

College of Optometrists of Ontario Research Grant Application



Information for Applicants

The College of Optometrists of Ontario has established a grant program to provide funding for research that is rooted in the public interest regarding excellence in eye care, effective professional practice, and the policy/regulatory landscape as it relates to optometry and other health professions (as specified in the call for proposals). Such research potentially includes:

- setting the qualifications required to enter practice;
- setting the conditions to maintain registration;
- developing quality assurance programs to promote clinical excellence;
- promoting safe and ethical practice by our members;
- developing professional and ethical standards and guidelines;
- enhancing and promoting access to vision care; and
- responding openly, fairly, and with authority when complaints arise.

Interested researchers may submit one research proposal per review round in an area specified by the call for proposals. The proposal will be peer reviewed by a panel associated with the College of Optometrists of Ontario Research Steering Group. All written materials used in evaluating proposals will be made available to the applicant upon request.

All information contained within the application is treated as confidential and any personal information will not be disclosed directly or indirectly outside of the review panelists without the applicant's written consent.

Guidelines for Applicants

Applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. **Team Excellence:** Assess the applicant(s) ability to conduct the proposed research. Considerations include background, expertise, and experience in proposed area of research.
2. **Scientific Excellence:** Assess the extent to which the application clearly presents an understanding of the current state of the area of research and the what the needs are. Criteria includes strong rational, solid hypothesis, and innovative ideas.
3. **Methodology Excellence:** Assess the appropriateness of the methodologies proposed. Criteria includes clear and thorough details on how the goals and hypothesis are addressed, as well as an appropriate budget being outlined.

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4. Relevance and Impact: Assess whether the proposal aligns with COORG mandate. Criteria listed above.
5. Appropriateness of Budget: Assess whether the budget is appropriately scaled in relation to the size and complexity of the project. Projects should not be projected to cost more or less than what is required as specified in the application's methodology section.

These criteria are captured in parts A through D, and applicants are encouraged to be concise and thorough in each section. Note that only Part B, for new applications, or Part C, for renewals, is to be filled out as appropriate.

A research report or summary is requested at the completion of the funding period for successfully funded applications.

Should you have questions, please address them to Chad Andrews, the College's Director of Research and Policy, at candrews@collegeoptom.on.ca.

Instructions for submitting applications

Please complete this form and submit your final document over email to Chad Andrews (candrews@collegeoptom.on.ca), the College's Director of Research and Policy, by the deadline specified in the call for proposals that you are responding to.

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Project Title:

Applicant's Name(s):

Amount of Funds Requested:

Funding Period (Years):

Part A: Application Summary

Please summarize the background, objective, hypothesis, and plan outline of your research proposal on the rest of this page (maximum 350 words).

Background:

Objective(s):

Hypothesis:

Plan Outline:

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Part B: New Application (only complete this section if this is a new submission)

Please describe your FULL RESEARCH PROPOSAL including references. Required sections: Background, Objective(s), Procedure/Methodology/Protocol, Budget, Timeline. Optional: Figures, Tables. Maximum 3 pages:

Background:

Objective(s):

Hypothesis:

Procedures:

Budget:

Timeline:

References:

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Part C: Application Renewal (only complete this section if this project is already funded by the College and you are seeking renewal)

Please provide an update on the progress to date and the remaining work to be accomplished. Required sections: Work Completed, Work Remaining, Timeline.
Maximum 2 pages:

Work Completed:

Work Remaining:

Timeline:

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Part D: Curriculum Vitae of Applicant(s)

Please provide the following information for the principal investigator and any co-applicants:

Eligibility:

Degrees, diplomas, and certifications (including dates and confirming institutions):

Relevant Publications:

Grants (including any that overlap with current application):