

Innovation and Translational Research Awards 2025 Competition Guidelines

The Innovation and Translational Research Award is to support innovative research led by health care professionals and researchers at Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) and Providence Health Care (PHC).

Purpose

The Innovation and Translational Research Award funds **innovative research** leading to:

- Impact on patient care at VCH and/or PHC
- Savings for the health system at VCH and/or PHC
- Medical device and/or a commercial opportunity

Funding Partners

Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute partners with VGH & UBC Hospital Foundation and Providence Research (PR).

Deadlines

Complete registration and application must be received **via online forms** by the times specified or they will not be accepted. Notification of results will be available in spring 2025.

- Registration deadline: Monday November 4, 2024 by 4:00pm (PST)
- Grant development 1-on-1 session (20 minutes, recommended): November 25- November 29, 2024
- Application submission deadline: Monday January 20, 2025 by 4:00pm (PST)

Eligibility

Awards are open to both VCH and PHC clinicians and/or researchers involved with patient care and/or research.

Principal Investigator eligibility (must meet all 3 criteria):

- Hold a PhD or a MD and/or be a VCH or PHC health care professional
 - Medical residents, research associates, post-doctoral fellows, clinical/research fellows, and research scientists are not eligible for this competition.
- Conduct most of your work at one or more VCH or PHC site(s).
 - If you are working at Lions Gate Hospital or Richmond Hospital, your project is eligible, subject to funding restrictions.
 - If you are not currently practicing at one of these sites, you must include a letter from the relevant VCH or PHC Clinical Head and/or UBC Department Head, confirming you will be working at a VCH or PHC site by July 1, 2025.
 - Casual employees are not eligible to apply.
- Do not hold a currently funded VCHRI or PR operating grant

Note: If you are a PHC physician or health care professional, only projects in collaboration with VCH are eligible for this award

We invite all qualified individuals, and encourage those from four specific groups—persons with disabilities, Indigenous peoples, members of visible minorities or racialized individuals, and women—to take part in this award program.

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Co-Investigators: Co-investigators could include other individuals as appropriate for the particular project being proposed. There is no set number of co-investigators for a project. It is expected that individuals listed as co-investigators will also contribute to the intellectual content of the research project.

Funding and Eligible Expenses

- Proposals will be considered for a maximum of \$100,000.
- The maximum budget amount does not include in-kind contributions e.g., staff support, use of space and other resources etc.
- Projects must be able to be completed within two years of receiving the funds. Unused funds are to be returned to VCHRI or PR, depending on which organization is funding your project.
- Awards are non-renewable.
- An applicant can only hold one VCHRI or PR operating grant at a time.

Eligible expenses:

Compensation Related Expenses

- VCH or PHC health care professionals: release time **is an eligible** expense within the budget to a maximum of 50% of the total budget; if you are not currently holding a VCHRI or PR salary award (additional release time is not permitted). Your supervisor / manager must approve all potential release time arrangements before submission.
- Research Staff salaries

Services and supplies

- Research services and supplies

Ineligible expenses:

Travel costs are not eligible

Research equipment costs are not eligible

Honourarium payments (e.g., cash and gift cards)

Review and Evaluation Process

Review Committee

The selection committee's review and discussion will focus on how your project meets the following criteria:

- Have impact on patient care at VCH and/or PHC
- Provide savings for the health system at VCH and/or PHC
- If your project is a commercial opportunity, outline the implementation plan including letters of support from stakeholders and/or partners (appendices)
- The applicant/team's research experience and productivity including the appropriateness of each team member and their role(s),
- The applicant/team's research environment, collaborations, commitment to research including their amount of protected time for research, research potential, and departmental support (both clinical and academic),
- The rigour of the research proposal, including the importance and applicability of the project to the provision of healthcare/service at VCH; feasibility of the project within the timeframe/budget.
- The implementation/business plan, including letters of support from stakeholders/partners

Full Application Details

Applications must include the following sections:

1. Grant Cover Sheet (required)
2. Program/Dept Manager Statement of Support (required for all VCH or PHC health care professional PI)
3. Research Module (required)
4. Research Proposal (required – 4 page maximum)
5. Biographical Sketch (required for PI and all Co-investigators)
6. Appendices (optional)

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Information: <https://www.vchri.ca/services/starting-your-project/awards-funding/innovation-and-translational-research-awards>

Approvals

Notification of awards will occur in spring 2025. After July 1, 2025, funds will be released to the successful applicants as soon as the required ethics and VCH and/or PHC operational approvals have been obtained. Applicants are urged to request ethics approval as soon as they have received notice of funding, since projects must be initiated before December 31, 2025. **Funding will not be available after this date.**

Outcomes and Reporting

A final project report is required at the end of the grant. VCHRI and its partners use these project reports to publicize research activities and to evaluate the impact of the program. VCHRI may request periodic financial statements with approved signatory from your employer for auditing purposes.

Contact Information

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