

Diabetes, Obesity, & Nutrition Strategic Clinical Network

Seed Grant Program 2017/2018 Call for Proposals \$40,000 Competition

Timelines:

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| December 8, 2017 | Applications due |
| February 23, 2018 | Notification of awards |

At a glance:

- Receive support from the DON-SCN to strengthen or develop new research proposals for future external funding (i.e. CIHR, AI)
- Research aimed at prevention as well as improving efficiency, quality, and value of DON-related care in Alberta will be supported.
- Four proposals will be awarded \$10,000 each
- Projects led by AHS staff or University faculty are eligible to apply

1. Description

The Diabetes, Obesity, & Nutrition Strategic Clinical Network (DON-SCN) is very pleased to announce the 2017-2018 Seed Grant funding competition. This opportunity is designed to allow researchers to collect data that would strengthen the rationale for larger funding proposals as well as potentially foster new collaborations. The research should have the potential to prevent disease or improve care for patients at risk of or experiencing diabetes, obesity, or nutrition-related health problems. The maximum amount of a single award is \$10,000. The grant is non-renewable. The total amount of funding available in this competition is \$40,000.

2. Context

The DON-SCN was created to encourage the development of and implementation of evidence-based innovations that will improve DON-related health outcomes according to the Health Quality Council of Alberta's six domains of quality: appropriateness, accessibility, effectiveness, efficiency, safety, and acceptability. The goal of this research program is to encourage research that improves the outcomes and experiences of patients and their families encountering diabetes, obesity, & nutrition-related health problems. The success of the network will be evaluated by the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences' performance evaluation criteria, which includes the advancement of knowledge, capacity building, informed decision-making, and impact to health care (health, economic, and social). Thus, research is essential to the success of the network.

3. Eligibility

- Projects must have one Principal Investigator who will be either a faculty member in one of Alberta's academic institutions (Universities or affiliated institutions)
OR
- appointed staff at Alberta Health Services but not employed by the DON SCN

4. Funding Criteria

Funds Available - Direct costs up to \$10,000

Funding may be requested for:

- General research operating expenses such as specimen-related costs; data collection, chart abstraction, statistical/financial analysis;
- Stipend support for trainees, or salaries for research associates/assistants.
- Other costs will be considered based on their justification.

Funding will NOT be provided for:

- Previously incurred expenses: funding will not be provided for expenses incurred prior to implementation of the grant.
- Investigator salaries.
- Publication costs, legal or patent fees, membership fees, academic fees, secretarial support; travel to conferences, symposiums, presentations or meetings.
- Travel outside of Alberta.

5. Evaluation Criteria:

Applications considered eligible for funding will be evaluated based on pre-established criteria. The assessment of proposals by the Review Panel will be based on the following criteria and will be assessed according to several criteria from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR).

a. Research Approach

- Clarity of the research question.
- Completeness of the literature review and relevance to study design/research plan.
- Clarity of rationale for the research approach and methodology.
- Appropriateness of the research design.
- Appropriateness of the research methods.
- Feasibility of the research approach (including recruitment of subjects, project timeline, preliminary data where appropriate, etc.).
- Anticipation of difficulties that may be encountered in the research and plans for management.

b. Originality of the Proposal

- Originality of the proposed research, in terms of the hypotheses/research questions addressed, novel technology/methodology, and/or novel applications of current technology/methodology.
- Potential impact in generating and transferring new knowledge and benefits within AHS.
- Development of pilot data/research to advance programs for larger granting competitions.

c. Applicant(s)

- Qualifications of the applicants, including training, experience and independence (relative to career stage).
- Expertise of the applicants, as demonstrated by scientific productivity over the past five years (publications, books, grants held, etc.).
- Ability to successfully and appropriately disseminate research findings, as demonstrated by knowledge translation activities (publications, conference presentations, briefings, media engagements, etc.).
- Appropriateness of the team of applicants to carry out the proposed research.

d. Environment for the Research.

- Suitability of the environment to conduct the proposed research.
- Suitability of the environment for the training of personnel (if applicable).

e. Impact of the Research

- Rigor of the scientific methods.
- Research proposal addresses a significant need or gap in health research and/or the health care system within Alberta.
- Project has the potential improve diabetes, obesity and nutritional-related care in Alberta (see HQCA six domains of quality: Acceptability, Appropriateness, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Safety, and Accessibility).

The Review Panel will include DON-SCN Core Committee and Research and Innovation Committee members (a diverse group of stakeholders, including administrators, clinicians, and patients in the Province).

6. Reporting and Deliverables

- Awarded teams must provide written progress reports within eighteen months following announcement of award.
- PIs will be asked to provide indication of subsequent grant submissions related to their project.
- Investigators will be asked to present their research to the DON-SCN Core Committee meeting at project completion.

7. Program Policies

- A research project may be supported by one single active SCN seed grant.
- A PI may hold one active DON-SCN seed grant, but can be co-investigator on multiple awards.
- All unused funds at the end award term must be returned to the DON-SCN.

8. Budget –one page; please include

Total Proposal Budget:
Amount: \$ 10,000

Stipend/salaries
Data collection
Data analysis
Supplies
Meetings
Other

Please provide justification and relevant budgetary details for requested amounts:

In Kind Contributions: describe in kind support.

Indicate if this proposal has received other funding support from the SCNs.

9. Application Instructions

- Submit completed application by the indicated deadline.
- Submit a **condensed** CV of the Principal Investigator(s) (CIHR, or Education/Publications/Grants/Trainees/Evidence of Knowledge Translation over last **5 years**)
- Submit all documents electronically to Naomi.Popeski@AlbertaHealthServices.ca

Required for submission:

- i)** A full proposal (no longer than 5 pages in length; 12pt font calibri and 1 inch margins all around) that includes:
 - a) Abstract written in lay language (200 words)
 - b) Research proposal background (Please describe the significance of the problem and relevant background information)
 - c) Research question, objectives and methodology
 - d) Describe how the proposal may cross the themes of research related to diabetes, obesity and/or nutrition.
 - e) Describe how the research proposal will contribute to larger funding opportunities.
 - f) Describe how the outcomes of the planned research will be sustained long-term and the potential for integration within health care or community settings in Alberta.
 - g) Describe the role of each team member in the research study.
- ii)** Supporting reference list (up to 1 additional page can be submitted for references).
- iii)** Budget (up to 1 additional page).
- iv)** You may provide appendices of up to 2 pages (eg. figures, preliminary data)

*(Separate team member CVs are NOT required)

10. Competition Schedule

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| September 29, 2017 | <i>Call for Seed Funding applications</i> |
| December 8, 2017 | <i>Application submission deadline</i> |
| February 23, 2018 | <i>Notification of Awards</i> |

Approval of Research Proposal - Signatures (Required)

Principal Investigator

Date

Co-Principal Investigator (if required)

Date

Department Head (or Executive Director)

Date

Signature from Research Office (or delegate)

Date

Thank you for applying to the DON Strategic Clinical Network's 2017/2018 Seed Funding Competition. Please e-mail completed applications (PDF) to: Naomi Popeski Naomi.Popeski@albertahealthservices.ca by 4:00 p.m. (MST) on **December 8, 2017**.

Applicants are highly encouraged to work with members of the DON Strategic Clinical Network, in preparation on their proposal.

If you have any questions about this competition, please contact:
Dr. Naomi Popeski - Assistant Scientific Director, Diabetes, Obesity & Nutrition Strategic Clinical Network Phone: (403) 809-1148 |
Email: Naomi.Popeski@albertahealthservices.ca