



2019 Call for Research Grant Applications

Why fund vision research? Research has the power to change the way we treat blinding eye diseases. The Foundation Fighting Blindness aims to drive the development of new sight-saving treatments by funding essential vision and ophthalmology research.

Eligibility: The 2019 Grant Competition will support independent investigators and/or research teams with a principal investigator from a Canadian institution who share our goal of developing new therapies that have the potential to transform the lives of people living with blindness and vision loss. **NEW: research related to all blinding diseases will be considered.**

Duration of Award: Funding is based on a 24-month period.

Award Categories: Applicants can choose to apply to the following research categories

- Discovery research
- Translational research
- Clinical research
- Public health and vision rehabilitation research

Award Value:

- Applicants may apply for up to \$150,000/year for a duration of two years.
- Please note that although applicants may apply for a maximum of \$150,000/year for two years, the FFB encourages applicants to ask for the appropriate amount of money required to complete the proposed work. Budget requests will be carefully examined by the scientific advisory board (SAB) and will be cut if it is viewed as overestimated.
- The FFB recognizes that some categories of research are more costly. If your proposed project exceeds \$150,000/year, please include additional details in the budget justification.
- Institutional partnerships are strongly encouraged, but not required.

Application and Review Schedule

Deadlines	Activity
May 15, 2019	Deadline to submit Letter of Intent through the ffb.ca portal
May 31, 2019	Applicants informed of eligibility to submit full proposal
July 19, 2019	Deadline to submit Full Proposal through the ffb.ca portal
November, 2019	Competition results communicated to all applicants
December, 2019	Funding begins

Questions? Please contact Mary Sunderland, Director of Research & Education: msunderland@ffb.ca

You are strongly encouraged to contact the FFB if you have a research idea that does not seem to fit the criteria.



Letter of Intent (LOI) Instructions

One original LOI must be received by the FFB no later than 5:00 p.m. (EST) on May 15, 2019.

Letters of Intent are required to assess scientific merit and determine the suitability and relevance of projects for Foundation Fighting Blindness (FFB) funding.

Applicants will be notified by **May 31, 2019** whether or not their LOI was accepted. Those invited to apply will have to submit a full proposal no later than **July 19, 2019**. If the LOI is not accepted, applicants will receive a brief explanation of the reason(s) for non-acceptance.

To facilitate peer-review, we ask applicants to submit their LOI and full proposal in English.

The LOI consists of:

- A completed LOI form
- A one-page **Proposal Summary**, including:
 - Brief descriptions of: research significance; aims and objectives; approach and research methods of the proposed study (approximately 250 words)
 - Statement of impact and disease relevance, **clearly stating the potential impact of the outcome of this research for the prevention and treatment of blinding eye diseases and blindness** (approximately 250 words)

Please note the following definitions of proposed participants:

Principal Applicant (one individual only)	Responsible for the direction of the proposed activities Assumes administrative and financial responsibility for the grant Receives funding Receives correspondence related to the grant Is an independent researcher at a Canadian institution
Co-Applicant	Contributes to the proposed activities and requires a financial contribution from the grant (role defined in budget)
Collaborator	Provides a specific service for the proposed project (e.g., access to equipment, provision of specific reagents, advise about techniques and training, etc.), but does not have funding flowing to institution



Letter of Intent Form ~ FFB Operating Grant

Project Description

Project Title	
Institution where funds will be administered	
Estimated Total Budget (2-year budget)	Duration requested

Project Team and Roles

Principal Applicant

Name	Telephone
Appointment held	Fax
Department and Institution	E-mail
Mailing Address	

Co- Applicants

Name	Position	Department and Institution

Collaborators, if applicable

Name	Position	Department and Institution



Please check the category of research that best describes your proposal:

Research Category	Check
Discovery Research	
Translational Research	
Clinical Research	
Public Health Research	
Epidemiology Research	
Vision Rehabilitation Research	

Disease Relevance - Please list the diseases that will be impacted by your proposed research:

Keywords – list up to 6 keywords

Proposal Summary and Statement of Impact and Relevance:

Attach a maximum of one (1) single-sided page outlining clearly:

- a) the rationale and significance, aims and objectives, and approach and research methods of the study; and
- b) the potential impact of the outcome of this research and how it is relevant to the objectives of the Foundation Fighting Blindness.

Formatting details for appended Page 2: Please prepare single-spaced, letter-sized page (8.5"x11") with 2 cm margins at the top, bottom and sides of the text. Font size must not be smaller than 12 point (Arial or Times New Roman only). Please include the Nominated Principal Applicant's name in the top left hand corner of every page. Page numbers should be included at the bottom of each page.