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## **University of Guelph - COVID-19 Research Development & Catalyst Fund**

Updated Information

NEW Internal Deadline: Monday, May 4, 2020 9:00am.

We aim to announce decisions by Monday, May 11, 2020.

### **Sponsor**

University of Guelph - Office of Research

### **Program**

- Provide seed funding for the rapid development of research grant applications to future, potential funding programs focused on contributing to the global response to the COVID-19 pandemic to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and/or its negative consequences on people and communities; **or**
- Provide funding to catalyze small-scale, time-sensitive research projects focused on contributing to the global response to the COVID-19 pandemic to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and/or its negative consequences on people and communities.

### **Potential Research Areas include, but are not limited to:**

- Epidemiology of COVID-19 outbreaks and virus spread
  - Surveillance of animals (including wildlife)
  - Disease modelling
  - Disease and surveillance data gathering and use
  - Development of AI-empowered digital surveillance systems and decision support systems
- Biological Interventions for control of COVID-19
  - Pathogenicity, transmission, and zoonotic source of COVID-19
  - Development of diagnostic tools
  - Development of candidate vaccines
  - Development of candidate therapeutics
- Public health, social, economic and policy angles of COVID-19 pandemic
  - Cultural dimensions of the pandemic
  - Development of effective public health communication strategies
  - Development of strategies to combat misinformation, stigma, and fear
  - Economic impacts of the pandemic, e.g., hospitality and tourism
  - Studying international relations, global coordination, response systems and crisis

- management
- Understanding the social dynamics of transmission and vulnerability
- Understanding impact on food production and safety, food distribution and food security
- Understanding public behavior in response to the pandemic and potential future countermeasures, e.g. vaccination
- Studying gender-specific and indigenous angles of the COVID-19 pandemic

## Description

All complete applications will be reviewed by the Office of Research and College representatives. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

The following evaluation criteria will be used:

1. Quality of project:
  1. Extent to which the application responds to the **program objectives**;
  2. Appropriateness of the proposed approach and timeliness; and
  3. Appropriateness of the budget and justification for amount requested.
2. Quality of Applicants:
  1. Track record of team members in fields related of proposed research;
  2. Ability of the project team to carry out the proposed activities; and
  3. Ability of team to quickly mobilize necessary resources.
3. Impact of the Research: potential to contribute to the global response to COVID-19 and elevate University of Guelph's external research reputation (e.g., acquisition of Tri-Agency funding).

Considerations will be given to gender and equity inclusion in the research team and/or the research topic, as well as to disciplinary diversity of the research programs to be funded.

Sex and/or gender issues exist in most COVID-19 research areas and, therefore, sex and/or gender issues will be a component of this research initiative. Applicants are to consider sex as a biological variable and gender as a socio-cultural factor in their research.

### Reporting Requirements:

At the end of the project, a short report is required describing outcomes and impacts.

## Eligibility

Applicants must be eligible to hold research funding at the University of Guelph.

## Funding Availability

- The Office of Research will provide up to a maximum of \$10,000 in seed funding for eligible projects that are approved by the College(s) to proceed under the University of

Guelph [Guidance note for research continuity, scale back, and shut down](#) [1].

- Matching funds from the College(s) are required.
- Approvals are subject to the availability of Office of Research funds.
- Funding must be used by August 31, 2020.

## Maximum Project Value

### Eligible Expenses include:

- Salary support for research staff, postdocs, students, and other trainees
- Knowledge translation and mobilization activities
- Supplies

### Ineligible Expenses:

Due to the time-limited nature of this funding program, infrastructure and significant research equipment purchases are generally not considered eligible expenses unless well justified, nor is teaching release.

## Special Notes

Please refer to the [Office of Research COVID 19 web-page](#) [1] for directives related to research activities at the University of Guelph.

## Deadlines

**If College-level review is required, your College will communicate its earlier internal deadlines.**

| Type                     | Date                         | Notes   |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| <b>Internal Deadline</b> | Monday, May 4, 2020 - 9:00am | You must include:<br><br><ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. A complete <a href="#">application form</a> [2]</li><li>2. PI and Co-PI(s) CV's (in any format)</li><li>3. An OR-5</li></ol><br>We aim to announce decisions by Monday, May 11, 2020.<br><br>Project spending deadline will be Monday, August 31, 2020. |



## How to Apply

Send all documents to [research.services@uoguelph.ca](mailto:research.services@uoguelph.ca) [3] by Monday, May 4, 2020.

You must include:

1. A complete [application form](#) [2]
2. PI and Co-PI(s) CV's (in any format)
3. An OR-5

## Attachment(s)

| Attachment  | Size     |
|---|----------|
|  <a href="#">Application Form - FINAL - April 16 2020.pdf</a> [4]            | 1.32 MB  |
|  <a href="#">Application Instructions - UPDATED - April 6, 2020.docx</a> [5] | 26.06 KB |

For Questions, please contact

### Office of Research

Patricia Van Asten, Awards & Agreements Officer, Strategic Research Programs  
Research Services Office [stratprg@uoguelph.ca](mailto:stratprg@uoguelph.ca) [6]

Alert Classifications **Category:**

Funding Opportunities and Sponsor News

### Disciplines:

Health and Life Sciences

Humanities

Information and Communications Technology

Physical Sciences and Engineering

Social Sciences

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### Source

**URL:** <https://www.uoguelph.ca/research/alerts/content/university-guelph-covid-19-research-development-catalyst-fund>

### Links

[1] <https://www.uoguelph.ca/research/article/2019-novel-coronavirus-information>

[2] [https://www.uoguelph.ca/research/alerts/sites/default/files/attachments/UofG%20COVID-19%20Research%20Development%20and%20Catalyst%20Fund%20Application%20Form\\_0.pdf](https://www.uoguelph.ca/research/alerts/sites/default/files/attachments/UofG%20COVID-19%20Research%20Development%20and%20Catalyst%20Fund%20Application%20Form_0.pdf)

[3] <mailto:research.services@uoguelph.ca?subject=UG%20COVID-19>

[4] <https://www.uoguelph.ca/research/alerts/sites/default/files/attachments/Application%20Form%20-%20FINAL%20-%20April%2016%202020.pdf>

[5] <https://www.uoguelph.ca/research/alerts/sites/default/files/attachments/Application%20Instructions%20-%20%20UPDATED%20-%20April%206%2C%202020.docx>

[6] <mailto:stratprg@uoguelph.ca>