UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO | RESEARCH ALERTS

UPDATED: Rapid research response to the 2019 Novel Coronavirus Outbreak - Urgent funding opportunity

February 10, 2020 • Reply to Deanna Pong

The Government of Canada has announced an Operating Grant funding opportunity: **Canadian 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) Rapid Research Funding Opportunity**. This is a Rapid Research Opportunity, so please pay close attention to the tight application deadline, anticipated notice of decision and funding start dates.

The specific objectives of the Canadian 2019-nCoVrapid research funding opportunity are to:

- Contribute to the global response to the 2019-nCoV outbreak;
- Enhance local, national and/or international collaborative efforts to mitigate the rapid spread of 2019-nCoV and its potential negative consequences;
- Strengthen the understanding of the impact of 2019-nCoV on individuals and communities; and
- Provide evidence to inform clinical and public health response, and/or decision-making and planning at national and international levels.

This research response is aligned with the efforts of international partners, including the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Global Research Collaboration for Infectious Disease Preparedness (GLoPID-R). This is a collaboration between The Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) in partnership with the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), the Social Sciences and Humanities

Research Council (SSHRC) and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC).

Research areas

The Government of Canada will provide funding for applications determined to be relevant **to one of the two research areas** below:

Medical countermeasures research (address minimum of one):

- pathogenicity, transmission, and zoonotic source of the 2019-nCoV;
- development and evaluation of diagnostics tools for early case detection and surveillance;
- development and evaluation of candidate vaccines;
- development and evaluation of candidate therapeutics;
- clinical characterization and management; or
- clinical trials design and ethical considerations.

Social and policy countermeasures in health (address minimum of one):

- cultural dimensions of the epidemic such as, examining how individuals and communities understand and react to the disease;
- studying the public health response;
- developing strategies to combat misinformation, stigma, and fear;
- studying the logistics of the response (e.g. infrastructure, transport, evaluation);
- examining the economic impacts of the outbreak and response;
- studying international relations, global coordination, response systems and crisis management; or
- understanding the social dynamics of transmission and vulnerability.

Key dates

- **Application deadline**: February 18, 2020
- **Anticipated notice of decision**: February 28, 2020
- **Funding start date**: February 1, 2020

Please also note that:

Data produced as a result of this funding must be shared in line with the Joint statement on sharing research data and findings relevant to the novel coronavirus (nCoV) outbreak.

The total amount of funding available is currently $6.5M. As the Government of Canada response to 2019-nCoV is evolving rapidly, the amount available is likely to increase. The Government of Canada will allocate the available budget across the two research areas to ensure a balanced research response.

- For the **medical countermeasures,** the maximum amount per grant is $1,000,000 over two years.
- For the **social and policy countermeasures research,** the maximum amount per grant is $500,000 over two years.

For an application to be eligible to receive funding from the IDRC the team must include researchers that are based in Canada and researchers that are based in low and middle income countries.

Signatures from Individual(s) with signing authority from the Institution Paid must be submitted to CIHR by February 24, 2020.

For all related inquiries, please reach out to CIHR's Contact Centre at EHTRF-FRNMS@cihr-irsc.gc.ca.

This funding opportunity is also available on the CIHR website: https://www.researchnet-recherchenet.ca/rnr16/viewOpportunityDetails.do?prog=3248&language=E

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