

## Owerko Centre Small Equipment Fund Grant

As part of our next phase of the Owerko Centre, the Centre is providing funding to support members with the purchase of essential new equipment or the replacement of equipment. This grant is intended to enhance existing or proposed research activities, external funding prospects, and advance the Owerko Centre's mandate by supporting the purchase of necessary equipment.

Priority will be given to (i) researchers who have not received funding for equipment or infrastructure from UCalgary and related research institutes in the past 5 years (including start-up funds) (ii) multi-user equipment placed in common space within a research group or a PI laboratory.

**Amount:** Up to \$50,000.00 per request. Matching or in-kind funds are not required, but if available, can be used to request larger items.

### Eligibility

- The applicant must be a faculty member at UCalgary and a full member of the Owerko Centre and ACHRI.
- Investigators may only submit one application as Principal Investigator per deadline. An investigator can be a co-investigator on more than one application.
- The equipment must be housed at the University of Calgary.
- Equipment that was purchased on an emergency basis within 6 months of the deadline is eligible. Note: pre-purchase of equipment does not provide additional merit to the grant application.
- These funds may not be used to cover operating costs or any other costs associated with the equipment.

### APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications to be submitted in PDF format as a single document by 11:59 PM on the application deadline date to [Owerko.Centre@ucalgary.ca](mailto:Owerko.Centre@ucalgary.ca).

### Conditions

Recipients must acknowledge the support of the Owerko Centre in all scientific communications and press releases related to their award.

### Use of Funds

Examples of eligible costs include:

- New equipment purchase, upgrades to equipment, maintenance/replacement of aged equipment
- Shipping/delivery and/or customs/brokerage charges related to equipment purchase
- Training for equipment
- Software

Examples of ineligible costs include:

- Salary and benefits
- Service contracts
- Insurance
- Operating costs
- Consumables
- Office furniture, computers and peripherals
- Construction/renovation
- Equipment located outside of the Alberta Children's Hospital Research Institute organization

## **Evaluation**

Applications will be reviewed by the Owerko Centre Executive Committee members without direct conflict of interest to the grant process. The committee reserves the right to consult with external reviewers if needed. Partial awards may be offered in some cases.

The evaluation criteria will include:

1. Merit of the program to be supported and the potential impact
  - Enhances the research capabilities and profile of the investigator(s)
  - Supports research that is currently peer-review funded
  - Enhances investigator's ability to attract peer-reviewed funding
  - Addresses a strategic priority of the Owerko Centre
  - Addresses a health outcome problem OR addresses a major block to research productivity
  - Has a plan for describing outputs and effectiveness
2. Need
  - Facilitates research that is not possible with the present infrastructure
  - Need to upgrade or replace obsolete or failed equipment
  - Similar equipment is not available in the vicinity
3. Compatibility and Synergy
  - Equipment realistically enhances the research endeavors of the co-applicants and other investigators
  - Synergy with other equipment and/or research programs
  - Realistic plans to cover the operating and maintenance costs of the equipment

## **Funding Process**

1. Purchase and payment for awarded items must be completed within 3 months of the award notice. If this timeline is not possible due to the vendor and/or the equipment you are ordering, please advise the Owerko Centre ([owerko.centre@ucalgary.ca](mailto:owerko.centre@ucalgary.ca)) as soon as possible. If awarded, the Owerko Centre will provide an accounting string to the successful PI to allow the purchase of the equipment.
2. If awarded, only the equipment and associated costs in the application are eligible for reimbursement. Any changes in the equipment applied for require approval for eligible Owerko Centre support.