

**Special Call for Covid-19 Related Research Proposals**

Due Date: 22 April 2020

The outbreak of COVID-19 has affected all sectors of Canadian society. In the midst of this health crisis, there is a pressing need for research into the transmission and prevention of COVID-19 as well as the virus’s impact on the wider community. To support researchers who are rapidly responding to this ongoing pandemic, the Office of Research and Graduate Studies is extending a special call for proposals to Acadia faculty of all disciplines who are working to better understand COVID-19 and its impact on society.

About the Call for Proposals: The purpose of these grants is to support Acadia faculty involved in quick response research related to COVID-19. Proposals should **clearly** specify a link to the COVID-19 outbreak. Travel and in-person meetings will not be eligible for funding. **This call is prioritizing non-travel related research expenditures (e.g. research assistants, materials, publication costs)**.

Value of the Grant: $500-$5000.

Eligibility: Faculty appointment; Principal Investigator to be tenured, on tenure-track, or with a CLT appointment during the period of the award

Timeframe for Project Completion: 6 months to one year.

Evaluation criteria:

* Clear articulation of the research problem, its importance, and its **connection** to COVID-19
* Clear, specific and realistic objectives
* Measurable outcomes/deliverables from the research/activities.
* Strategies to mobilize the knowledge to academic and non-academic audiences, including the local community
* Justification of budget

**Covid-19 Related Research Proposals – April 2020**

Application instructions are included in red. Please delete all red text prior to application submission. Applications must be typed in **12-pt font**.

**Submission:** Please submit an electronic copy to **Peter Ludlow** in Research and Graduate Studies (peter.ludlow@acadiau.ca), with an e-copy to your Head of Department/School for e-approval **by midnight on Wednesday, 22 April 2020.**

|  |
| --- |
| **The Applicant** |
| Name |  |
| Department/School |  |
| Academic Rank | If CLT, specify date contract expires |

|  |
| --- |
| **The Project** |
| Title |  |
| Start Date (dd/mm/yyyy):  | End Date (dd/mm/yyyy): |
| Amount Requested ($500-$5,000) | $ |
| Does this project require Research Ethics Board approval? (Y/N) |  |
| Does this project require Animal Care approval? (Y/N) |  |

***Regarding approvals:***

* *All research involving human subjects requires REB approval. Please consult their website at* [*http://reb.acadiau.ca/*](http://reb.acadiau.ca/) *.*
* *All research involving animals must adhere to the guidelines of the Canadian Council on Animal Care (CCAC).* *Please visit* [*https://www.ccac.ca/en/about-the-ccac/*](https://www.ccac.ca/en/about-the-ccac/f) *for information or contact Tanya Morse at* *tanya.morse@acadiau.ca**.*

*If you indicated “Yes” to either of the above, you will be required to submit a copy of your approval letter before any funds can be released.*

**I, (…insert name….), certify by this electronic document that, to the best of my knowledge, the statements contained in this application are true. Any research equipment or books purchased out of the funds provided in the award is the property of Acadia University.**

**Brief Description of the Project [1 paragraph max]**

If your application is successful, this paragraph will be used for a post on the Acadia University website and for a general press release describing the university’s rapid response to COVID-19. Please use accessible, non-specialist language.

**Research Proposal [up to 2 pages]**

1. **Background Information**

Please provide general background information for the project, at a level that is accessible to reviewers from a range of disciplines (1 paragraph).

1. **The Proposed Research**

Describe the proposed research, including **(A)** How it clearly relates to COVID-19; **(B)** Clear, specific and realistic goals/objectives; **(C)** Your research approach (i.e. how will your research be conducted?) and **(D)** Expected project deliverables/outcomes.

1. **Anticipated Significance/Impact**

Describe the anticipated significance/impact of the proposed research on issues related to the transmission and prevention of COVID-19 and the virus’s impact on the wider community.

**If you do not presently have external funding,** outline your strategy for seeking other sources of funding (if needed). **If you presently have other sources of funding**, specify the relationship between the present application and your existing funding.

 **References [up to 1 page]**

This proposal does not require an extensive bibliography.

You may wish to refer to a few recent publications if they help to demonstrate the relevance of the proposed research. You may also want to include any recent references to you own work (publications, conference proceedings, etc.), if they relate directly to the proposal. This includes work in progress.

Do not include a CV with your application. Use this References section to inform the committee of your recent research output, where relevant to the proposed work.

**Detailed Budget**

Please refer to <https://www2.acadiau.ca/research/hiring-students.html> for information on costs associated with paying Research Assistants. Recommended rates are shown in the table below and are based on minimum wage of $12.55/hr plus 4% vacation pay for undergraduates, and $15.00/hr plus 4% vacation pay for graduates.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Budgetary Item** | **Details** | **Funding Request** | **In-Kind/ Other Funding Sources** |
| Undergraduate Research Assistants($14.16/hour includes salary, vacation pay and employer costs of EI, CPP & WC) |  |  |  |
| Graduate/Other Research Assistants($16.93/hour includes salary, vacation pay and employer costs of EI, CPP & WC) |  |  |  |
| Library Resources and/or Data Access |  |  |  |
| Materials / Supplies |  |  |  |
| Other (please specify with details) |  |  |  |
| **Total** |  |  |  |

**Budget Justification [~1 page]**

Please provide details and rationale or justification for the funds requested. Each expense item must be clearly justified (as opposed to described). For example:

1. Employment of Research Assistants:

Period of employment and rate

Functions to be performed, including hours needed

Student’s tasks and the education/research training benefit (provide the name(s) of the student(s) if known)

1. Library / Data Resources:

Provide an itemized list and prices

1. Materials and expendable supplies, photocopying, electronic surveys, etc.:

Provide itemized list and prices

1. Other Expenses:

Provide an itemized list and prices

Purpose of these expenses and relevance to the project

1. Relationship to Other Funds:

Describe the relationship between your proposal and any other sources of funding (if applicable).

All funding awarded in this competition must be spent (claim submitted to the Business Office) prior to May 1st, 2021.

If your project will extend beyond this date, please indicate how you plan to finance the remainder of the project.