

NL CIHR-RPP Policies for Eligibility

The purpose of the Regional Partnership Program (RPP) of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) is to provide partnership funding for health research deemed fundable by CIHR national peer review but below the budgetary cut-off for full funding. CIHR provides up to \$1M to fund these projects which require match funding from an appropriate partner. For the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador the primary funding partner is the Industrial Research and Innovation Fund (IRIF) which is funded by the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and managed by the Research and Development Corporation.

The RPP aligns with the objectives of the CIHR (Bill C-13) specifically: “to excel, according to internationally accepted standards of scientific excellence, in the creation of new knowledge and its translation into improved health for Canadians, more effective health services and products and a strengthened Canadian health care system”.

In NL the RPP aims to:

- Support excellence as judged by competition and peer review at the national level.
- Involve the academic centres, provincial government, health boards and Health Authorities in health research in the province.
- Encourage team building and collaborative research in order to build critical mass in areas of strategic importance and advantage to the province and Memorial University.
- Build on regional strengths.

Policies

1. NL RPP supports the following CIHR funding opportunities, with the priority being in the following order:
 - Investigator Initiated Open competition operating grants (Sept. 15, March 1 competitions)
 - Specific CIHR Initiatives: Knowledge Synthesis grants, Knowledge to Action grants, Proof of Principle grants
 - Trainee awards: fellowships
 - Trainee awards: studentships
 - New Investigator awards
2. NL-RPP will support both new and renewal operating grants.
 - A new grant follows the CIHR designation “New” and will be funded for up to 3 years
 - A renewal grant follows the CIHR designation “Renewal” and will be funded for up to 1 year

3. Criteria for selection
 - Grants must receive a score of 3.5 or better in the CIHR peer review competition
 - In the case of limited funds for support of grants the RPP Advisory committee will use both score and percentile rank to determine eligibility: grants will normally need to have been ranked in the top 50% of their peer review committee
 - Preference will be given to applicants who have not received prior RPP
 - Normally, if an applicant submits more than one grant for RPP only one grant will be supported for RPP funding
 - Normally, no individual may receive concurrent RPP grants.
4. All decisions of the RPP Advisory committee will be final.