



2009

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

Novel treatment and therapeutic approaches to genetic diseases,
especially rare or ultra-rare diseases affecting children

Application Deadline: November 13, 2009

Canadian Gene Cure Foundation
<http://www.genecure.ca>

OVERVIEW

The Canadian Gene Cure Foundation (CGCF) was incorporated as a registered charity on December 29, 1998.

The mission of the Canadian Gene Cure Foundation is to support Canadian scientists in the search for medical advances in genetic disease. The Foundation seeks to increase public awareness and understanding of the contribution that medical genetics research makes to wellness and quality of life for all Canadians.

The CGCF is dedicated to providing hope to the seventy per cent (70%) of Canadians

who will develop or be diagnosed with a genetic disease. The scope of medical genetic research is broad and encompasses cardiovascular diseases, Alzheimer's disease, Huntington disease, diabetes, epilepsy, cystic fibrosis, and breast cancer - to cite some of the more prominent diseases.

We share a vision with Canada's leading medical geneticists that research will reduce the burden on society of disease. These scientists discover how genes function in the body and cause disease - ultimately, their goal is to develop preventions and cures.



OBJECTIVES OF THE 2009 GRANT COMPETITION

The specific objectives of the 2009 Grant Competition are to provide funding for research that fulfills the following criteria:

- Novel treatments and therapies for genetic diseases, especially rare or ultra-rare diseases affecting children
- Novel treatments and therapies based on recent advances in medical genetics. This may include but not be limited to gene therapies, gene-based therapeutics, pharmacogenomics, and other translational aspects of genetic research in rare or ultra-rare diseases affecting children.

GRANT BUDGET

The Foundation anticipates making a single one-year grant to a maximum of \$65,000. However, projects with budgets less than \$65,000 are also encouraged as this may allow for multiple grants.

TIMELINE

November 13, 2009 Applications must be forwarded electronically via email to grants@genecure.ca

December 7, 2009 Notification of decision & anticipated start date

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

This RFA is open to all Canadian Researchers who meet the eligibility criteria for CIHR research funding¹. Health researchers who do not hold a CIHR grant or award are also eligible.

The proposed research must be directed towards developing treatments and therapies for genetic diseases affecting children, based on advances in genetics.

¹ Refer to <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/22630.html#1-B1> on the CIHR website.



HOW TO APPLY

The application, due on **November 13, 2009**, must contain the following information:

1. COVER PAGE

- Title of the RFA
- Proposed title of research
- Lead investigator (name affiliation, telephone, fax & e-mail address) and other investigators (name, affiliation, telephone, fax & e-mail address).

2. SHORT SUMMARY (MAXIMUM 300 WORDS)

- States the objectives of the research program and the scientific approach, highlighting the expected significance of the work in *laymen terms*.
- Indicate how the research QA proposal fits with the research objectives of the Canadian Gene Cure Foundation.
- Indicate in the summary the incidence in Canada of the disease you are researching.

3. COMMITMENT TO PROJECT

- Indicate the number of hours per month that the applicant and co-investigators intend to devote to the project described in the present application.

4. BUDGET FOR UP TO \$65,000.00

- Indicate the financial requirements for one year in Canadian dollars.
- All items must be justified. **Will not cover large equipment acquisition or travel.**
- Grant funds must fall within the Canadian Institutes for Health Research's Eligibility of Expenses Document.² **Research funds cannot be used for travel.**
- The application must provide a detailed justification of all costs
- NOTE:** Projects with a budget of less than \$65,000 are also encouraged and may allow for multiple grants to be awarded.

5. PROPOSAL

- Limited to three pages maximum, with one additional page for figures. No addendum will be accepted, unless they are absolutely essential to the evaluation of the proposal and are accessible via electronic link (e.g. manuscripts).
- Minimum acceptable font size is 12 point.
- Include the background, objectives and research plan.
- Proposals should be written to address the total one-year time span.

6. CV OF APPLICANT(S). *CIHR CV module is acceptable.* Include the following:

- Address and current position of the applicant, indicating start date in that position.
- Publication record of applicants.
- List of all grants currently held and applied for, including the source of funding, time period of funding, grant title and the amount of funding.
- A statement of the relationship of this application to these other grants.

² Refer to http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/documents/eligibility_e.pdf



7. ADDRESS FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

- Name of financial officer, institution name, department name, street address, phone number, fax number and e-mail.

CONDITIONS OF FUNDING

All conditions, as specified in CIHR's Grants and Awards Guides³, shall apply to those funded through this initiative, including conditions covering areas such as Applicant and Institutional Responsibilities, Ethics, Access to Information and Privacy Acts, etc. Successful recipients will be informed of any special financial conditions when they receive notification of award. The principal applicant (with funding responsibilities) will be required to submit a final report to CGCF, by April 15th, 2011 summarizing the results and describing how the grant funds were used. In addition, the following shall apply:

1. INTEREST IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

The CGCF will require the recipient of the grant to provide to the Foundation an interest in any Intellectual Property (IP) that may result from the funded research. Prior to the award being paid out to the recipient's institution, the parties will need to agree on the appropriate amount of interest in the IP for the Foundation.

2. COMMUNICATION REQUIREMENTS

Recipients who receive funding are required to acknowledge the Canadian Gene Cure Foundation in any written or oral presentation of research results including scientific articles, news releases, news conferences, public lectures and media interviews.

In addition, recipients of this grant are required to assist the CGCF in the creation of news stories or other marketing pieces that may mention or discuss the research projects funded by this grant. Recipients of the grant could be asked to speak to local or national print media or television outlets as well.

3. FINANCIAL FUNDING

The CGCF will pay the applicant's institution directly; funds will have to be deposited into a separate trust account. The institution will have to provide the CGCF with a report at the end of the next fiscal year - namely for the period ending April 15th, 2011. Grants can be carried forward for one year only. The CGCF will not be responsible for any over expenditure in the account set up by the institution.

³Refer to <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/805.html>



SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION

The application is to be submitted electronically to grants@geneecure.ca no later than 5: 00PM EST on November 13, 2009. One single electronic file in PDF format is required.

CRITERIA FOR REVIEW

1. ALIGNMENT WITH ELIGIBLE RESEARCH AREAS:

- Genetic diseases affecting children, novel therapies and treatments based on recent genetic advances.
- Proposals must clearly describe how the grant will address these criteria.
- Emphasis for this year's award will be placed on **genetic diseases, especially rare or ultra-rare diseases affecting children.**

2. QUALITY OF THE SCIENCE AND THE IMPACT IT MIGHT HAVE ON THE FIELD:

- Is the approach reasonable?
- Is the project proposed innovative, employing novel concepts, approaches or methods?
- Are the aims original and innovative?
- Does the project challenge existing paradigms or develop new methodologies or technologies?

3. THE SCIENTIFIC EXCELLENCE OF THE INVESTIGATOR AS ASSESSED BY:

- Publication record.
- Success in attracting competitive peer-reviewed research.
- Record of research dissemination, including activities leading to the commercialization of research discoveries to the benefit of Canada.
- Contributions to the training of highly qualified personnel.

An elite peer-reviewed committee will be assembled specifically for this initiative. The committee will follow a peer-review process for grants.

For further information, please contact grants@geneecure.ca

