Office of the Vice-President, Research

Population Health Research Network
Funding Competition

Description
The Office of the Vice-President, Research, is holding a competition for funding to help create a new population health research network. This interdisciplinary and interfaculty network will contribute to developing the strategic area of health research.

Purpose
1. Leverage the University of Ottawa’s expertise in the area of population health
2. Foster collaboration and the exchange of regional knowledge related to population health
3. Respond to population health needs

Length
One year, with possibility of renewal for a second year

Maximum award
$50,000 for the first year and, if approved, $75,000 for the second year.
Funding is provided by the Office of the Vice-President, Research

Matching contributions
Participating researchers are not required to obtain matching contributions.

Application submission deadline
To be received by the Office of the Vice-President, Research, no later than 3:30 p.m. on Monday, December 18, 2017
(in person to room 246 of Tabaret Hall or by email to innovation@uOttawa.ca)

Contact person
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1. Eligibility criteria

Principal investigator
- Holds a tenure or tenure-track position at the University of Ottawa
- Has been an independent researcher for a minimum of five years
- Has research experience (projects completed, funding obtained)
- Works primarily in the field of population health
- Demonstrates leadership skills

Network team
- Comprises a minimum of three researchers from separate disciplines
- Comprises at least one researcher from a faculty other than that of the principal investigator

2. Application package

A. A summary of the proposed research network (maximum four pages) outlining:
   - The purpose of the network and the issues it would focus on
   - The scope of the network and, if applicable, any affiliate or partner organizations
   - A work plan and timeline

B. Description of the team (2 pages) and curriculum vitae of principal investigator
   - A list of the proposed members and partners, as well as a short description of their respective areas of expertise, and the roles they would play in the network
   - Expected involvement of students in the network
   - Detailed CV of principal investigator

C. Budget (2 pages)
   - A detailed two-year budget showing all revenue and expenditures
     - Expenditures must be direct research costs admissible under University policy (see table A).

D. Letter of support
   - A letter of support from the principal investigator’s dean or vice-dean of research outlining the skills the investigator possesses for effectively leading a network and details of any support the faculty would provide (e.g., releases, space for students, funding, marketing activities, etc.)

E. Completed RE form
   - The RE form can be downloaded from the University of Ottawa’s researcher portal.

3. Format
- Single spaced with no more than six lines of text per inch
- Black, 12-point Times New Roman typeface
- Portrait orientation with only one column
- 3/4 inch margins on all sides
- All pages numbered
4. Selection process
A multidisciplinary selection committee chaired by the VP of Research will evaluate the applications. Applications will be ranked and the top two teams will be invited for an interview with the selection committee. The committee will render its decision shortly thereafter. The decision is final and cannot be appealed.

Key selection criteria:
• Level of expertise of proposed network members and cumulative research experience
• Overall scientific merit (pertinence of the topic and approach, clarity of explanations)
• Complementarity of members and team cohesion
• Principal investigators ability to engage members
• Future outlook (lifespan of network, possibility of attracting external funding)

5. Mid-term reporting
In February 2019, the principal investigator will submit a report on the network’s progress vis-à-vis its initial objectives to the VP of Research. The VP of Research may consult key members of the network for input on team cohesion. If applicable, funds for the second year will be advanced only once a satisfactory progress report has been received.

6. Other criteria
• Funds will be made available once any certification requirements have been met (human ethics, animal care, safety, etc.)
• At the completion of the funding period, any unused funds must be returned to the Office of the Vice-President, Research. No requests for extensions for using the funds will be considered.

Important dates
Competition launch: October 20, 2017
Application deadline: 3:30 p.m., December 18, 2017
Announcement of results: On or before March 15, 2018
Start of funding period: May 2018
Progress report due: February 2019
End of funding period: April 30, 2020

| Table A |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| **Examples of eligible expenses** | **Examples of ineligible expenses** |
| • Travel and teleconference expenses | • Professional fees funding recipients |
| • Expenses related to students (salary / training) | • Administration fees for a telephone, standard monthly billing for a phone line or cost of phone installation |
| • Expenses related to symposia, panels, conferences, etc., or to academic meetings | • Passport or immigration-related fees |
| • Payroll for research assistants | • Education expenses, such as costs for thesis preparation, education fees, tuition fees, costs associated with thesis examination, revision or defence |
| • Other direct costs | • Alcohol, entertainment, gifts |