration in Alzheimer’s Disease Program</td>
<td>Mar 5</td>
<td>Apr 4</td>
<td>Apr 18 (By invite only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Commission International Flagship Collaboration with Canada for Human data storage, integration and sharing to enable personalized medicine approaches</td>
<td>Apr 4</td>
<td>Apr 18</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SickKids Foundation, National Grants: New investigator Research Grants</td>
<td>Apr 6</td>
<td>Apr 20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada Research Grant Program</td>
<td>Apr 13</td>
<td>Apr 27</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cancer Research Society 2018 Scholarships for the Next Generation of Scientists</td>
<td>Apr 13</td>
<td>Apr 27</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weston Brain Institute International Fellowships: Canada 2018</td>
<td>Apr 16</td>
<td>Apr 30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation (SRCF): Major Research Grants</td>
<td>Apr 16</td>
<td>Apr 30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Osteoporosis Canada: Canadian Multicentre Osteoporosis Study (CaMos) Fellowship Award</td>
<td>Apr 16</td>
<td>Apr 30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orthopaedic Trauma Association Grant and Scholarship Opportunities</td>
<td>Mar 12</td>
<td>Apr 16</td>
<td>Apr 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MITACS Globalink Research Award</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>May 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Connection Grants</td>
<td>Mar 13 to ROADS</td>
<td>Apr 24 to ROADS</td>
<td>May 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christopher &amp; Dana Reeve Foundation: Quality of Life Direct Effect Grants Program</td>
<td>Apr 11</td>
<td>Apr 17</td>
<td>May 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hamilton Health Sciences (HHS) Clinical Health Professional Personnel Award (CHPA)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td>May 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program</td>
<td>Start Date</td>
<td>End Date</td>
<td>Notes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misk Foundation and the Bill &amp; Melinda Gates Foundation: Misk Grand Challenges</td>
<td>Apr 18</td>
<td>May 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alliance for Cancer Gene Therapy (ACGT) 2018 Investigator’s Award</td>
<td>Mar 13</td>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>May 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hamilton Health Sciences (HHS) Health Professional Investigator Operating Grant Program</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Jun 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NEW</strong> Cancer Research Society: UpCycle Drug Repurposing Grant</td>
<td>Mar 27</td>
<td>Jun 5</td>
<td>Jun 19 (by invite only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Blood Services (CBS) MSM Research Grant Program</td>
<td>Apr 15</td>
<td>Jun 15</td>
<td>Jun 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crohn’s &amp; Colitis Foundation: Grants</td>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>Jun 15</td>
<td>Jul 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Commission Research Projects on Personalized Medicine – Smart Combination of Pre-clinical and Clinical Research with Data and ICT Solutions</td>
<td>Apr 10</td>
<td>Jun 21</td>
<td>Jul 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization for Autism Research (OAR): Applied Research Competition</td>
<td>Mar 26</td>
<td>Jul 23</td>
<td>Aug 6 (by invite only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weston Brain Institute, Rapid Response: Canada 2018 – Alzheimer’s &amp; Related Diseases</td>
<td>Apr 19</td>
<td>Jul 25</td>
<td>Aug 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Networks of Centres of Excellence of Canada Knowledge Mobilization (NCE-KM) Initiative Competition (please inform HRS of your intent to apply)</td>
<td>Apr 2 Draft LOI to HRS</td>
<td>Aug 21</td>
<td>Sep 4 (by invite only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ontario Genomics: Genomic Applications Partnership Program (GAPP) Round 12 (please inform HRS of your intent to apply)</td>
<td>Apr 5 Draft EOI to HRS</td>
<td>Apr 19 Draft EOI to Ontario Genomics</td>
<td>Oct 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MITACS Accelerate Fellowship</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>MILO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weston Brain Institute: Early Phase Clinical Trials: Canada</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simons Foundation, Simons Foundation Autism Research Initiative (SFARI): SFARI Explorer Award</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCE Voucher for Innovation and Productivity (VIP I) Program</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>MILO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCE Voucher for Innovation and Productivity II (VIP II) Program</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>MILO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TalentEdge Internship Program (TIP)</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>MILO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TalentEdge Fellowship Program</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>MILO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MITACS Accelerate Program</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>MILO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MITACS Globalink Partnership Award</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>MILO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CIHR – Health System Impact Fellowship 2018**

The Health System Impact Fellowship is expected to:

- Support impact-oriented career paths and elevate the career readiness of PhD trainees and post-doctoral fellows studying HSPR or related fields by supporting experiential learning opportunities in health system and related organizations outside of the traditional scholarly environment and enriched competency development (e.g., leadership, project management);
- Expand and enrich the traditional doctoral and post-doctoral training environment by engaging health system and related organizations in preparing a cadre of promising doctoral trainees and post-doctoral fellows for successful careers;
• Provide health system and related organizations with direct opportunities to realize and harness the benefits that research-trained individuals can bring to such organizations for improved decision-making.

**Funding Details:** Funds are allocated across two mutually exclusive streams as follows:

- **Stream A: HSI Award for Doctoral Trainees:** Of the total amount available, $700,000 is available to fund 20 awards relevant to CIHR-IHSPR and is allocated among regional funding pools as follows:
  - $210,000 is available to fund 6 awards in Western Canada (including Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, Northwest Territories, and Yukon)
  - $350,000 is available to fund 10 awards in Central Canada (including Quebec, Ontario, and Nunavut)
  - $140,000 is available to fund 4 awards in Eastern Canada (including Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and New Brunswick)

- **Stream B: HSI Awards for post-Doctoral Fellows:** Of the total amount available, $1,085,000 is available to fund 10 post-doctoral awards relevant to CIHR-IHSPR and is allocated among regional funding pools as follows:
  - $325,500 is available to fund 3 awards in Western Canada (including Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, Northwest Territories, and Yukon)
  - $542,500 is available to fund 5 awards in Central Canada (including Ontario, Quebec and Nunavut)
  - $217,000 is available to fund 2 awards in Eastern Canada (including Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and New Brunswick)

**Additional Details**

**Internal HRS Deadline:** March 22, 2018  
**Sponsor Deadline:** April 5, 2018

**CIHR – Team Grant: Nutrition and the Epigenome**

The up or down regulation of genes due to environmental influences may be responsible for differences between individuals that manifest later in life, or even in subsequent generations. Research has shown, for example, that malnutrition of the mother during pregnancy has lasting negative consequences for the health of her child, increasing the risk of cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, breast cancer and depression. Previous research has studied epigenetic changes in early life. However, the effects of diet on epigenetic regulation, gene expression in different tissues, and subsequent metabolic health and disease are still unclear. Experts need to better understand the mechanistic pathways that link dietary interventions to those epigenetic changes that have functional/physiological consequences to the tissue and ultimately the organism. Epigenetics is highly tissue and cell specific, and it is likely that different tissue types may respond differently to diet and dietary components. Until now, most studies have focused on clinically accessible tissues such as blood. In this call, the JPI HDHL encourages research looking at epigenetic changes in other tissues, for example, the gut and the brain, which could deliver valuable new insights. Improved understanding of the impact of epigenetic changes across the different life stages is also required. The early life and in utero periods represent key critical windows for the influence of nutrition in determining epigenetic marks and health trajectories. However, it is also important to elucidate whether epigenetic profiles determined in early life can be reversed or modified by environmental factors (including nutrition) in later life. Furthermore, there may be epigenetic changes later in life, or in critical periods later in life, where diet plays a key role.

**Funding Details:** The total CIHR amount available for the Canadian component of successful projects is $900,000 CAD, enough to fund approximately two grants. The maximum amount per Canadian component of the grant is $150,000/year for up to three years.

**Additional Details**

**Internal HRS Deadline:** March 22, 2018  
**Sponsor Deadline:** April 5, 2018

**CIHR – Team Grant: Canada-EU Data Flagship Collaboration**

The goal of this funding opportunity is to build a collaboration of stakeholders in Europe and Canada in the domain of repositories storing and sharing human –omics data that will create a framework for long-term cooperation. In order to do so, this program aims to enhance and standardize data deposition, curation and exchange procedures thus ensuring better data reuse and increased benefit to the scientific communities worldwide. Projects should develop approaches that integrate data from disparate sources and include one or more of the following elements:

- Data models that guarantee the interoperability of human health research data from different repositories and integrate different types of –omics data and, where relevant, clinical research and lifestyle data. The data models should take into
account sex/gender differences where relevant. The projects should build on existing research infrastructures such as – omics repositories, biobanks and registries.

- Reference architecture for data and process interoperability.
- Technologies and methodologies for data harvesting, data access, data transfers, and archiving complex datasets.
- Bioinformatics toolbox to support the analysis and management of data on diseases from a personalized medicine standpoint.
- International ethical and legal governance model for a research data management and storage infrastructure and an associated data management plan compliant with the required level of data security and privacy that is aligned with the recent recommendations of the OECD Council on Health Data Governance.

For complete information on the challenge to be addressed, scope, expected impact, and cross-cutting priorities, please refer to the European Commission funding opportunity.

**Funding Details:** The total amount available to Canadian researchers for this funding opportunity is CAD $5,500,000, enough to fund up to 7 grants from all Canadian funding sources. This amount may increase if additional funding partners participate. The maximum amount per grant is $200,000 per year for up to 4 years for a total of $800,000, per grant.

**Additional Details**

**Internal HRS Deadline:** April 4, 2018
**Sponsor Deadline:** April 18, 2018

**CIHR – Operating Grant: ECI Grants in Maternal, Reproductive, Child & Youth Health**

This funding opportunity is a collaboration between five 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](https://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/49398.html) (biomedical, clinical, health systems services, 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.

**Funding Details:** The total amount available from CIHR for this funding opportunity is $1,260,000, enough to fund up to 12 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 $1,260,000 available from CIHR:

- $630,000 is available to fund applications relevant to the overarching focus of maternal, reproductive, child and youth health (6 grants)
- $210,000 is available to fund applications in the research area relevant to IAPH (2 grants)
- $105,000 is available to fund applications in the research area relevant to ICRH (1 grant)
- $105,000 is available to fund applications in the research area relevant to III (1 grant)
- $210,000 is available to fund applications in the research area relevant to INMHA (2 grants)

The CIHR contribution must be matched at a minimum of 1:1 by the successful applicant's host institution and/or other partner(s), such as a charitable organization, philanthropic foundation, or industry partner.

**Additional Details**

**LOI Deadline:** April 17, 2018
**Internal HRS Deadline:** May 1, 2018
**Sponsor Deadline:** May 15, 2018

**CIHR – Operating Grant: Network Environments for Indigenous Health Research**

The purpose of the Network Environments for Indigenous Health Research (NEIHR) is to build on previous efforts of the [Network Environments for Aboriginal Health Research (NEAHR)](https://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/49398.html), initially launched in 2007, and the [Indigenous Mentorship Network Program (IMNP)](https://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/49398.html), initially launched in December 2016, by establishing a solid foundation for Indigenous health research driven by, and grounded in, Indigenous (i.e., First Nations, Inuit and Metis) communities in Canada. While NEAHR was revolutionary for its time, NEIHR will take a broader and more sophisticated approach to Indigenous health research and capacity building not just by focusing on individuals (e.g., supporting trainees and researchers), but also by concentrating on Indigenous communities, and social structures (e.g., educational systems, institutions, research infrastructures, policy apparatus, etc.).
**Funding Details:** The total amount available for this funding opportunity is $900,000, enough to fund approximately 12 grants. The maximum amount per grant is $75,000 per year for up to 1 year.

**Additional Details**
**LOI Deadline:** April 26, 2018  
**Internal HRS Deadline:** May 22, 2018  
**Sponsor Deadline:** June 5, 2018

**CIHR – Team Grant: Research Network on Lyme Disease**

The Lyme Disease Research Network grant is expected to:

1. Build a national network on Lyme disease to facilitate and support national collaboration among Lyme disease stakeholders (researchers, clinicians, and patients) in resource and knowledge sharing:
   - Mobilize, strengthen and build capacity in the Lyme disease research community.
   - Develop innovative multidisciplinary curricula and training opportunities for students and professionals.
   - Facilitate and support translation and dissemination of new knowledge from bench to bedside to population in order to:
     - improve clinical science and practice;
     - foster policy changes, leading to transformative and measurable improvements in the development and implementation of evidence-informed practices, policies, services, products and programs;
     - improve patient outcomes, access to care and quality, efficiency and effectiveness of health care.
2. Develop a national cohort of patients in order to understand the association between serological and clinical phenomenology of Lyme disease on a longitudinal basis (including a biobank creation and maintenance).

**Funding Details:** The total amount available for this funding opportunity is $4 million, enough to fund approximately one research network up to a maximum of $1,000,000 per year for four years. This amount may increase if additional funding partners participate.

**Additional Details**
**LOI Deadline:** March 6, 2018  
**Internal HRS Deadline:** May 23, 2018  
**Sponsor Deadline:** June 6, 2018

**CIHR – Team Grant: Transnational Cardiovascular Research Projects**

The ERA-CVD JTC2018: Transnational Cardiovascular Research Projects driven by Early Career Scientists is expected to:

- foster transnational cooperation of European countries and beyond, and to coordinate research efforts and funding programs of the ERA-CVD partner countries with Canada
- promote co-operation and interchange between Early Career Scientists and thus enable international collaboration and new consortia establishment in cardiovascular research,
- enable capacity building and empowering of Early Career Scientists by providing opportunity to independently develop and perform highly innovative research projects,
- add value in funding the collaboration over individual projects by sharing of resources (e.g., models, databases, diagnosis etc.), harmonization of data, sharing of specific know-how and/or innovative technologies, etc.

**Funding Details:** The total amount available for Canadian applications is Can$ 585,000, which is enough to fund approximately two (2) grants. This amount may increase if additional funding partners participate. The maximum amount available per grant to Canadian participants in transnational consortia is Can$ 97,500 per year for up to three (3) years for a total of Can$ 292,500, per grant.

**Additional Details**
**Internal HRS Deadline:** June 1, 2018  
**Sponsor Deadline:** June 15, 2018

**CIHR Team Grant: E-Rare-3 Joint Transnational Call (2018)**

There are at least 7,000 distinct rare diseases, the great majority being of genetic origin. Although individually rare, taken together rare diseases affect at least 26-30 million people in Europe alone. Moreover, they represent a major issue in health care: a large number of these diseases have an early or very early onset and/or lead to a significant decrease of life expectancy. Moreover, most of them cause chronic illnesses with a large impact on quality of life and the health care system.
Therefore, research on rare diseases is needed to provide knowledge for prevention, diagnosis and better care of patients. Yet, research is hampered by lack of resources at several levels:

1. Few scientists work on any given specific disease,
2. There are few patients per disease and they are scattered over large geographic areas, causing difficulties to assemble the necessary cohorts,
3. Existing databases and bio-material collections are usually local, small, and not accessible or standardised,
4. The complex clinical phenotypes of these diseases require interdisciplinary cooperation to improve research and treatment.

The specificities of rare diseases - limited number of patients, scarcity of relevant knowledge and expertise, and fragmentation of research - single them out as a distinctive domain of very high European added-value. Rare diseases are therefore a prime example of a research area that necessitates collaboration/coordination on a transnational scale. In this context, the ERA-NET “E-Rare” for research programmes on rare diseases has been extended to a third phase “E-Rare-3” (2014-2019) to further help in coordinating the research efforts of European, Associated and non-European countries in the field of rare diseases and implement the objectives of the International Rare Disease Research Consortium (IRDiRC). CIHR is pleased to be partnering with the Fonds de recherche du Québec – Santé (FRQS) once again in the context of this ERA-Net.

**Funding Details:** The total amount available for this funding opportunity is $2,000,000, enough to fund 5-6 grants. This amount may increase if additional funding partners participate. The maximum amount per grant is $125,000 per year for up to 3 years for a total of $375,000 per grant. Of this $2,000,000, $500,000 is available to fund applications relevant to the mandate of the Fonds de recherche du Québec – Santé FRQS.

**Additional Details**
Internal HRS Deadline: June 5, 2018
Sponsor Deadline: June 19, 2018

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**CIHR – Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR) National Data Platform**

The objectives of the SPOR National Data Platform will be to:

- Create efficiencies in data collection and reduce the time required for researchers to access multi-jurisdictional data.
- Establish systems of retrieval, standardization/harmonization and linkage of high priority clinical data to administrative and social data to enable richer population-based multi-jurisdictional studies to be conducted.
- Establish valid and reliable methods for linking primary research data (e.g., cohorts, clinical trials) to health administrative, social and other data to create efficiencies in data collection.
- Inform and provide innovative and ethical solutions to data access and its use through patient and partner engagement.
- Facilitate access to data analytic and data storage services, as needed, for multi-jurisdictional studies.

**Funding Details:** The total amount available from CIHR for this funding opportunity is up to $39,000,000 enough to fund one grant for a term of up to seven years. The breakdown of the annual funding available is as follows:

- Year 1: $3,000,000
- Year 2: $4,000,000
- Year 3: $5,000,000
- Year 4: $6,000,000
- Years 5-7: $7,000,000 in each year

**Additional Details**
LOI Deadline: April 17, 2018
Internal HRS Deadline: June 5, 2018
Sponsor Deadline: June 19, 2018

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**CIHR – Operating Grant: Joint Programme on Neurodegenerative Disease Research (JPND) 2018**

The aim of the call is to establish a limited number of ambitious, innovative, multi-national and multi-disciplinary collaborative research projects that address health and social care delivery at the macro level (system and infrastructures) as well as (at) the individual level of patients, their careers and families. For more information, please consult the Joint Programme Neurodegenerative Disease Research (JPND) website.

**Funding Details:** The total amount available for the Canadian component of this funding opportunity is CAD $700,000, enough to fund approximately 2 grants. The maximum amount per grant is CAD $116,666 per year for up to three years.
**CIHR – Team Grant: NEURON 2018**

Maintenance, improvement and restoration of human health are of fundamental importance and worldwide priority. Biomedical and health research provide an important basis for the improvement of healthy living. Disorders of the brain are major causes of morbidity, mortality and impaired quality of life. Around one billion people suffer from disorders of the central nervous system. Therefore, neuroscience research and its translation into diagnostic and therapeutic outcomes are fundamental.

To address this, the 'Network of European Funding for Neuroscience Research' (NEURON) was established under the ERA-NET scheme of the European Commission. ERA-NET NEURON coordinates research efforts and funding programs of European and partner countries in the field of disease related neuroscience. Under the umbrella of NEURON, several joint transnational calls (JTCs) have been launched on different neuroscientific topics from 2008 to 2016.

The aim of this call is to facilitate multinational, collaborative research projects that will address important questions related to mental health and mental disorders across the entire lifespan. Research on dementia is excluded from the present call. The call will accept novel and original research proposals within the breadth of research understanding basic mechanisms of disease to proof-of-concept clinical studies in humans.

**Funding Details:** The total amount available from CIHR for the Canadian component of this funding opportunity is $450,000 enough to fund approximately 2 grants. The maximum amount per grant is $75,000 per year for up to 3 years for a total of $225,000 per grant.

**Additional Details**

LOI Deadline: March 8, 2018 (Please consult the ERA-NET NEURON website. Note: no documents need to be submitted to CIHR via RNet at this stage.)

Internal HRS Deadline: June 12, 2018

Sponsor Deadline: June 26, 2018

**AGE-WELL 2018 Catalyst Funding Program**

AGE-WELL is excited to launch its 3rd Catalyst Funding Program to support innovative research projects aimed at generating, promoting or accelerating economic and social benefit in the field of technology and aging. The Catalyst Funding Program represents the first-stage in AGE-WELL’s innovation funding stream. Catalyst grants will support early-stage, scalable research projects including pilot studies, feasibility studies and novel approaches that are aligned with AGE-WELL’s mission and vision. Projects must demonstrate strong potential for real-world impact. It is expected that Catalyst projects will lead to new funded research initiatives, either as part of AGE-WELL or through other granting agencies. Projects funded by Catalyst grants may be suitable for future AGE-WELL investment as they progress along the innovation pipeline. To be eligible for continued funding through AGE-WELL, end-of-term deliverables must provide justification for continued funding either through a renewal of Catalyst funding or transfer to another AGE-WELL funding program (e.g. Core Research Program, Strategic Investment Program).

**Funding Details:** Up to $50,000 over 12 months. Can be renewed for one year, pending end-of-term review.

**Additional Details**

Internal HRS Deadline: March 9, 2018

Sponsor Deadline: March 23, 2018

**The Alton Ochsner Award Relating Smoking and Disease 2018**

Nominations are now being accepted for the 33rd Annual Alton Ochsner Award Relating Smoking and Disease. Nominations must be made by a letter (online) that describes in detail, but concisely, the scientific work and major contributions of the investigator to the field. Self-nominations are excluded. All nominations must include and be supported by:

1. the candidate’s curriculum vitae (containing an active mailing address, office telephone and cellular telephone number, and e-mail address, and bibliography;
2. at least two additional supporting letters of recommendation by scientific peers from outside the candidate’s institution; and
3. reprints of at least three pertinent major supporting scientific contributions.
The Award Committee is now accepting nominations and supporting material in PDF format only by e-mail sent to Ochsner at AOSRA@ochsner.org. Documents submitted in a format other than PDF by e-mail will not be considered.

**Funding Details:** $15,000 will be presented to one to three investigators.

**Internal HRS Deadline:** March 16, 2018  
**Sponsor Deadline:** March 31, 2018

*To apply or for additional details, contact Catherine Gill Pottruff or Serena Jennings, Senior Grants Advisors, HRS, at gillc@mcmaster.ca or sjenn@mcmaster.ca respectively*

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### Canadian Liver Foundation, Research Grant Competition: Operating Grants

The Canadian Liver Foundation is proud to support researchers across Canada; scientists who have made liver research a priority in their labs and clinics. In order to support new advances and breakthroughs, the CLF funds the research of senior researchers, new investigators, and medical students through their research grant programs and partnership projects. As the CLF’s most senior award, the operating grant is offered to investigators with primary interest in hepatobiliary research who hold academic appointments in Canadian universities or affiliated institutions. Both clinical investigators and basic scientists will be considered.

**Funding Details:** Operating Grants provide funding of up to $60,000 per year for a maximum of two years.

Additional Details  
**Internal HRS Deadline:** March 16, 2018  
**Sponsor Deadline:** March 31, 2018

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### Canadian Urological Association Scholarship Fund (CUASF): Bladder Cancer Canada Research Grant

The objective of the CUASF-BCC Grant Program is to support peer-reviewed research that promotes excellence in bladder cancer research with the ultimate goal of improving patient care and understanding the biology of bladder cancer. Proposals may include basic science, translational or clinical research. Proposals in other areas of urological research exclusive of bladder cancer will not be considered. Grant recipients are expected to demonstrate improved understanding of the specific research area and/or contribute to improving patient care in bladder cancer.

**Funding Details:** It is anticipated that up to 2 grants of $25,000 CDN will be awarded each year.

Additional Details  
**Internal HRS Deadline:** March 16, 2018  
**Sponsor Deadline:** March 31, 2018

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### Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) Discovery Fund

The new Discovery Fund is a groundbreaking initiative dedicated to defining the causes of mental illness and developing the cures that will save lives and create hope. The Discovery Fund will enable CAMH to attract talent, explore big ideas, support young scientists, and leverage data to solve the mysteries of the brain.

**Funding Details:** A two-year award up to $100,000 per year (maximum of $200,000 for two years) will be provided to scientists at a lecturer level or above (including senior scientists) to support an innovative research idea.

Additional Details  
**Internal HRS Deadline:** March 16, 2018  
**Sponsor Deadline:** April 1, 2018

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### Michael G. DeGroote Fellowship Awards

The Michael G. DeGroote Fellowship Awards are an opportunity for excellent postdoctoral candidates to pursue top-level research training. First awarded in 2008, the awards provide funding to research-intensive individuals looking to further their academic career in the Faculty of Health Sciences at McMaster University.
Each award provides non-renewable funding of $50,000 for one year for successful applicants. The funding is comprised of $40,000 from the Michael G. DeGroote Health Sciences Development Fund and $10,000 contributed by the applicant’s supervisor.

Awards are available in two categories: the Michael G. DeGroote Fellowship Award in Basic Biomedical Science and the Michael G. DeGroote Fellowship Award in Clinical Research. Candidates conducting basic science research are eligible for the Basic Biomedical Science Fellowship Award and those pursuing clinical research are eligible for the Clinical Research Fellowship Award. Applicants must identify in their application which award they are applying for. Separate selection committees will review the respective applicants for each award.

Applications are now being accepted and we are seeking qualified candidates to apply. If you know of any first-rate candidates who you feel would be a good fit for these awards under your supervision, please:

- Email mgdfa@mcmaster.ca clearly detailing your ability and willingness to provide the matching $10,000 in funding to support the candidate
- Have the candidate visit http://fhs.mcmaster.ca/mgdfa/ and apply online. The deadline for applications is April 2, 2018 with an estimated start date of July 1, 2018.

Eligibility

- Only candidates who are (a) external to McMaster, or (b) internal students who have yet to begin postdoctoral or health professional degree studies at McMaster, or (c) internal students who began their postdoctoral or health professional degree studies at McMaster no earlier than July 1, 2017, will be eligible for the awards.
- For candidates who hold (or are completing) a PhD, the proposed supervisor(s) listed in their application must be different than their PhD supervisor.
- Priority will be given to those applicants whose graduate training has not been exclusively at McMaster.

It is expected that winning applicants will seek out and attain external funding within their one-year award term. Supervisors are expected to assist their candidates in doing so.

For more information on the awards, please visit the awards website or send any questions to mgdfa@mcmaster.ca.

Additional Details

Sponsor Deadline: April 2, 2018

Diabetes Canada 2018 Research Competitions

Diabetes Canada administers the Charles H. Best Research Fund to support research to enhance our understanding of diabetes and its prevention, causes, management, and cure. In 2016, the Canadian Diabetes Association (CDA) and the National Research Council (NRC) revised its research strategy. This new strategy was refined in response to input from the research community and implemented in 2017. This is the second year of a four-year strategy. Diabetes Canada funds the following awards:

- Post-Doctoral Fellowship (maximum duration of funding is 2 years)
- New Investigator Award (duration of funding 3 years)
- Diabetes Investigator Award (duration of funding 3 years)

Funding Details:

- Post-Doctoral Fellowship - This award includes salary support of $45,000 per year, plus a research allowance of $5,000 per year
- New Investigator Award - This award amount is $125,000 per year for 3 years. Of this, the investigator may choose to allocate up to $50,000 per year for investigator’s salary support.
- Diabetes Investigator Award - This award amount is $125,000 per year for 3 years. Of this, the investigator may choose to allocate up to $50,000 per year for investigator’s salary support.

Additional Details

Internal HRS Deadline: March 19, 2018
Sponsor Deadline: April 2, 2018
HHS New Investigator Fund (NIF) 2018 Round 1
The Hamilton Health Sciences’ commitment to “first stage” research led to the creation of the New Investigator Fund (NIF). The fund is an integration of the former HHS Foundation Young Investigator Grants and the HHS Research Development Fund, and provides a unique opportunity to foster and support a culture of inquiry for novice investigators under the mentorship of senior staff. The NIF provides project funding to front-line staff (healthcare professionals and medical staff) toward research initiatives directly relevant to the clinical mission and research strategic direction of HHS.

Funding Details: Grants will be awarded based on the excellence exhibited by the research and a maximum of $50,000 awarded per project.

Additional Details
Sponsor Deadline: April 3, 2018

The Orphan Disease Centre 2018 CDKL5 Program of Excellence Grant
CDKL5 is a monogenic, orphan condition characterized by treatment-resistant epilepsy and severe cognitive and motor disability. The disease is driven by the loss of a kinase called CDKL5 which is responsible for normal neuronal development, synapse formation and signal transmission. The mechanism(s) by which CDKL5 Deficiency leads to CNS disease is unclear. The gene encoding this protein is located on the X chromosome with heterozygous females primarily affected. The disease does not exhibit neurodegeneration and animal models strongly suggest the potential for reversibility. There are no approved therapies and standard of care is not effective at managing seizures or improving cognitive or motor deficits. While the RFA is broad in scope, priority will be given to grants that cover the following areas:

- Novel therapeutic approaches for CDKL5 Deficiency Disorder (CDD), including but not limited to techniques in genome editing, RNA-based mechanisms, biologics, and small molecule repurposing.
- Approaches to validate phenotypes in CDKL5 function or disease pathophysiology through rescue of phenotypic deficits with pharmacological or genetic / gene therapy techniques. Phenotypic reversal in rodent models will focus on the use of adult (2 months of age or older) animals. In particular, approaches are encouraged which allow the identification of individual CDKL5 protein isoforms (arising from alternative splicing, alternative promoter usage, or post-translational modifications) which can rescue these phenotypes.
- Systems biology and computational modeling approaches to provide a deeper understanding of CDKL5 function, downstream effectors, signaling, protein: protein interactors, or modifiers, including regulators of CDKL5 gene expression (transcriptional, post-transcriptional/RNA processing, translational, post-translational).
- Novel imaging and functional approaches to phenotyping CDD in pre-clinical models or the clinical setting. A non-exclusive list of topics that would be responsive to this RFA is listed below
  - Functional/structural MRI; diffusion tensor imaging (DTI)
  - Magnetic resonance spectroscopy (MRS)
  - Stimulus-induced event-related potentials: impact of CDKL5 genetic / gene therapy or pharmacological interventions on deficits in stimulus-induced event potentials (visual, auditory, or other) in CDD disease models
  - Discovery and validation of CDKL5 biomarkers and their translation to the clinical setting.

Funding Details: This is a one-year grant for $150,000

Additional Details
LOI Deadline: March 8, 2018
Internal HRS Deadline: March 23, 2018
Sponsor Deadline: April 6, 2018

National Defence and the Canadian Armed Forces Targeted Engagement Grant (Special Project)
As the Department of National Defence and the Canadian Armed Forces implement Canada’s new defence policy – Strong, Secure, Engaged – the Defence Engagement Program will conduct a trial over the next year to help assess ways to channel the expert community’s knowledge into the Department through collaborative networks. To this end, we are looking for individuals or organizations that are engaged, dynamic, resourceful and interested in working in close collaboration with our team to help determine the best model for the network. The construct should be able to bring together multidisciplinary teams from different parts of the country – and abroad – to work on challenges identified by the Department. This opportunity is open to multidisciplinary teams with interest in the domain of security and defence studies. Applicants must submit a detailed proposal outlining their
network concept. The application format is left to the discretion of the candidates. The trial network must focus its efforts in supporting a departmental policy priority as identified at: http://www.forces.gc.ca/en/training-paid-education/priorities.page

**Funding Details:** The selected proposal will receive a total of $100,000, divided in two separated grants of $50,000 over a year.

**Additional Details**

**Internal HRS Deadline:** March 23, 2018  
**Sponsor Deadline:** April 6, 2018

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**Faculty of Health Sciences Education Innovation Fund**

**Purpose:** To encourage and provide support for the development and evaluation of novel and innovative approaches to health sciences education in the Faculty of Health Sciences.

**Eligibility:** All members of the faculty of FHS are eligible for funding support. Funding cannot be used to supplement another partly funded project. All those awarded funding must be willing to present their research at the Geoffrey R Norman FHS Education Research Day in June. Priority will be given to projects that address competency-based education, simulation-based education and innovative pedagogy and projects where theory is used/developed to inform practice. The activity of the project should be focused on McMaster Faculty of Health Sciences.

**Application Process:**

Applicants are required to submit:

1) **An abridged CV** (max. 3 pages, focusing on previous research and educational scholarship)

2) **A project summary** - 3 pages maximum, single spaced, plus references, outlining:
   a. Proposed study question/objectives
   b. Proposed method of analysis
   c. Expected project outcome
   d. Strategy for disseminating outcome findings
   e. Potential education impact of the study
   f. Potential of the research for commercialization, if applicable

3) **Budget** The following expenses are ineligible:
   a. Salary support for P.I. or other faculty members
   b. Computers and other equipment unless integral to the study e.g. voice recording equipment
   c. Infrastructure expenses that are presently supported elsewhere (e.g. telephone, administrative assistant)
   No university overhead will be charged. Open Access journal publications costs will be allowed.

4) **Adjudication**
   The adjudication process will be administered by the office of the Associate Dean, Health Professional Education who will chair a selection committee of senior faculty. Preference will be given to projects that address the priority areas identified in the Eligibility section above and that incorporate a design that uses theory to inform practice or uses practice to develop theory.

**Funding Details:** Funding will be awarded to one or more applicants annually for up to two years of funding support to a maximum of $50,000 per project, spread over the two years; funding for the second year is contingent on the submission of a satisfactory interim report to the selection committee prior to the end of the first year of funding. A final report shall be submitted upon completion of the project. The selection committee reserves the right to not fund any projects in any given year. Award winners will be announced at the Geoffrey R. Norman FHS Education Research Day on June 6, 2018.

**Additional Details:**

1) Deadline for application April 13, 2018 at midnight.

2) Submit as 1 pdf document with the P.I.’s name and a short version of the title as the document’s name.

3) Submit to the office of the Associate Dean, Health Professional Education c/o mcarthj@mcmaster.ca

**Sponsor Deadline:** April 13, 2018
The University of British Columbia Faculty of Medicine Call for Nominations: National Research Prizes

The University of British Columbia is currently seeking nominations for the following two research prizes:

Dr. Chew Wei MBBS [HK] FRCOG [ENG] Memorial Prize in Cancer Research
The Dr. Chew Wei MBBS [HK] FRCOG [ENG] Memorial Prize in Cancer Research is awarded annually to a Canadian physician or scientist who makes outstanding contributions to the treatment, amelioration, or development of therapies for cancer.

Margolese National Brain Disorders Prize
The Margolese National Brain Disorders Prize is awarded annually to a Canadian physician or scientist who makes outstanding contributions to the treatment, amelioration, or cure of brain disorders.

PLEASE NOTE: Based on the prize guidelines for the 2018 Margolese Brain Disorders Prize, nominations must be for individuals external to the University of British Columbia.

Funding Details: The prizes each have a value of $50,000

Internal HRS Deadline: April 1, 2018
Sponsor Deadline: April 15, 2018

Brain Canada Foundation and Azrieli Foundation Early-Career Capacity Building Grants
Supported by the Canada Brain Research Fund, the general purpose of the Early-Career Capacity Building Grant program is to accelerate novel and transformative research that will fundamentally change our understanding of nervous system function and dysfunction and their impact on health. The goal is to reduce the social and economic burden of neurological and mental health problems by prevention, early diagnosis, and treatment. At the early stage of an investigator’s career, recently hired faculty are in a strong position to formulate innovative research projects that are “high risk/high reward”, but they often lack the preliminary data required to obtain their first large grant. This program provides an opportunity to develop new lines of research on the fundamental properties and mechanisms of the brain and nervous system, and gather such preliminary data. The Early-Career Capacity Building Grant has the potential to be transformative at a time when it is well recognized that there is a significant funding gap to support and retain our brightest early-career investigators, who are well positioned to make major contributions to Canadian brain research.

Funding Details: This competition has an overall envelope of $1,000,000 to support 10 projects that last two years each, for a total of $100,000 per project.

Alzheimer’s Association: The PART THE CLOUD to RESCUE Brain Cell Degeneration in Alzheimer’s Disease Program
The PART THE CLOUD to RESCUE (REverse, reStore, Cease and UndErstand) Brain Cell Degeneration in Alzheimer’s disease program will accelerate the discovery and testing of innovative compounds to be used for interventions in the earliest stages of neurodegeneration-dementia-Alzheimer’s disease. Presently there are no effective interventions to delay or prevent the progression of neurodegenerative processes that underlie the disabling symptoms of Alzheimer’s dementia. To date, clinical trials based on current theories of the disease pathogenesis have not resulted in viable treatments. The strategic goal of the Alzheimer’s Association is to increase the options for potential interventions in early stages of neurodegeneration. In light of these aims the primary focus of PTC to RESCUE Brain Cell Degeneration in Alzheimer’s disease program is to encourage the discovery and development of a wide-range of interventions to maintain and/or restore the health and functionality of neurons and/or connectivity of neural networks.

Funding Details: Projects will be selected as a finalist for this program. These projects will receive up to $1,000,000 (total) over 2 years to support their proposed study. Funding should span over two years with maximum per year of $700,000.
European Commission International Flagship Collaboration with Canada for Human data storage, integration and sharing to enable personalized medicine approaches

CIHR and FRQS are pleased to announce that funding is available to support Canadian researchers interested in collaborating in the domain of repositories storing and sharing human-omics data that will create a framework for long-term cooperation through transnational collaborations with European researchers. The goal of this program aims to enhance and standardize data deposition, curation and exchange procedures thus ensuring better data reuse and increased benefit to the scientific communities worldwide. This is a unique collaboration, and CIHR’s first European Commission Research and Innovation Action (RIA), which will require each project to involve at least one Canadian investigator and three European investigators fundable by the European Commission.

**Funding Details:** The total amount available for Canadian researchers from CIHR and FRQS is $5.5 million CAD, enough to fund 7 grants. The maximum amount available is $200,000 CAD per year for up to four (4) years for a total of $800,000 CAD, per grant.

Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada Research Grant Program

Supporting brain tumour research in Canada allows each of us who are affected by brain tumours to both better understand this disease and to move closer to finding new treatments, improving current treatments, and enhancing the quality of life for brain tumour patients. Thanks to donors, the Research Grant Program provides financial support to Canadian researchers with critical funds that help to propel their research forward into the future. Proposals that receive funding include research that involves any and/or all of the following:

- The development of new concepts
- Patient-oriented research such as clinical trials, epidemiological studies, quality of life studies, outcomes, health services research
- Pre-clinical research evaluating the therapeutic potential of recent discoveries in the basic mechanisms of either brain tumour pathogenesis or experimental therapeutics

**Funding Details:** Applications for grants up to $25,000.00 will be considered.
**Cancer Research Society 2018 Scholarships for the Next Generation of Scientists**

The Cancer Research Society is pleased to announce the launch of its 2018 Scholarships for the Next Generation of Scientists competition, an initiative aiming at supporting future generations of Canadian researchers. The Scholarship is broken down into two parts, and extends over a period of 3 years, with no possibility for renewal.

**Funding Details:**
- Part 1: Postdoctoral Salary Award – 1 year - $40,000
- Part 2: Operating Grant – 2 years - $120,000 ($60,000/year)

**Additional Details**
- **Internal HRS Deadline:** April 13, 2018
- **Sponsor Deadline:** April 27, 2018

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**Weston Brain Institute International Fellowships: Canada 2018**

The Goal of the International Fellowships is to accelerate the careers of top Canadian PhD students by providing funding to conduct research in the labs of leading scientists. This will enable awardees to build international collaborations with world class labs, conduct influential neuroscience research on neurodegenerative diseases of aging, and bring enhanced research capabilities back to Canada. This fellowship will enrich the careers of awardees, preparing them to obtain more prestigious postdoctoral positions, and increasing their competitiveness for future positions as leaders in neuroscience in Canada.

**Funding Details:** Up to $60,000 per awardee per year (prorated as needed, at $5,000 per month for shorter travel durations)

**Additional Details**
- **Internal HRS Deadline:** April 16, 2018
- **Sponsor Deadline:** April 30, 2018

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**Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation (SRCF): Major Research Grants**

SRCF Major Grants support biomedical research into intellectual impairment focused on the following:
- The causes and eventual cure of intellectual impairment, such as Dyslexia and Autism, especially as it affects children.
- The causes and eventual cure of Alzheimer’s Disease and other neurodegenerative diseases.
- Research into other forms of intellectual impairment may be considered.

Note: The focus of the research should be on the causes and cure of the disease as opposed to the active treatment or palliative care.

**Funding Details:** The value of the grants is a maximum of $40,000 per year for a period of up to 3 years.

**Additional Details**
- **Internal HRS Deadline:** April 16, 2018
- **Sponsor Deadline:** April 30, 2018

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**Osteoporosis Canada: Canadian Multicentre Osteoporosis Study (CaMos) Fellowship Award**

The Osteoporosis Research Program provides training awards to support Canadian investigators conducting research that promises to yield new insights into the prevention and treatment of osteoporosis and improving the lives of individuals with this disease. Awards are offered to individuals through annual research competitions, which involves an extensive peer review process. A collaborative award, by the Canadian Multicentre Osteoporosis Study (CaMos) and Osteoporosis Canada. This program will fund a graduate student or postdoctoral fellow for one year in the amount of $20,000 and will provide that individual with an opportunity to engage in research training with investigators at CaMos. Awardees will gain new insight into the field of osteoporosis and will be presented with the basis for a career in clinical/epidemiological research related to osteoporosis. This program strives to improve the lives of individuals with osteoporosis while seeking optimal prevention and treatment of the disease. The application process will be administered by OC.

**Funding Details:** This program will fund a graduate student or postdoctoral fellow for one year in the amount of $20,000

**Additional Details**
Orthopaedic Trauma Association Grant and Scholarship Opportunities

The OTA has two current grant and scholarship opportunities.

- **International Grant Pre-Proposal** - The principal investigator must be a member of the Orthopaedic Trauma Association (in good standing) outside of North America and the research must be conducted outside of North America.
- **Directed Topic Pre-Proposal** – Between the principal investigator and co-principal investigator, membership in both organizations must be fulfilled. The research must be conducted in North America. The OTA/AOTNA is looking to fund proposals in the following directed topics:
  - Clinical Patient-centered outcomes
  - Clinical or Basic Science Musculoskeletal infection

**Funding Details:**
- **International Grant Pre-Proposal** – up to $30,000 based on grant merit (covering direct cost) over a 2 year period
- **Directed Topic Pre-Proposal** - $50,000 per year, maximum 2-year funding cycle ($100,000 maximum)

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MITACS Globalink Research Award

Mitacs is accepting applications for competitive international research opportunities for student travel from Canada. They recommend that students apply by May 2018 for travel planned in Fall 2018.

**Funding Details:** The Mitacs Globalink Research Award provides $6,000 for senior undergraduate and graduate students in Canada to conduct 12–24-week research projects at universities overseas.

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Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Connection Grants

Connection Grants are expected to respond to the objectives of the Connection program. They support events and outreach activities geared toward short-term, targeted knowledge mobilization initiatives. These events and activities represent opportunities to exchange knowledge and to engage on research issues of value to those participating. Events and outreach activities funded by a Connection Grant may often serve as a first step toward more comprehensive and longer-term projects potentially eligible for funding through other SSHRC funding opportunities listed in SSHRC's Funding search tool.

Connection Grants support workshops, colloquiums, conferences, forums, summer institutes, or other events or outreach activities that facilitate:

- disciplinary and/or interdisciplinary exchanges in the humanities and social sciences;
- scholarly exchanges between those working in the social sciences and humanities and those working in other research fields;
- intersectoral exchanges between academic researchers in the humanities and social sciences and researchers and practitioners from the public, private and/or not-for-profit sectors; and/or
- international research collaboration and scholarly exchanges with researchers, students and non-academic partners from other countries.

**Funding Details:** $7,000 to $25,000 for events, and up to $50,000 for other outreach activities; higher amounts for outreach activities may be considered if well justified

Additional Details
Notify ROADS of Intent to Apply: March 13, 2018
Draft Application due to ROADS: April 10, 2018
Final Application due to ROADS: April 24, 2018
Sponsor Deadline: May 1, 2018

*To Apply, Contact Christina Pellegrini, Senior Advisor, Development, ROADS at pellegrc@mcmaster.ca or extension 27207*
Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation: Quality of Life Direct Effect Grants Program
The Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation Quality of Life Grants Program reached a major milestone in 2016, surpassing $20 million in funding to nonprofit organizations all over the United States and in 37 countries. And, thus far in 2017, the Reeve Foundation awarded 122 grants in four different programs, totaling over $1.7 million. To ensure the continued growth of the program and to clarify the vision and mission of the Quality of Life grants program created by the late Dana Reeve, a retreat was held in April 2017, convening program staff, members of the Board of Directors, and an external professional facilitator. The Reeve Foundation Quality of Life grants will continue to support the broad range of projects and activities that we have in the past; we are just changing how we do it so that we can achieve maximum impact for all. Two types of grants will be offered: Direct Effect (Tier 1) and High Impact (Tiers 2, 3, and 4).

Funding Details: The Direct Effect (Tier 1) is open-focused and will award grants of up to $15,000 to support the wide range of projects and activities of the traditional Quality of Life grants. Grants will fund specific budget items that will clearly impact individuals living with paralysis and their families, and the project must be completed within 12 months.

Additional Details
LOI Deadline: April 11, 2018
Internal HRS Deadline: April 17, 2018
Sponsor Deadline: May 1, 2018

Hamilton Health Sciences (HHS) Clinical Health Professional Personnel Award (CHPA)
The Hamilton Health Sciences Clinical Health Professional Research Personnel Award is a one-time personnel stipend award. The award is to be used to help a suitably qualified non-physician health professional who has demonstrated an aptitude for research to pursue research in their discipline, by providing protected time through financial support for a portion of the applicant’s salary.

Funding Details: The value of the award will be up to $50,000

Additional Details
Sponsor Deadline: May 1, 2018

Misk Foundation and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation: Misk Grand Challenges
The Misk Foundation, the non-profit philanthropic foundation established by Saudi Arabia’s Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation have partnered to launch Misk Grand Challenges. This initiative seeks to empower youth both with the skills that they need to succeed in the knowledge economy and with the passion required to tackle the world’s most challenging problems. Ultimately, the initiative hopes to nurture a new generation of leaders who will transform both local and global communities.

Funding Details: Awards total $100,000 USD each, provided over 2 years, with an opportunity to apply for follow-on funding.

Additional Details
Internal HRS Deadline: April 18, 2018
Sponsor Deadline: May 2, 2018

Alliance for Cancer Gene Therapy (ACGT) 2018 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.
RESEARCH OBJECTIVES
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**: The award provides up to a maximum of $500,000 distributed over 2-3 years

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**Hamilton Health Sciences (HHS) Health Professional Investigator Operating Grant Program**
The Health Professional Investigator (HPI) Operating Grant provides project funding to principal investigators (PI) who are HHS-employed healthcare professionals. Inter-professional teams, which include physicians, are encouraged, but physicians are not eligible to apply as lead PI for this grant. The HPI Operating Grant is for research initiatives directly relevant to the clinical mission and priorities/strategic plan of HHS (Patients, People, Sustainability, Innovation and Learning). The grant objective is to provide support for pilot studies or research projects that have the potential to lead to larger projects and the possibility of external funding. The HPI Operating Grant offers an opportunity to foster and support a culture of inquiry for novice to novice to mid-career investigators under the mentorship of experienced researchers.

**Funding Details**: up to $15,000 per grant, three grants available for a one-year term.

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**Cancer Research Society: UpCycle Drug Repurposing Grant**
The UpCycle Drug Repurposing Grants Competition is a new mean by which the Cancer Research Society aims at accelerating the discovery of treatments for cancer patients. Eligible projects should fall into one of the following categories:
- Screening of an FDA-approved compound library provided by the Cancer Research Society
- Computer-assisted or in silico screening followed by pharmacological validation of FDA-approved, off-patent, repurposed compounds
- In cellulo or in vivo validation of an FDA-approved, off-patent drug with demonstrated drug repurposing potential.

Research must be performed using proteins or cells of human origin unless a compelling case can be made for another organism. A scientific review committee will evaluate the letters of intent. A maximum of 10 research teams will be invited to submit a full application. Up to three grants will be offered. Criteria for selection are:
- Scientific merit of the project
- Proof of concept and demonstration of feasibility
- Originality of the research plan
- Potential impact on cancer patients

**Funding Details**: A maximum of $100,000 for a duration of 12-18 mos.

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**Canadian Blood Services (CBS) MSM Research Grant Program**
The objective of the MSM Research Program is to ensure the generation of adequate evidence-based research for alternative screening approaches for blood or plasma donors, which could evolve the current deferral policy for men who have sex with men (MSM) while maintaining the safety of the blood supply. As part of this initiative, Canadian Blood Services and HémaQuébec held a two-day meeting in January 2017 with national and international stakeholders to identify research priorities for closing knowledge gaps that impact donor eligibility for MSM. In addition, a research funding competition was held in 2017. Research priorities for this competition include:
- Research to evaluate the impact of alternative risk reduction technologies on donor screening.
- Research to evaluate operational feasibility of alternative donor deferral policies and their acceptability by Canadians.
• Risk modeling and surveillance to assess the risk associated with alternative donor selection policies.
• Research to inform the development of an individual risk assessment donor policy (behavioural based) or to strengthen the existing policy (population based)

**Funding Details:** The Program will support small (up to $50,000) and large (up to $300,000) research projects that are aligned with the objective of the program as stated above and address one or more of the research priorities listed below. For the 2018 competition, the total funding available is $850,000.

**Additional Details**
**LOI Deadline:** April 15, 2018
**Internal HRS Deadline:** June 15, 2018
**Sponsor Deadline:** June 30, 2018

**Crohn’s & Colitis Foundation: Grants**
The Crohn’s & Colitis Foundation has recently announced the following funding opportunities:
1) The Litwin IBD Pioneers Initiative, the objective:
   • to support innovative clinical and translational research projects with the potential to impact the treatment of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) patients in the near future,
   • to encourage novel research into the diagnosis, identification of clinically relevant subsets, treatments, and cures for IBD,
   • to fund innovative pilot research for scientists to test their initial ideas and generate preliminary data.

2) Senior Research Awards, the objective: to provide established researchers with funds to generate sufficient preliminary data to become competitive for funds from other sources.

**Funding Details:**
• **Litwin IBD Pioneers Initiative:** maximum $130,000 (including 10% direct costs), maximum 2 years
• **Senior Research Awards:** maximum per year $115,830 (direct costs up to $105,300 per year; indirect costs 10% of direct costs, or up to $10,530), for 1–3 years

**Additional Details**
**LOI Deadline:** May 1, 2018
**Internal HRS Deadline:** June 15, 2018
**Sponsor Deadline:** July 1, 2018

**European Commission Research Projects on Personalized Medicine – Smart Combination of Pre-clinical and Clinical Research with Data and ICT Solutions**
The aim of this Funding Opportunity is to fund projects showing clinical feasibility of Personalized Medicine in complex/multifactorial diseases as well as other diseases (as monogenic, rare diseases and cancer). Applicants are expected to combine pre-clinical and/or clinical research with bio-informatics components to enable data quality on one side and the potential applicability for health care providers on the other side. Proposals must be interdisciplinary and clearly demonstrate the potential impact in PM as well as the added value of transnational collaboration: sharing of resources (registries, diagnosis, biobanks, models, databases, diagnostic and bio-informatics tools, etc.), platforms/infrastructures, interoperability of data harmonization strategies and sharing of specific know-how

**Funding Details:** The total amount of CIHR funds available for this Funding Opportunity is $4,087,500 CAD, enough to fund 9 grants. The maximum amount per grant is $150,000 per year for over a period of up to 3 years.

**Additional Details**
**LOI Deadline:** April 10, 2018
**Internal HRS Deadline:** June 21, 2018
**Sponsor Deadline:** July 5, 2018
**Organization for Autism Research (OAR): Applied Research Competition**

OAR seeks to fund studies that expand the body of knowledge related to autism intervention and treatment, produce practical and clearly objective results, have the potential to impact public policy, and provide outcomes that offer to enhance quality of life for persons with autism and their families. While applicants are always free to submit on any relevant area of research or intervention, this year, OAR is placing an emphasis on research that addresses the following targeted areas: healthcare transition, generalization of technology-based intervention, community-based intervention, residential services and supports, literacy, and sexuality education. While there is no guarantee of funding, studies that address these topics will receive additional scoring credit during the review process.

**Funding Details:** Researchers can apply for 1-2-year grants of up to $30,000

**Additional Details**
- **LOI Deadline:** March 26, 2018
- **Internal HRS Deadline:** July 23, 2018
- **Sponsor Deadline (By invite only):** August 6, 2018

**Weston Brain Institute, Rapid Response: Canada 2018 – 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.

**Funding Details:** A maximum of $200,000 over up to 18 months per project

**Additional Details**
- **LOI Deadline:** April 19, 2018
- **Internal HRS Deadline:** July 25, 2018
- **Sponsor Deadline:** August 8, 2018

**Networks of Centres of Excellence of Canada Knowledge Mobilization (NCE-KM) Initiative Competition**

The NCE-KM initiative funds networks dedicated to transferring knowledge to those who can put it into practice. It supports collaborations between knowledge producers and knowledge users from various disciplines, sectors and institutions, including industry, government, not-for-profit organizations and various sources and types of knowledge for the social, economic, technological, and/or wellness benefit of Canada and the Canadian population. Networks focus on addressing key problems, challenges and opportunities of high strategic importance to Canada. NCE-KM networks are expected to create social and/or economic benefits through the application of evidence-based knowledge generated from research in combination with other sources and types of knowledge. The program supports networks pursuing knowledge translation along the entire spectrum: from the range of activities encompassed in knowledge mobilization (creation of activities and tools designed to put knowledge into active service, often through the establishment of new or modification of existing policies, processes and standards) to those encompassed in commercialization (the transformation of knowledge or technology into marketable goods, processes or services).

**Funding Details:** The total budget for this competition is currently set at $4.8M over 4 years ($1.2M/year). Successful networks will be awarded up to $400,000 per year for four years with a possible three-year renewal.

**Additional Details**
- **Draft LOI to HRS:** April 2, 2018
- **LOI Deadline:** April 16, 2018
- **Internal HRS Deadline:** August 21, 2018
- **Sponsor Deadline:** September 4, 2018 (By invite only)

*To apply, contact, Sarah McNiven-Scott, Senior Grants Advisor, Major Projects, HRS, at mcnivesb@mcmaster.ca or ext. 22871*
Ontario Genomics: Genomic Applications Partnership Program (GAPP) Round 1

The Genomic Applications Partnership Program (GAPP) funds downstream research and development (R&D) projects that address real-world opportunities and challenges identified by industry, government, not-for-profits and other “Receptors” of genomics knowledge and technologies. GAPP projects are collaborations between academic researchers and Receptor organizations. They are co-funded by Receptors and other stakeholders, and 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 to real-world opportunities and challenges defined by industry 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: From $300,000 to $6M for 1 to 3 years.

Additional Details
Internal HRS Deadline: April 5, 2018
Draft EOI due to Ontario Genomics: April 19, 2018
Face-to-face pitch to Ontario Genomics’ review Panel: May 14-16, 2018
Final EOI due to Ontario Genomics: June 11, 2018
Pitch to Genome Canada: July 14 – August 3, 2018
Draft Supplementary Proposal due to Ontario Genomics: August 20, 2018
Sponsor Deadline: October 1, 2018
*Notify HRS of your intent to apply by sending an email to hsresadm@mcmaster.ca*

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

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.
**Simons Foundation, Simons Foundation Autism Research Initiative (SFARI): SFARI Explorer Award**

This award program is designed to enhance our existing support of autism research by providing timely resources to enable focused experiments highly relevant to our mission. A deeper understanding of the mechanisms underlying autism spectrum disorders or potential therapeutic approaches will require investigation at multiple levels, including but not limited to studies focused on gene discovery, molecular mechanisms, circuits, anatomy, and cognition and behavior. We will consider proposals at all of these levels.

**Funding Details:** SFARI will support applications for maximum of **$80,000**, including indirect costs, for one year, non-renewable.

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

The VIP I Program brings industry and academia together to solve industry’s innovation challenges. It helps eligible companies develop, implement and commercialize technical innovations by supporting partnerships between Ontario's industry and publicly funded post-secondary institutions. The program supports collaborations between industry and post-secondary institutions up to 12 months in duration that lead to knowledge mobilization, commercialization and increased productivity with significant economic impact (i.e. generating new revenues and high-value jobs) for Ontario including the development of new products and/or processes, facilitate productivity improvements. Open to all disciplines, but it has to be a for-profit. Company must have been in operation for a minimum of two years, AND have a minimum of two full-time employees.

**Funding Details:** OCE will support up to 50% of the eligible research costs, to a maximum OCE investment of $20,000.

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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

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**TalentEdge Internship Program (TIP)**

Ontario’s TalentEdge Internship Program (TIP) provides support for current college and university students (specifically current graduate students and final year undergraduate students), and recent Masters graduates (within three years of graduation), to work on industry-driven research and development projects. Projects must have a clearly-defined R&D component, where R&D is defined by the discipline and is inclusive of all areas of specialization and disciplines. The TalentEdge Internship Program is open to students and recent graduates from across all disciplines, and all areas of specialization.

**Funding Details:** Each four-month internship is valued at $20,000 as follows: $10,000 contribution from OCE; $5,000 company cash contribution; $5,000 company in-kind contribution. It is possible to also leverage your sponsor’s contribution through the NSERC CRD program for additional research funds.
Additional Details
Sponsor Deadline: Ongoing
*To Apply, Contact Bertha Monrose, Contracts Advisor, MILO at monrose@mcmaster.ca or extension 22416*

TalentEdge Fellowship Program
Ontario’s TalentEdge Fellowship Program (TFP) provides support for Ontario-based PhD graduates and post-doctoral fellows to work on industry-driven research and development projects. Companies can tap into world-class talent coming out of Ontario’s publicly-funded post-secondary institutions and strengthen their capacity to develop new products, services, and processes.

Funding Details: Each 12-month fellowship is valued at $85,000 as follows
- $35,000 contribution from OCE
- $25,000 company cash contribution
- $25,000 company in-kind contribution

Additional Details
Sponsor Deadline: Ongoing
*To Apply, Contact Bertha Monrose, Contracts Advisor, MILO at monrose@mcmaster.ca or extension 22416*

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*

MITACS Globalink Partnership Award
The Mitacs Globalink Partnership Award supports research collaborations between graduate students at Canadian universities and international industry partners. The award is open to graduate students in all disciplines at Mitacs Full, Associate and Honorary Partner universities and for-profit companies in any country (except the United States).

Funding Details: A $15,000 CAD research grant in the Canadian professor’s name to support student travel and accommodation expenses, research-related expenses, and student stipend.

Additional Details
Sponsor Deadline: Ongoing
*To Apply, Contact Bertha Monrose, Contracts Advisor, MILO at monrose@mcmaster.ca or extension 22416*