

2019-22 SCN Research Funding Program FAQs

In 2019 Stem Cell Network was awarded three years of funding (2019-2022) by the Government of Canada to support SCN's continued goal to translate science from the lab to clinical applications, commercial products and public policy for the benefit of Canadians. Round one of SCN's new funding competition took place over the summer and fall of 2019. Projects funded through this round are for 25 months (January 2020-January 2022). This FAQ document focuses on Round two of SCN's funding competition, which launched January 7, 2020 and is for an 18-month period (August 2020-January 2022).

What are the value and duration of SCN research awards?

Award values vary across the four programs. Details can be found in the Guidelines for each program. The range starts at \$150,000 and goes up to \$400,000. The funding term will run for 18 months from August 1, 2020 to January 31, 2022.

Do I have to be a former award recipient with SCN to apply for funding?

No. SCN welcomes applications from all stem cell and regenerative medicine researchers within Canada. All applicants must be eligible to receive Tri-Council funding. Please refer to the program guidelines for specific information.

What opportunities exist for early career researchers?

SCN is excited to offer the new *Innovation Research Program* which is designed for early-career investigators from the health, bio-engineering and social sciences (i.e. within first five years of an initial academic appointment) who are developing a stem cell research program with a translational regenerative medicine focus. This program is designed to help ECI's build or develop a stem cell program that can be pursued over the longer term. In addition, all of the SCN research programs have stated criteria for inclusion of researchers across the spectrum of career experiences. It is expected that translational research projects will be delivered by diverse, multi-disciplinary teams.

How does basic research fit within SCN's new funding program?

SCN's funding program reflects our translational mandate and the emerging Canadian regenerative medicine sector. In this second funding round the *Innovation Research Program* provides support to early career researchers who are developing stem cell and regenerative medicine focused research platforms.

Will applications focused on cancer or CAR-T be considered?

Research applications must be regenerative in nature and/or use stem cells for addressing the proposed problem to be eligible for funding.

Will projects using small molecules/drugs be considered?

Yes, however, the proposed project must be regenerative in nature and/or use stem cells for addressing the proposed problem to be eligible for funding.

Can I submit an application for a project that is currently being funded by another agency or organization?

Yes, but the request to SCN must cover project work that is distinct and not supported by another agency or organization. This should be explained within the application.

Does SCN accept applications from outside Canada?

No, however international collaborators are encouraged and welcome on a project led by a Canadian-based investigator.

Do I need matching funds to apply?

Yes. SCN-funded projects require partner support (in-kind or financial). Eligible partners include industry, not-for-profit organizations, foundations, research institutions, health charities and provincial governments. Please note, federal funders (e.g. CIHR, NSERC, SSHRC, CFI, NCEs, Genome Canada, New Frontiers Research Fund, IRAP) are ineligible for matching.

Can industry partners be located outside Canada?

All SCN programs allow for matching funds from international partners. However, the *Fueling Biotechnology Partnerships* program requires the main receptor to be a Canadian biotechnology company. Please refer to the program guidelines for specific information.

When will SCN funding decisions be announced?

The deadline for applications is April 1, 2020. All complete applications will be reviewed through peer review and by SCN's Research Management Committee, which will make recommendations to SCN's Board of Directors for funding approval. SCN will notify all applicants of outcomes in August 2020.

Will I be able to apply for round two funding to continue or build on a project begun in round one?

Funded investigators from round one are welcome to apply for funding in round two. However, applications must address new aspects of research not covered in the round one funded project. Both round one and two have the same end date (January 31, 2022), therefore round two should not be viewed as an opportunity to extend round one research.

My application to round one was not funded. Can I re-submit a revised version of my application in round two?

Yes, SCN welcomes the re-submission of round one applications that have been revised to address the concerns raised by SCN's international review panels.