**Department of Psychiatry – Internal Seed Fund 2023 Competition**

The Department of Psychiatry’s Research Committee is pleased to announce the Internal Seed Fund 2023 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.

We anticipate funding 2-3 projects up to $20,000 each. 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 $20,000 is available per team to be used over a 2 to 3-year period; smaller funding requests *(e.g. $5000-$10,000*) will also be considered. Grants must be initiated within the first year for which they are awarded.

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

**\*NEW THIS YEAR\* Application Procedure:**

The Internal Seed Fund 2023 Competition application has two stages:

Stage 1: Letter of Intent due by 11:59PM on Monday, December 12th 2022

Selected applicants will be notified by end of December 2022 and invited to submit a full proposal (Stage 2). Applicants will receive further guidance on application requirements at that time.

Stage 2: Full Application (*by invitation only*) due 11:59PM on Friday, March 10th 2023

**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 2021 or 2022 Annual Competitions are not eligible to apply to this call as a Principal Investigator.

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

*Please 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).

*Please note: Principal investigators must be eligible to hold a research grant at Western, with a research component that is 5% or higher.*

**Evaluation of Letter of Intent:**

The Department of Psychiatry Research Committee, using a peer reviewed process, will evaluate the Letters of Intent based on eligibility, general suitability of the design, feasibility, and alignment with objectives of the Seed Funding Program.

**THE DEADLINE FOR LETTER OF INTENT IS: DECEMBER 12, 2022**

Please reach out to Dr. Arlene MacDougall should you have any questions regarding the Letter of Intent process: arlene.macdougall@sjhc.london.on.ca

Please complete your Letter of Intent, noting the guidelines set out for this competition Once completed, please save a copy for your files and submit an electronic copy along with any attachments to **Nicole Snake** (nicole.snake@sjhc.london.on.ca).

We will send you an acknowledgement of receipt of your Letter of Intent. If you do not receive an acknowledgement of your submission within 2 working days, please contact Nicole Snake, Research Administrative Assistant for the Department of Psychiatry, at (519) 685-8500 x 47240.

We look forward to receiving your letter!



**Arlene MacDougall**, MD, MSc, FRCPC

Director of Research

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