**Department of Psychiatry – Internal Seed Fund 2022 Competition**

The Department of Psychiatry’s Research Committee is pleased to announce the Internal Seed Fund 2022 Competition for research grants.

The objectives of these grants are to:

* catalyze research projects that have the potential to be successful for future extramural research funding from national/provincial research funding agencies and/or foundations;
* foster and develop interdisciplinary collaborative research activities among clinical and basic scientist faculty members of the Department of Psychiatry;
* provide opportunities for the training of future clinician-researchers and clinically-oriented scientists; and
* support and promote the Department of Psychiatry researchers, their research activities and impact both within and beyond our academic community.

Total amount available for this special call is $40,000. The number of grants funded will depend on the requested budgets and peer review recommendations.

This competition will not support top-up or gap-funding for partially completed projects funded by other granting bodies, or continuation funding for currently funded, or ongoing projects/collaborations.

**Value and Duration:**

Up to a budgetary maximum of $10,000\* is available per team to be used over a 2-year period; smaller funding requests will also be considered. Grants must be taken up in the first year for which they are awarded.

Funding cannot be used towards income support of faculty members or psychiatry resident team members.

A detailed budget (maximum 1 page; with brief justification of costs and/or estimates) must be included that lists: personnel, materials/equipment, and other miscellaneous expenses. Applicants must use budget and budget justification forms found below as part of the application package.

\* For successful recipients of the Internal Seed Fund, there is an opportunity to apply for an additional $7,500 towards supporting graduate student involvement on the research project through the [Mitacs Accelarate program](https://www.mitacs.ca/en/programs/accelerate) if the project involves an industry partner such as a hospital, municipality, not-for-profit, or for-profit corporation. Please refer to the hyperlink for more details on eligibility and the application process and/or contact Wilson Luo, Mitacs Business Development Specialist for London at [wluo@mitacs.ca](mailto:wluo@mitacs.ca) .

**Eligibility:**

The Principal Applicant/Investigator must be a full-time core appointed faculty member of the Department of Psychiatry. Other faculty members such as cross-appointed or part-time faculty of the Department of Psychiatry and faculty members from other Departments/Faculties/Research Institutes can be Co-Principal Investigator, Co-Investigators and/or Collaborators.

Current holders (Principal investigators/co-PIs) of Internal Seed Funding from the 2020 and 2021 Competitions are not eligible to apply to this call.

NOTE: Preference will be given to Principal Applicants/Investigators who are new faculty members to the Department of Psychiatry (i.e., they are within 5 years from their faculty appointment with the Department of Psychiatry at Western University) and/or are Early Career (defined as being within 5 years of the start date of their first academic appointment).

The involvement of psychiatry residents and/or graduate students is strongly encouraged.

**Evaluation:**

The Department of Psychiatry Research Committee, using a peer reviewed process, will evaluate the proposed research project using the following criteria:

1. likelihood to advance understanding of underlying causes and mechanisms; methods of diagnosis and testing; approaches to prevention, treatment and recovery from mental illness and addiction; and/or to improve the design, implementation and/or effectiveness of the mental health system including services and mode of care delivery.
2. significance and novelty of the research question(s) and strength of the provided rationale
3. quality of the proposed research study design and methodology
4. feasibility of successfully completing the research project, and appropriateness of the timeline of research, given the research team's resources and commitments;
5. suitability and expected effectiveness of knowledge translation and mobilization both within and, as appropriate, beyond the clinical and academic settings;
6. probability of future success for extramural research funding from national/provincial research funding agencies and/or foundations;
7. fosters and enables collaborative interdisciplinary research in psychiatry/mental health, particularly led by new faculty and/or early career researchers, that builds upon the expertise of all the applicants.

The proposed programs of research will be scored using the following grid:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Score Range** | **Characteristics of the Proposed Research** |
| 5.0-6.0 | **Strongly recommended for funding**: Cutting-edge research with likelihood for high impact. The research question(s) are significant and novel; the rationale including background literature review is focused, fully explained and well developed. The study design and methodology are well described and likely to lead to meaningful results. The research team is an interdisciplinary collaboration that has the expertise and resources to carry out the research program in the timeline provided and involves trainees/students and is led by new and/or early career faculty member. Knowledge translation/mobilization plan is very good to excellent. On track to be competitive for further extramural funding. |
| 4.0-4.9 | **Recommended for funding**: Research question(s) is important and research program will contribute to the development of the field. One or more of the following elements should have been better developed: rationale, study design, methodology and/or knowledge translation/mobilization plan. The team has the capacity to carry out the program of research. |
| 3.0-3.9 | **Fund if funds are available**: A good research proposal but lacks at least one compelling element. The committee has concerns regarding one or more of the following elements: significance/novelty/impact, research question(s) and rationale, study design and methodology, research team. |
| Below 3.0 | **Not recommended for funding:** Low probability of significant contribution to the field and/or of research being completed. Serious shortcomings in one or more of the following elements: significance/novelty, research question(s), rationale, study design and methodology, research team. |

**THE DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS: MARCH 31, 2022**

Please complete your application, noting the guidelines set out for this competition using the enclosed checklist. Once completed, please save a copy for your files and submit an electronic copy along with any attachments to Monique Lewis (monique.lewis@sjhc.london.on.ca).

We will send you an acknowledgement of receipt of your application and submission of enclosed checklist. If you do not receive an acknowledgement of your submission within 2 working days, please contact Monique Lewis, Research Administrative Assistant for the Department of Psychiatry, at   
(519) 685-8500 x 47240.

We look forward to receiving your application!

Arlene MacDougall, MD, MSc, FRCPC

Director of Research

on behalf of the Research Committee for the Department of Psychiatry, Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry.

**Department of Psychiatry**

**Internal Seed Fund Competition 2022 Application**

Title of proposal:

Proposed Start Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ End Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Research Project Team and Roles:

Clearly indicate the names, roles, and/or responsibilities of the Principal Investigator and any co-PI/co-investigator(s)/collaborator(s) and trainee(s) as well as the percentage of time or number of hours per week to be devoted to this project. **Please attach a brief (no more than 3 pages) academic CV for each of the project team members.**

Mentor(s) for New Faculty and/or Early Career Researcher Principal Investigators (if applicable)

Clearly indicate at least one, up to 3, Department of Psychiatry affiliated faculty mentor(s) who have agreed to provide mentorship and guidance.

Mentorship Plan for Trainees:

Clearly indicate the mentorship plan (e.g., training, leadership, performance assessment, and expectations) for all trainees listed in the application (i.e., Psychiatry Resident(s), Graduate Student(s)).

**Instructions for Applicants**

Your proposal should be a **maximum of 5 pages in length[[1]](#footnote-1)** (not including budget) single-spaced, Arial 12-point font, and have the following headings (submissions that do not adhere to these guidelines may be returned without review or receive low priority scores in this competition):

* Background and Rationale
* Research Question(s) and Objectives/Hypotheses
* Study design and methodology
* Anticipated limitations/pitfalls and proposed remedies
* Overall significance
* Plans for dissemination and knowledge translation/mobilization
* Plans for future extramural funding applications

Have all study investigators completed the Lawson SOP training? Yes No

Has this proposal been reviewed by all co-investigators / mentors? Yes No N/A

Note: The seed funding competition will not typically cover the cost of training courses. Requests for top-up funding for existing partially-completed projects will not be supported. Please contact Dr. MacDougall with any questions prior to applying.

Please submit this application electronically to

[monique.lewis@sjhc.london.on.ca](mailto:monique.lewis@sjhc.london.on.ca) by **March 31, 2022**.

**Proposal Description** (maximum five pages. Begin your proposal here; add pages as needed).

**Budget** (maximum one page; provide a detail budget using the template provided and provide up to one page for budget justification).

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Item** | **Year 1** | | **Year 2** | | **Total** |
| **Seed Fund** | **Other Funds** | **Seed Fund** | **Other Funds** |
| **Salaries / Benefits**  *(provide detail in budget justification)* | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 |
| **Equipment** | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 |
| **Supplies** | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 |
| **Services** | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 |
| **Conference & Travel** | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 |
| **Open Access Publication Fees** | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 |
| **Other**  *(provide detail in budget justification)* | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 |
| **Total** | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 | **$0.00** |

***Notes:***

* *Support for graduate students, postdoctoral fellows/associates and personnel will only be provided for those integral to the proposed research project and must be described in the budget justification.*
* *Graduate students and postdoctoral associates/fellows must be enrolled/employed by Schulich in order for funding of trainees to be dispersed; funding for graduate students will be limited to those individuals enrolled in a Schulich graduate program and who are supervised by a faculty member with a Schulich appointment. Exceptions will be considered on a case-by-case basis.*
* *Funding for personnel costs will typically be limited to Schulich personnel or Lawson/LHSC/SJHC personnel as appropriate. Exceptions will be considered on a case-by-case basis.*
* *Funding for costs incurred by Co-PI, Co-Investigators or Collaborators from outside of Schulich will generally not be covered. Exceptions will be considered on a case-by-case basis.*
* *Requests for equipment costing more than $2,000 must be accompanied by quotes. [NOTE: this award is not intended to support acquisition of major equipment]*
* *Requests for publication fees must not exceed $1,500*

**Budget Justification** (maximum one page)

**Department of Psychiatry**

**2021 Special Call for Novel Collaborative Programs of Research**

**Checklist** (please submit this checklist along with your funding application).

Before submitting your application, please indicate that you have completed the following tasks:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Have you... |  |
| 1. Completed and signed the application form? | Yes  No |
| 1. Appended Brief CVs of the Core Team members: Clinical and Basic Science Faculty, and Psychiatry Resident? | Yes  No |
| 1. Appended a list of publications and research funding for all additional applicants outside of the Core Team? | Yes  No |
| 1. Completed the Mentorship plan(s)? | Yes  No |
| 1. Acknowledged that all investigators have reviewed this project   (and that authorship discussions have taken place)? | Yes  No |
| 1. Completed project budget with budget justification? | Yes  No |

Please submit this application electronically to

[nicole.snake@sjhc.london.on.ca](mailto:nicole.snake@sjhc.london.on.ca) by **March 31, 2021**.

1. Not including a 1-page Reference list. You may also attach up to 2 Appendices for your project. Please ensure that any attachments are focused and pertinent to your submission. Please do not append published articles. Reviewers are not required to review project Appendices. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)