



# COLLEGE OF NURSING BRIDGE FUNDING FOR CIHR RESEARCH GRANTS

## Guidelines

**Purpose:** The College of Nursing has created a Bridge Fund for CIHR Project Grants. This fund will provide one year of funding for high quality College of Nursing led grants for College of Nursing tenure-track or tenured faculty members. This initiative aims to support excellence in research and support faculty who have received a high score in the CIHR competition but were not funded in enhancing their proposal and re-apply to CIHR.

**Guiding Principles:** The College of Nursing Bridge Fund for CIHR Project Grants is a pilot program and will be available to tenured and tenure-track faculty over the next two years until 2025, the end date for the current College Strategic Plan. The program will run for Spring 2024 to Fall 2025. The College of Nursing will provide 4 x \$10,000 or 2 x \$20,000 per project for development activities to strengthen the CIHR Project grant applications for resubmission. Total amount may vary based on financial availability and the number of applications. Applicants who have received Bridge funding from the Office of the Associate Vice-President Research cannot receive College of Nursing Bridge Funding.

This funding does not include teaching releases for discovery but covers eligible activities to make the grant successful at resubmission. The College expects that the applicant and her/his/their research group will engage in USask CIHR internal review processes and resubmit the grant to CIHR the following year.

### A higher priority will be given to:

- 1) Applications with higher overall rankings (e.g., equal or greater than 3.9),
- 2) Applicants who did not previously receive College of Nursing Bridging Support, and
- 3) Early career researchers within the first 5 years of their appointment.

### Eligibility Criteria:

College of Nursing Nominated Principal Investigators who have scored well with her/his/their grants (top third in the rankings or with a score **equal or greater to 3.9** for CIHR Project Grants) will provide the Associate Dean Research and Graduate Studies with the application package listed in the "Application Process" section below.

The unfunded CIHR Project grant must have undergone CIHR Internal Review or CIHR Project Grant Amplified Internal Review at the University level.

Applicants must have submitted, as Nominated Principal Investigator, an unfunded but highly ranked proposal (ranked among the top third) to a CIHR competition in the last 12 months. Only proposals requesting operating funds (i.e., CIHR Project) will be considered.

Applicants can only hold one College of Nursing Bridge Funding grant at a time. Applicants who are successful in this funding program cannot re-apply to this program until they have:

- 1) Re-applied to a CIHR operating grant competition, and
- 2) Have submitted a progress report for currently held program funds.

Nominated Principal Applicants must re-apply to CIHR within 2 years of receiving the College of Nursing Bridging Funds.

### **Application Process**

Your application package will include:

- 1) A complete copy of the unsuccessful grant application, including all available reviewers' comments, scientific officer notes, and ranking information (notice of decision).
- 2) Summary of your Bridge Funding research project (1 page), including:
  - Research activities that will strengthen the application (e.g., trainee record, contributions, peer-reviewed publications, statistical consultation, collection of pilot data to support rationale/significance or develop research hypotheses).
  - Budget justification for the College of Nursing CIHR Bridge Funding

Applications should be submitted within 2 weeks of the final Notice of Decision. Please email your application to the office of the Associate Dean Research and Graduate Studies c/o Raeleen Wilson, [raeleen.wilson@usask.ca](mailto:raeleen.wilson@usask.ca).

### **Terms of Reference**

**Eligible Expenses:** Stipends and salaries (incl. benefits), materials and supplies, equipment, open access fees, and research-related travel expenses. Please note that funding overlap is **not** permitted. Funding from other sources (e.g., Internal SSHRC Explore/ Exchange, President's NSERC Fund, MITACS, other bridge funding) must be disclosed. Any overlapping funds will be deducted from your amount and returned to the College of Nursing.

**Reporting Requirements:** After (re)submitting to CIHR Project Grant and receiving an outcome, submit a progress report to the Associate Dean Research. A progress report is required before future applications to the College of Nursing Bridge Funding program will be considered.

**Ethics and Grant Administration:** Any applicable ethics approval (human, animal, biosafety, SHA) or other permits must be obtained before a funding account can be opened. Ethics must be sought within 3 months of the award date or the grantee will forfeit the award. For assistance with ethics, contact Caitlin Olauson at [caitlin.olauson@usask.ca](mailto:caitlin.olauson@usask.ca).

**Duration:** The duration of the award is 12 months. A 6-month extension can be exceptionally allowed and shall be discussed with the Associate Dean Research and Graduate Studies. All funds must be spent within the tenure of the award. Balances will revert back to the College of Nursing. Within 1 year of completing the award, the PI is expected to submit an application to CIHR.