**Nova Scotia Health Research Fund**
**Program Overview**
**2024 Competition**

**Nova Scotia Health Research Fund (NSH RF)**

Nova Scotia Health's Research Fund is an internal funding program that builds the capacity of Nova Scotia Health researchers and helps catalyze new research opportunities.

| Deadline | Date |
|---|---|
| Project Registration | May 9, 2024 at 16:00 ADT |
| Application deadline | July 9, 2024 at 16:00 ADT |

We are using Submittable, an online submission portal for all applications and related study materials for this year's (and all other internal funding competitions). Our submission platform can be accessed via the following link: [Nova Scotia Health Submission Manager - Nova Scotia Health Research Fund 2024: Registration (submittable.com)](#)

Please note the final application requires user registration and entering all application information online. If you prefer to draft your submission offline before submitting via the portal, we will not accept uploaded standalone application forms through the online portal.

Applications may be completed on the online submission platform by multiple individuals in real time. If you will be drafting your proposal collaboratively, simply follow the online instructions found here: [Inviting Collaborators on Submissions and Additional Forms | Submittable Help Center](#).

The Supervisor / Mentor Research Placement Agreement form, required for all students and trainees conducting research at Nova Scotia Health, is also required for all students and trainees applying for Research Fund support. The form can be found under 'publications' to the right.

Assistance is offered to applicants on a first come first serve basis, including pre-competition review and other grant development support. Requests for feedback from Research Development must be made at least 2 weeks prior to final deadline. Contact [Research.Fund@nshealth.ca](mailto:Research.Fund@nshealth.ca) for more details.

Please contact the Research Methods Unit (RMU) at least 4 weeks prior to the funding deadline if you're seeking full support for the development of your grant application.

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**Application categories**

- Category 1 – up to $100,000 over three years. For experienced researchers who are based at or affiliated with Nova Scotia Health

- Category 2 – up to $100,000 over three years. For early career researchers who are based at or affiliated with Nova Scotia Health

- Category 3 – up to $50,000 over two years. For mid-career researchers and staff based at or affiliated with affiliated with Nova Scotia Health

- Category 4 – up to $10,000 over one year. For research students and trainees based at or affiliated with Nova Scotia Health

**Eligibility**

Categories 1-3 are open to all Nova Scotia Health team members including physicians, nursing and allied health professionals, administrators, other employees, and Scientific Affiliates.

Category 1 is intended for experienced researchers. Category 2 funds early-career researchers. Category 3 is dedicated to PIs who are no longer considered early-career researchers AND allied health/NSH staff interested in focusing on research. Those interested should confirm category eligibility and researcher status.

Category 4 is open to students and trainees at post-secondary institutions in Nova Scotia who are either already affiliated with Nova Scotia Health (e.g. as medical residents or other student learners) or who are willing to become Nova Scotia Health employees for the purposes of their proposed project and who also have a supervisor who is affiliated with Nova Scotia Health as a physician, employee, or Affiliate Scientist.

Word limits based on funding category can be found below.

**NS Health Priorities**

Priority will be given to research grants that align with priorities of Nova Scotia Health, the Department of Health and Wellness, and the Department of Seniors and Long-Term Care, including:

- Aging and continuing care
- Mental health and addictions

- Vulnerable populations

- Expanding telehealth/virtual care

- Chronic illness

- Improving access to primary health providers

- Recruitment and retention of health professionals

- Addressing surgical wait times

- Women's health

- Prescription drug coverage

- Overall patient access and flow

- Other Action for Health Plan priorities not listed.

A portion of the funding available for this competition has been specifically allocated to support applications from teams outside Central Zone.

**Budget Information**

Budget items fall under the following funding categories:

A. Personnel

B. Equipment

C. Materials, supplies and services

D. Knowledge translation and dissemination

E. Other

Please see Q&A for ineligible expenses and other funding related policies.

**Important: All personnel must be paid according to NSH salary scales.** For administrative information about personnel, including job descriptions and pay scales, please contact your Nova Scotia Health human resources manager.

Maritime SPOR Support Unit (MSSU) guidelines on patient partner compensation can be found here: Patient-Public-Partner-Appreciation-Policy-Approved-July-26-2023.pdf (mssu.ca).

Research grants administered through Nova Scotia Health must use Nova Scotia Health salary scales and benefits. Please contact Research HR for assistance with determining the appropriate salary scales for research positions. To cover the cost of benefit entitlements for PT and FT Long Assignment positions, 25% must be added on top of salaries. 15% benefits are required for PT or FT Short Assignments and Casual Relief positions.

**Research Project Description**

The table below details the word limit imposed under each heading of the Research Project Description section.

|  | Category 1 | Category 2 | Category 3 | Category 4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Plain Language Summary | 500 | 500 | 500 | 500 |
| Research Question | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Background/Rationale | 1500 | 1500 | 1200 | 900 |
| Objectives | 500 | 500 | 500 | 500 |
| Methods | 2000 | 2000 | 1600 | 1200 |
| Knowledge Translation Plan | 500 | 500 | 500 | 500 |
| *Expected Impact* | *1500* | *1500* | *1200* | *900* |