



CIHR IRSC

Canadian Institutes of Health Research
Instituts de recherche en santé du Canada

CIHR and COVID-19: Impacts and Responses



Discoveries for life / Découvertes pour la vie



Canadian Institutes of Health Research
Instituts de recherche en santé du Canada

Canada



Impact on CIHR's Programs and Operations



Grant Administration Changes

Travel expenses:

- Travel cancelled due to COVID-19 is eligible for reimbursement from the tri-agencies.

Ongoing and incremental costs:

- Some costs not normally incurred may be eligible to be paid from tri-agency grant funds (includes research team member salaries).

Form 300:

- Deadline for submitting the Grants in Aid of Research Statement of Account (Form 300) for the 2019-2020 fiscal year is postponed until September 30, 2020.

Report extensions:

- 12-month extension on Authorization to Use Fund (ATUF) date and end-of-grant Final Report.

Spring 2020 Project Grant Competition

Mitigation Strategies

- Financial One-year extension (optional)
 - NPAs who applied to the Spring competition and who currently hold an investigator-initiated research grant scheduled to expire between June 30, 2020 and March 30, 2021; and,
 - Bridge grants provided to NPAs in the Fall 2019 competition who also applied to the Spring competition.
 - The amount provided will be equivalent to one year of the grant's average annual value.
- Six-Month financial extension for all NPAs who applied to the Spring competition and who received a bridge grant in the Fall 2019 Project Grant competition.
- Spring competition applicants given option to automatically bring their submission forward to the Fall competition or withdraw and resubmit their application.
- A 3-month moratorium placed on all existing and new strategic/institute driven funding opportunities and activities (e.g., webinars, events).

Fall 2020 Project Grant Competition

- CIHR is on track to deliver the Fall 2020 Project Grant competition.
- As traditional face-to-face will likely not be a viable option, different operational and program design elements are being explored to deliver a high-quality peer review process.
- Funding planned for the Spring competition is being reinvested in the Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 competitions.



Investing in COVID-19 Research



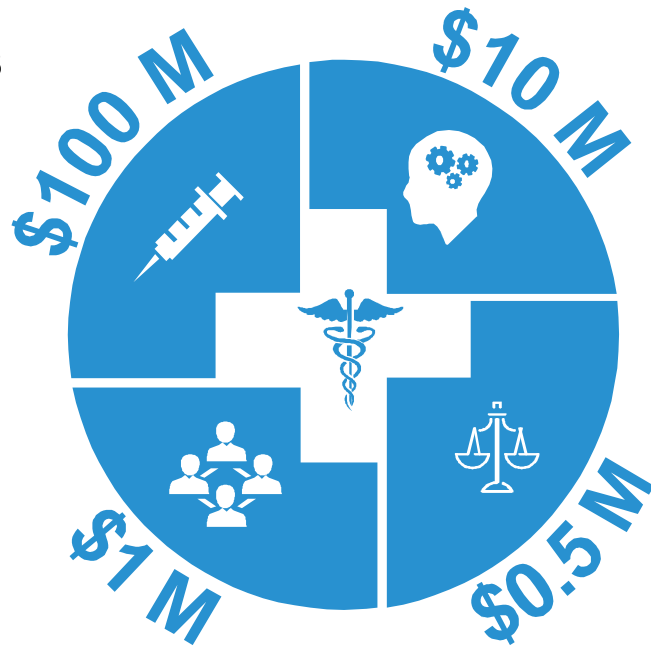
Phase 2: COVID-19 Rapid Research Response

Supporting Canada's researchers

Scaling up promising research on vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and containment

Establishing a Centre for Pandemic Preparedness and Health Emergencies Research

Focus on data-sharing, connected clinical trial networks



Addressing mental health

Establishing an expert panel on population mental health service delivery

Creating a Pan-Canadian Research Ethics Board

Accelerate regulatory reviews of promising vaccine and therapeutic technologies to get products to market

Tri-Agency Initiatives



Support for Students and Postdoctoral Researchers

- The tri-agencies are taking a harmonized approach to supporting research trainees and fellows at Canadian institutions
 - On April 22, 2020, the Government of Canada announced new funding of **\$291.6 million** to maintain income support for students and post-doctoral fellows impacted by COVID-19
- The tri-agencies will implement:
 - Four-month extensions to expiring graduate scholarships and postdoctoral fellowships
 - Supplements to active federal research grants to support research personnel



Support for Students and Postdoctoral Researchers

CIHR oversees initiatives led by the Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships and Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship programs



- Award Holder Extensions
 - Deferral of the start date of their award for up to 4 months
 - Unpaid interruption for up to 4 months
 - Award holders may request to hold their award part-time
- Launch and deadline changes

For more information

Please consult CIHR's COVID-19 webpage:

cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/51917.html

Please contact the CIHR Contact Centre:

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