

DFM Research Funding Program: PRIME 2.0

Terms of Reference

1. Objectives:

Offered by the Department of Family Medicine, the main objective of the program is to support research projects led by junior researchers / junior clinician investigators, both in academic and community-based practices, within the Department of Family Medicine, University of Ottawa. Funded projects must be relevant to primary care and align with the Department of Family Medicine [strategic plan](#).

The specific objectives of the program are to:

- Increase and stimulate the capacity for research collaboration between junior clinician investigators/junior researchers and established DFM clinician investigators/researchers.
- Strengthen the experience and competitiveness of junior researchers / clinical investigators for future funding applications.
- Mobilize the results of DFM sponsored research and integrate with existing DFM research or education programs (e.g., CPIN, OPEN, FMRSP, PGY3).

This program is part of a continuum of funding and career advancement (refer to Appendix A). Each of these programs has eligibility requirements and expected deliverables that are related to the career stage of the researcher/clinician investigator.

2. Characteristics:

The grant is for a maximum of three years, a maximum of \$40,000 per year, non-renewable, allocated as follows:

- A maximum of \$30,000 per year for locum or salary support for 30 protected-research days per year.
- A maximum of \$10,000 per year for project operational costs, including research advisory and research assistant support.

3. Eligibility:

All research projects, principal investigators, research teams and participants must comply with the eligibility requirements in effect at the time of application for funding and for the duration of the grant.

- Holds, or in the process of applying for, a primary academic appointment with the uOttawa Department of Family Medicine at the rank of Assistant Professor or above.
- The applicant must demonstrate, based on past performance, a strong potential to develop as a future leader in their chosen field of research.
- Holds, or in the process of enrolling in, an advanced degree program is encouraged (Master's or PhD and related research fellowships).
- Does not currently hold a DFM research award.
- Maintains a clinical practice as a Family Physician or is recently retired from clinical practice.
- Preference will be given to applications that involve a resident(s) and/or other DFM faculty members in the project.
- Preference will be given to those who have not received a DFM research award in previous years and/or can provide matching funds from another source such as a research institute, partnership, or other organization.

4. Application:

- Letter of Intent due October 31st. Invited applications are due January 31st.
- The applicant's submission (funding level requested) must be commensurate with having the appropriate protected time, access to required facilities and support to conduct the proposed research.
- The applicant may opt to:
 - join an established research team (e.g., Senior DFM Researcher/Clinician Investigator who will act as a research mentor) and carve out a section of the research program to lead; or
 - develop their own area of interest and have a formal mentoring agreement with an established researcher.

Step 1 – Letter of Intent (LOI) and Proposal

- LOI and proposal
- Current CV
- Letter(s) of support from collaborator(s) and/or research mentor(s) with a formal letter of agreement with the primary research mentor.

Step 2 – Letter of Intent (LOI) and Proposal Review

- The initial review of all applications will be conducted by members of the Research Executive Committee (REC) and/or existing PRIME review committee, and the Senior Leadership Team. Recommendations will be submitted to the Department Advisory Committee for final approval. The REC, PRIME committee, and Senior Leadership team may seek input from additional external reviewers for expert advice.
- Reviewers' feedback will be shared with the applicant.

Step 3 – Invitation to Submit Full Application

- Based on the assessment of the LOI and proposal, investigators with eligible projects will be invited to submit a full application.

Deliverables:

- Refer to Appendix A for details on associated expectations and deliverables for this award.

APPENDIX A - The University of Ottawa Department of Family Medicine Research Awards Program

* (Based on 1.0 FTA – Full-time academic)

AWARD	DESCRIPTION	RESEARCH TIME *	TIME (%)	FUNDING	SUPPORT	EXPECTATIONS
Eminent Scientist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meaningful collaborations with local early and mid-career researchers and national and international senior researchers. • Meaningful mentoring and support with Academic Leadership Champions to promote resident and faculty scholarship at the local level, including the Family Medicine Residency Scholarly Projects. • Meaningful collaborations with provincial, national, and international primary care research organizations. • Independent research program sharing a leadership role with early and mid-career DFM researchers. • Demonstrate research productivity in terms of peer-reviewed grants as co-principal investigator; peer reviewed publications in relevant journals as second and last author. • Scientific advisor to DFM Chair, DFM Director of Research and Innovation. 	2 days/wk	40%	Up to 90K per year / renewable	Provided through grant funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University of Ottawa, Full Professor • French-English bilingualism is preferred. • Holds an advanced research degree. • Recognized by peers as a research leader. • Recognized as an international research leader. • Significant peer-reviewed publications. • Significant grant capture from national-level competitions. • Publish 10 publications per year as second or senior author. • Hold at least 3 peer reviewed grants as a Co PI. • Involve early career DFM researchers on grants. • Present at international conferences. • Participate as a reviewer for research competitions, scientific journals, and applications for promotion. • Participate in DFM mentoring programs. • Mediator for internal DFM disputes among researchers. • Intensive coaching of three junior or mid-career scientists referred to you by the DFM. • Expert pre-submission reviewer for 6 grant submissions as requested by DFM. • Assist in writing for publication for 4 papers as requested by DFM. • Assist in writing 2 grant applications as requested by DFM.

AWARD	DESCRIPTION	RESEARCH TIME *	TIME (%)	FUNDING	SUPPORT	EXPECTATIONS
Senior Clinician Scientist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a research mentee(s). • Meaningful collaborations with other senior researchers (local, national, international). • Independent research program with a leadership role and can demonstrate research productivity in terms of peer-reviewed grants as principal investigator; peer reviewed publications in relevant journals; and formal mentorship of junior researchers. 	4 days/wk	80%	Up to 200K per year for 3 years/ renewable	Provided through grant funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full or approaching Full Professor. • Hold an advanced degree in research. • Hold a Faculty Distinguished or Tier I Research Chair; or equivalent. • 10 publications per year with a third as first or senior author (over three years). • Hold at least 1 peer reviewed grant as a PI; be applying for peer-reviewed grants. • Involve Jr. researchers on grants. • Presenting at International conferences. • Applying for career awards.
Mid-Career Clinician Scientist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a research mentee(s). • Meaningful collaborations with other researchers (local, national, international). • Independent research program with a leadership role and can demonstrate research productivity in terms of peer-reviewed grants as principal investigator; peer reviewed publications in relevant journals; and formal mentorship of junior researchers. 	3 days/wk	60%	Up to 120K per year for 3 years/ renewable	Provided through grant funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Associate or Full Professor. • Advanced Degree. • Could hold a faculty Tier II Research Chair (or equivalent). • 5 publications per year with a third as first or senior author (over three years). • Hold at least 1 peer reviewed grant as a PI; be applying for peer-reviewed grants. • Involve Jr. researchers on grants. • Presenting at International conferences. • Applying for career awards.

AWARD	DESCRIPTION	RESEARCH TIME *	TIME (%)	FUNDING	SUPPORT	EXPECTATIONS
Junior Clinician Scientist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a research mentor. • Meaningful collaborations with other researchers (local, national). • The beginning of an independent research program with a leadership role and can demonstrate research productivity in terms of peer-reviewed grants as principal investigator; peer reviewed publications in relevant journals; and formal mentorship of junior researchers. 	2-2.5 days/wk	40-50%	80-100K per year for 3 years/renewable	Shared RA provided through salary support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistant Professor. • Working toward an advanced degree. • Could hold a Jr. Clinical Research Chair (or equivalent). • 3 to 5 publications per year with a third as first or senior author (over three years). • Hold at least 1 peer reviewed grant as a PI; be applying for peer-reviewed grants. • Presenting at national conferences. • Applying for career awards.
PRIME 2.0 Research Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a research mentor. • Meaningful collaborations with other researchers (local, national). • Independent research project with a leadership role with potential to develop a research program OR join an established research team (e.g., Research Community of Practice member to act as a research mentor) and carve out a section of the research program to lead and demonstrate research productivity in terms of applying for internal and external funding and publishing. 	<1 day/wk	<20%	Up to 30K per year for 3 years for LOCUM or Salary Support + Up to 10K per year for 3 years for project operating cost including RA Support		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend monthly DFM Research Community of Practice meetings; attend and present at Family Medicine Grand Rounds. • 1 to 2 publications per year with at least one per year as first author or senior author (average over five years). • Be applying for external peer-reviewed grants. • Involve and supervise FMRSP Residents on projects. • Presenting at national/international conferences. • Be applying for career awards.