



Cardiac Arrest Research Team Grants (CA)

Webinar - Questions and Answers (Q&A)

November 2025

Questions and Answers

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I. Funding Opportunity

Eligible Institutions & Funding

Q. Can an organization or non-profit institution wishing to do research in one of these areas apply, or only through an academic institution or affiliation?

A. Eligibility requirements are outlined in section [A.3. Eligibility Criteria](#) of the [Competition Guidelines](#). Applicants are to review these criteria closely to determine if they meet these requirements.

Q. Is there an overhead cost % allocation?

A. As stated in section [C.2. Indirect Costs](#), “Heart & Stroke and funding partners, if applicable, support only the direct costs of research. No funding is to be used for indirect costs of research”.

Priority Research Areas

Q. What happens if we have researchers in our team that do work across multiple research areas? Should an individual application only contain work on a single area?

A. Section [A.2. Team Grant Structure](#) states that “The Cardiac Arrest Research Team Grants funding opportunity is designed to fund three (3) Research Teams, each within one of the identified priority research areas”. As such, interdisciplinary teams are encouraged, but the proposal is to have a primary focus on **one** of the three priority research areas.

Q. If the 3 best applications are for the prevention domain, will you fund all 3?

A. Section [A.2.1. Value of Team Grants](#) clarifies that “This competition seeks to fund three (3) interdisciplinary team grants (one (1) in each of the identified priority research areas)”. If no fundable application is identified in a research area, funds may be applied to the next highest overall ranked application as stated in section [A.5.5](#).

Q. Should applications describe a specific, hypothesis-driven research study (e.g., clinical trial, implementation study, etc.)?

A. Applicants should follow the guidance provided in section [B.2.1. Application Form](#), which details the required content and structure. Applications should describe specific research activities and methodology that aligns with the purpose and objectives of this funding opportunity.

Q. For each priority research area, what is the expectation for the number of research projects proposed by each team? Is it possible to have multiple projects proposed by a single research team?

A. There is no minimum or maximum number of proposed projects permitted within each team. Each team may propose multiple research activities or projects within their selected priority research area, provided they align with the overall funding opportunity objectives and are feasible within the funding envelope and time frame of the grant.

Team Members, Projects and Collaboration

Q. Is it acceptable to have an ECR lead (be NPA) on an application?

A. As outlined in section **A.3. Eligibility Criteria** of the [Competition Guidelines](#), “the NPA must be an independent researcher at an eligible Canadian institution”. There is no restriction on NPA career-stage; therefore, they may be at any stage, including Early Career Researcher (ECR).

Q. The guidelines state “Any private sector or industry involvement must be free of conflict of interest”. Is industry involvement helpful or harmful in the potential success of an application?

A. As outlined in section **A.1. Purpose and Objectives**, “The Research Teams are expected to bring together multi-institutional, multi-sectoral, and multi-disciplinary health research teams (e.g., researchers, clinicians, ... and industry)”. As such, the involvement of industry partners is acceptable for this competition. Applicants are encouraged to clearly describe the role and contributions of any industry partners in their application, and to ensure that their involvement aligns with the requirements outlined in the [Competition Guidelines](#). It is up to the applicants to address any considerations related to conflict of interest and demonstrate how these have been managed within the context of the proposed research.

Q. Can you explain the need to interact with other teams as part of the application process?

A. There is no expectation for teams to interact with each other during the development of their applications. Once funded, the three funded teams are expected to collaborate to support resource sharing and amplify research impact. Section **A.2.3. Cross-Cutting Themes** and section **A.4.3. Conditions of Funding** outline collaboration expectations among the funded teams. Examples include annual meetings, training and knowledge mobilization activities.

Q. Can you explain cross-cutting themes more?

A. As stated in section **A.2.3. Cross-Cutting Themes**, “three Cross-Cutting (CC) Themes have been identified in this funding opportunity to support collaboration and leveraging of resources among the funded Research Teams: 1) Data Sharing & Management; (2) Knowledge Mobilization; and (3) Training & Capacity Development”. Each team must develop plans for these three CC themes, including theme lead designation, collaboration strategies, and resource development. Further information can be found in section **A.2.3** of the [Competition Guidelines](#).

Artificial Intelligence

Q. Please explain the AI declaration mentioned in the application. And how will applicants reference use of AI if done throughout the entire document?

A. Section **C.5. Artificial Intelligence** outlines the requirement to disclose any use of generative AI tools (e.g., large language models) in the preparation of application materials: “Applicants must clearly state if and where material has been generated by AI within their proposals and/or application materials”. Applicants must clearly indicate where AI-generated material is used within their proposals and application materials, as outlined in section **C.5**.

Use of non-generative AI tools, such as grammar or spell-checking software (e.g., Grammarly), does not require disclosure. Applicants who use generative AI are encouraged to carefully review section [C.5](#) to ensure transparency and responsible use throughout the application process.

II. Supporting Documents

BioSketch

Q. Do you have a more user-friendly BioSketch format? The current format is difficult to work with.

A. As stated in section [B.2.2](#) under BioSketch Requirements “*The NPA and PAs, and CC Theme Leads, must provide a **Heart & Stroke BioSketch***”. No other BioSketch format will be accepted.

Q. What type of CV is needed (CCV vs. narrative CV vs. other) for all roles in an application?

A. Section [B.2.2](#) under BioSketch Requirements requires the **Heart & Stroke BioSketch** for NPAs, PAs, and CC Theme Leads. Other CV formats are not accepted for these roles.

Self-Identification Form

Q. How is the self-identification survey data used in the evaluation of applications for funding?

A. The self-identification form is anonymous and used for statistical purposes only. No personally identifying information will be gathered, and your answers will not be used in any application assessments or decision-making processes.

III. Registration Phase

Q. Do you have to identify which of the 3 research areas you want to be considered for at the registration stage?

A. Yes, applicants must select their priority research area at registration.

Q. Is there a peer review at the registration step, or will all groups who register be offered an opportunity to apply for the full grant?

A. As stated in section [A.5.1. Registration Review](#) “*The funders will perform an administrative review to assess the eligibility of the Applicants and the relevance of their submissions to the competition’s purpose, objectives, and Research Areas*”. The administrative review is not a peer review process, but instead an internal administrative review to ensure that applications are aligned with the [Competition Guidelines](#). Only eligible and relevant applications will be invited to submit a full application.

Q. Could you review the timeline from acceptance of registration to invitation to submit full application? It appears that there is little time between invitation and final submission.

A. Invitations to submit a full application are expected to be sent in mid-January. All efforts are made to ensure applicants have equitable time for both the registration and full application phases. Applicants are encouraged to begin preparing their materials in advance, using the guidance provided in the [Competition Guidelines](#).

IV. International Collaboration and Funding Rules

Q. If there is an established research relationship between Canadian and US collaborators, how should this be accounted for?

A. Sections [A.1. Purpose and Objectives](#) and [A.4.3. Conditions of Funding](#) outline the collaboration with AHA-funded teams. Section [A.4.3](#) outlines that funds should principally support research activities conducted in Canada. Specialized service contracts with non-Canadian institutions may be justified if expertise is not available in Canada.

Q: Can Canadian funding be used to support US-based collaborators or sites, and how does collaboration with AHA-funded teams work?

A. Yes, collaboration with US centres and AHA-funded teams is possible. However, Canadian funds must primarily support research conducted in Canada. Exceptions may be made for specialized services or expertise not available in Canada, as stated in section [A.4.3. Conditions of Funding](#): *“Funds used to support research activities should principally be conducted in Canada. Justification will be required to allow for specialized service contracts at non-Canadian institution(s) who provide access to leading expertise, facilities, technologies, unique populations, and environments, research training and/or knowledge translation that is not otherwise available in Canada”.*

If applying in parallel with a US team, note that these are independent grant competitions. As such, the review of applications will be done independently. The timing of the independent Heart & Stroke and AHA grant competitions are designed to support collaboration and engagement of the funded research teams.

Q. Can you clarify the role of the US team through AHA? Do we need to engage with applicants now?

A. Section [A.1. Purpose and Objectives](#) outlines that *“This funding opportunity is coordinated with the American Heart Association (“AHA”) Cardiac Arrest funding opportunity to encourage collaboration and partnership of funded Cardiac Arrest Research Teams (“Research Teams”) to leverage, amplify and coordinate research activities where appropriate.”*

Applicants are encouraged to outline how they may organize themselves to collaborate with the funded AHA research teams; however, it is recognized that the full details of a collaboration will not be developed until the outcomes of the grant competitions are known. Heart & Stroke funded research teams and AHA funded research teams are expected to consider opportunities for collaboration and co-host at least one cross-border symposium during the time frame of the grant funding as outlined in section [A.4.3. Conditions of Funding](#).

Q. Can you clarify whether the cross-cutting theme leads must be based at Canadian institutions (like the NPA and PAs do), or can they be international since they don't have to be NPA/PA roles?

A. As stated in section [A.3. Eligibility Criteria](#), “*The NPA and PAs must be independent researchers at eligible Canadian institutions*”. For cross-cutting theme leads, there is no explicit requirement that they be based at Canadian institutions.

Applicants are encouraged to clearly describe their rationale for selecting their cross-cutting theme leads, including how they will support the responsibilities and objectives of the team grant within their geographical location and/or institution.

Q. Are the US and Canadian applicants applying for the same funding pool or are there two pools?

A. The Heart & Stroke Cardiac Arrest Research Team Grants (CA) funding opportunity is an independent grant competition with a funding envelope of \$5,000,000 CAD to fund one research team in each of the 3 identified priority research areas.