

# Toronto COVID-19 Action Initiative

## APPLICATION GUIDELINES

**Program Objective:** The University of Toronto has created a Toronto COVID-19 Action Fund of \$5,000,000 with University Advancement working to match these funds in order to support research that renders near-term results (from one month to 12 months depending on the nature of the impact) with strong potential to positively impact individuals, communities and public health systems.

### Program Overview

Funding Envelope	Target of \$10,000,000 (envelope at time of launch is \$5,000,000)
Grant Value	Up to \$500,000 (per proposal)
Grant Duration	Up to 1 year
Research Themes	<p>Focus areas include, but <u>are not limited to</u>:</p> <p><b>Public health response and interventions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public health measures, response systems and crisis management</li> <li>Epidemiological and serological surveys</li> <li>Public health modelling</li> </ul> <p><b>Medical countermeasures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Diagnostics</li> <li>Therapeutics</li> <li>Vaccines</li> <li>Technologies for clinical management (e.g. ventilators, masks)</li> <li>Rapid production of supplies and/or critical elements within the supply chain</li> <li>Use of U of T facilities and infrastructure to address medical and technological needs</li> </ul> <p><b>Social and policy countermeasures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Social dynamics of disease transmission</li> <li>Logistical issues (e.g., infrastructure, transport, containment)</li> <li>Social and economic implications of containment measures</li> <li>Strategies to address stigma, fear, anxiety and mental health issues</li> </ul>
Key dates	<p><b>Application Deadline:</b> Monday, March 30, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. EDT</p> <p><b>Adjudication:</b> March 30 – April 3, 2020</p> <p><b>Notification of Results:</b> April 6, 2020</p> <p><b>Release of Funds:</b> April 8, 2020</p>
Application Procedure	Proposals are to be submitted via <a href="#">MRA</a> by the application deadline. A copy of the application can be simultaneously submitted to <a href="mailto:strat.initiatives@utoronto.ca">strat.initiatives@utoronto.ca</a>
How to Apply	See application instructions

## Objective

The University of Toronto has created a Toronto COVID-19 Action Fund of \$5,000,000 with University Advancement working to match these funds in order to support research that renders near-term results (from one month to 12 months depending on the nature of the impact) with strong potential to positively impact individuals, communities and public health systems.

## Eligibility

All full-time professorial staff (tenured or tenure-stream) at the University of Toronto are eligible to apply.

Any individuals who do not hold such academic appointments at the University of Toronto may be included as collaborators on the proposal.

## Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

The University of Toronto recognizes that diversity is essential to the creation of a vibrant intellectual community that allows our researchers to maximize their creativity and their contributions. The Toronto COVID-19 Action Initiative is therefore strongly committed to diversity in research and especially welcomes applications that engage racialized persons/persons of colour, women, Indigenous/Aboriginal Peoples of North America, persons with disabilities, LGBTQ+ persons, and others who may contribute to the further diversification of ideas.

## Review Committee

The interdisciplinary adjudication committee will be established by the Vice-President, Research and Innovation, and Strategic Initiatives.

## Application Details

- Applications are to be prepared using the template provided.
- CV is required for the Lead Applicant.
- CVs are encouraged for Team Members and Collaborators.
- The CV required for this competition is the CIHR Biosketch CV (completed through the Canadian Common CV site) or an equivalent short CV which includes summary of education and training, current position and employment history, current research funding, and publications in last five years.

## Evaluation Criteria

### Quality of project:

- Extent to which the application responds to the program's objective;
- Feasibility of the proposed approach and potential to achieve translation in the short-term; and
- Appropriateness of the budget and justification for amount requested.

### Quality of Applicants:

- Track record of team members in fields related to proposed research;



- Ability of the project team to carry out the proposed research; and
- Ability of team to quickly mobilize necessary resources.

**Impact of the Research:**

- Potential to contribute to the local and global response to COVID-19

## Application Process

Please complete the application as per the application instructions and submit via [MRA](#) by the application deadline, with a copy to [strat.initiatives@utoronto.ca](mailto:strat.initiatives@utoronto.ca).

Funding is to be used over a maximum one-year period and should be spent in accordance with the original approved budget.

Award recipients will be required to submit a final report describing the use and impact of the funding and should be prepared to provide brief updates upon request.