O'Brien Institute for Public Health Patient Partnership Award

Learning Health System Accelerator — Bridge Funding

Principal Applicant	
Project or Program Title	
Amount Requested	
Submission Date	

Maximum award: $1,000 CAD.

Program Guidelines

The O'Brien Institute for Public Health (OIPH) Learning Health System Accelerator Bridge Funding for Patient Partnership Award provides up to $1,000 to support meaningful and sustained patient partnerships in research and health system improvement initiatives. The award is intended to address small funding gaps that may otherwise limit an investigator's ability to appropriately recognize, compensate, and support patient partners' continued partnership.

1. The award provides funding of up to $1,000 to support meaningful and sustained patient partnerships in research and health system improvement initiatives.
2. The award is intended to address small or unforeseen funding gaps that may otherwise limit the continued partnership of patients. Funding may support patient partner compensation and other reasonable costs required to enable equitable participation.
3. The Principal Applicant must be an OIPH member who is eligible to hold funds at the University of Calgary, including Postdoctoral Fellows.
4. Each Principal Applicant or project team may receive one Patient Partnership Award per calendar year.
5. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis until the annual budget allocation has been fully committed.
6. Applicants may hold other funding for the project or program. Where other funding supports patient engagement, applicants must explain why additional support is required and demonstrate that the requested costs cannot reasonably be covered through the existing funding.
7. Eligible expenses may include patient partner honoraria or compensation, travel, accessibility or participation supports, and other reasonable expenses directly associated with enabling patient partnership.
8. Funding must be used for the purposes described in the approved application.

1. Applicant Information

Principal Applicant	
Position or Title	
Department or Faculty	
Email	
Are you an O'Brien Institute for Public Health member?	☐ Yes ☐ No
Project or Program Title	
Submission Date	

2. Research Project or Program Overview

Brief description of the research project or program

Maximum 250 words. The response box scrolls — text beyond the visible area is retained.

Does this project or program currently have other funding available to support patient partnership?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, briefly describe the funding available and explain why additional support through this award is needed. Include the funding source, amount available for patient partnership, funding period, and any relevant restrictions.

Maximum 150 words. The response box scrolls — text beyond the visible area is retained.

3. Advancing Health Equity and Indigenous Engagement

The O'Brien Institute is committed to research that advances health equity and welcomes applications from researchers who identify as members of equity-denied groups and those whose lived experiences inform their research.

Equity and Indigenous engagement in this project. Address both parts below in the space provided: Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (EDIA) **AND** Indigenous engagement considerations.

Describe how equity and also Indigenous engagement considerations shape this work — who stands to benefit and who may be excluded. In line with CIHR's requirements for sex- and gender-based analysis, indicate how sex and/or gender are accounted for in your project, or explain why they do not apply. If equity considerations are limited in this project, please explain. Also describe how Indigenous Peoples, communities, and/or organizations may be impacted and/or how they may be involved in this project. If Indigenous engagement is limited in this project, please explain.

Maximum 350 words. The response box scrolls — text beyond the visible area is retained.

4. Patient Partner Engagement

Number of patient partners to be supported	

Describe the patient partners' role in the project or program and how they will contribute to the work. Include their anticipated activities, approximate time commitment, and duration of involvement.

Maximum 200 words. The response box scrolls — text beyond the visible area is retained.

5. Budget Request

Provide a budget outlining how the requested funds will be used.

Community and patient partner relationships are an eligible cost. Building and maintaining relationships with communities and patient partners, particularly from Indigenous communities, is an eligible expense — including honoraria and gifts for Elders and Knowledge Keepers, ceremony and protocol, hosting and catering, travel for community partners, and compensation for community members' time. Enter these under the services or travel budget categories, as applicable.

Expense Category	Description	Estimated Cost
TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED		

6. Impact

Describe what this funding will enable and how it will strengthen patient partnership within the project or program. Consider how the funding will support meaningful participation, continuity of engagement, or the contribution of patient perspectives to the work. Briefly describe the challenges you would face if the project or program were unable to proceed without this funding.

Maximum 250 words. The response box scrolls — text beyond the visible area is retained.

Adjudication Rubric

Reviewers score each criterion from 0 (poor) to 5 (ideal). The descriptors below indicate what distinguishes a weak, adequate and strong application; scores of 2 and 4 fall between the anchors shown. The overall result is the total across all criteria.

Eligibility is confirmed separately: the Principal Applicant must be an OIPH member eligible to hold funds at the University of Calgary.

Criterion	Where it is assessed	Score	What reviewers look for
Need for Funding	Section 2	0–5	1 – The need for funding is unclear and/or has limited justification. 3 – The application identifies a reasonable funding gap and explains how the award would support patient partnership. 5 – The application clearly demonstrates a funding need and explains how the award will address a specific gap that would otherwise limit or prevent meaningful patient partnership.
Advancing Health Equity and Indigenous Engagement	Section 3	0–5	1 – Equity and Indigenous engagement considerations are minimally addressed or lack relevance to the proposed work. 3 – Equity, sex and/or gender, and Indigenous engagement considerations are addressed at a general level, with some relevance to the project. 5 – Equity and Indigenous engagement considerations are clearly and meaningfully integrated into the project, or a well-reasoned explanation is provided where they do not apply.
Quality of Patient Partnership	Section 4	0–5	1 – Patient partners' role is unclear, limited, or poorly integrated into the project or program. 3 – Patient partners have a defined role and meaningful contribution, with reasonable consideration given to supporting their participation. 5 – Patient partners have a clearly defined and meaningful role, with thoughtful plans to support participation, accessibility, equity, and inclusion.
Appropriateness of the Budget	Section 5	0–5	1 – The budget is unclear, poorly justified, or not clearly linked to patient partnership activities. 3 – The budget is generally appropriate and justified, though some costs could be explained more clearly. 5 – The budget is clear, well justified, and directly supports patient participation without duplicating existing funding.
Value and Impact of the Funding	Section 6	0–5	1 – It is unclear how the funding will strengthen patient partnership or what benefits it will enable. 3 – The application explains how the funding will support patient partnership and identifies reasonable anticipated benefits. 5 – The application clearly demonstrates how the funding will enable, sustain, or strengthen meaningful patient partnership and contribute value to the project or program.
Total Score		**/25**	

Submit the completed application to iph@ucalgary.ca