Table of Contents

OVERVIEW ............................................................................................................................................. 2
KEY DATES ............................................................................................................................................. 3
ELIGIBILITY .......................................................................................................................................... 3
HOW TO APPLY ................................................................................................................................... 4
USE OF FUNDS (from CFREF and Partners) ......................................................................................... 5
REVIEW PROCESS (FULL APPLICATION) ............................................................................................. 5
APPENDIX A: One Child Every Child Parallel Paths, Themes & Accelerators .................................... 7
OVERVIEW

Strategic Catalyst Opportunities are open to researchers from all One Child Every Child lead and partner institutions, namely University of Calgary, University of Alberta, University of Lethbridge, and Athabasca University. These awards are designed to foster interdisciplinary collaborations across One Child Every Child institutional, community and other partners (existing or new) through research that leverages and builds on existing expertise.

Two million dollars ($2M) are available for the inaugural competition, with annual or semi-annual competitions to be held in subsequent years. Each proposal may request up to $200,000 (Branch Award, 2-3 year duration) or up to $50,000 (Seedling Award, 1-2 year duration). A minimum of 10 teams will be funded in this round. Additional funds may be available from One Child Every Child funding partners to increase the overall value of the funding pot and number of proposals funded.

Strategic Catalyst proposals must align with at least one of the identified themes of One Child Every Child (Better Beginnings; Precision Health and Wellness; Vulnerable to Thriving) and at least one of the six accelerators (Indigenous Ways of Knowing; Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion; Transdisciplinary Training; Comprehensive Data; Technology Solutions; Impact, Value and Knowledge Mobilization). See Figure 1 and APPENDIX A: One Child Every Child Parallel Paths, Themes & Accelerators for more details.

Commitment of One Child Every Child - One Child Every Child is committed to walking Parallel Paths toward advancing Indigenous and non-Indigenous scholarship and perspectives on each respective path. Our Indigenous path emphasizes self-determination, culturally informed methods, and reciprocal and respectful relationships. Work along this path directly aligns with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and supports federal and global calls to action and reconciliation with Indigenous communities. One Child Every Child is equally committed to integrating equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility in all aspects of research by considering how intersectionalities of research team members, research participants, and diverse stakeholders influence research processes and outcomes.

Indigenous path

Figure 1: Overview of One Child Every Child.
KEY DATES

- Intent to apply deadline: October 19, 2023 by 11:59pm MST.
- Full application deadline: November 27, 2023 by 11:59pm MST.

ELIGIBILITY

The **Nominated Principal Applicant** (only one) must:
- Hold an academic appointment at the University of Calgary, University of Alberta, University of Lethbridge, or Athabasca University for the duration of the requested funding
- Be able to comply with the terms and conditions of the award (as outlined below)

Applicants can only submit one Strategic Catalyst proposal as Nominated Principal Applicant (NPA) or Principal Applicant (PA) in any given round of competition. Multiple submissions from the same NPA or PA are not permitted. Researchers may participate as co-applicants or collaborators on more than one proposal within reason. Researchers that are currently receiving Year 1 funds for One Child Every Child projects may not apply as NPA or PA but may participate as co-applicants or collaborators.

If applying for **Branch funding** (up to $200,000):
- teams must be either multi-institutional or include a community or other non-academic partner.

If applying for **Seedling funding** (up to $50,000):
- teams are encouraged (though not required) to include members from across organizations.

Team members can be added between the Intent to Apply and the Full Application stage.
- Involvement of early career researchers (including senior research trainees) is highly encouraged
- Collaboration with not-for-profit (e.g., community organizations, healthcare providers, government agencies) and for-profit partners (e.g., biotechnology or pharmaceutical companies) is encouraged
- Involvement of allied health professionals is welcomed¹
- Collaboration with researchers and/or child health and wellness experts outside of One Child Every Child partner institutions is welcomed

All proposals:
- Must align with at least one of the One Child Every Child themes (Better Beginnings; Precision Health and Wellness; Vulnerable to Thriving) and with at least one of the six accelerators (Indigenous Ways of Knowing; Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion; Transdisciplinary Training; Comprehensive Data; Technology Solutions; Impact, Value and Knowledge Mobilization; see Appendix A for more details)
- Must provide consideration for Indigenous matters as applicable to the proposal topic; this may include a plan for Indigenous community, scholar and/ or participant engagement,

¹ Proposals in which one or more Principal Applicant or Co-applicant is an allied health professional affiliated with the Alberta Children’s Hospital (ACH) may be eligible to receive funding from a One Child Every Child funding partner.
commitment to training in and use of culturally appropriate methodologies (e.g., First Nations data collection principles of ownership, control, access, and possession)

- Must address EDI in the context of research design and activities and team composition (as applicable)
- Must outline expected contributions of each team member, including a description of relevant expertise.

**HOW TO APPLY**

Application to the Strategic Catalyst opportunity follows a two-stage process:

1. Intent to Apply – submit via Online Form
2. Full Application – by invite

The Intent to Apply form and Full Application must be submitted by a single NPA.

**Intent to Apply**

Applicants intending to submit a Full Application to this funding opportunity are **required** to submit a Intend to Apply through the Online Form, which will help in planning for peer review.

Full application forms will be sent to registered NPAs whose summaries and initial team composition meet the described intent of the awards. **Depending on the volume of applications received at this stage, it is possible that not all applicants will be invited to submit a full proposal.** For this round of competition, we are targeting a 33% success rate (or higher).

Teams must register their Intent to Apply via the Online Form before **11:59pm MST on October 19, 2023**. A complete list of information requested at this stage is provided below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposal Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seedling or Branch funding stream? (comment if unsure of choice at time of registration)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team Members (including organizational affiliation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nominated Principal Applicant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal Applicants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-Applicants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaborators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lay Summary (250 words max)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keywords (up to 5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suggested Reviewers (optional)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

One Child Every Child leads will host an online information session on **October 10, 2023 at 10-11am** to acquaint researchers with One Child Every Child and provide strategic guidance on proposal alignment. This session will be recorded and made available on the One Child Every Child webpage and on the One Child Every Child Basecamp collaborative platform.
USE OF FUNDS (from CFREF and Partners)²

Strategic Catalyst funds (both Branch and Seedling awards) may be used for:

- Generating critical data: e.g., pilot lab tests and experiments, survey development and generation, evidence review
- New analyses of existing data and analyses of newly combined datasets, including access to key data sources
- Research capacity building: e.g., trainees and highly qualified research personnel to obtain preliminary data or develop research tools
- Advancing strategies related to equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility (e.g., interpretation, audio captioning, translation, community capacity building)
- Creation of equitable career advancement or leadership opportunities for child health and wellness researchers, trainees, care providers, and other stakeholders
- Education and training: e.g., workshops and courses for new investigators, trainees, staff, and other stakeholders
- Fostering community research partnerships: e.g., knowledge translation and exchange, culturally appropriate compensation for time spent on research activities for front-line service providers, community agency staff, Elders, Knowledge Keepers, patient and family representatives
- Research consumables, minor equipment, and technology enhancements

Strategic Catalyst funds (both Branch and Seedling awards) may NOT be used for:

- Academic faculty salary support³
- Physician remuneration
- Capital projects (including facility renovations)
- Large-scale equipment purchases
- The cost of alcoholic beverages

Any matching fund contributions (including those from non-academic partners, if applicable) must be clearly explained in the proposal and accompanying budget.

REVIEW PROCESS (FULL APPLICATION)

Full Evaluation Guidelines and Rubric will be provided to teams who are invited to submit a Full Application.

All eligible and complete applications will undergo peer review by qualified individuals. One Child Every Child operational staff will coordinate the review process and conduct an initial eligibility review with One Child Every Child leadership. Reviewers with a broad range of expertise from across Campus Alberta as well as academic institutions outside Alberta who do not declare any conflict of interest with applicants will be asked to review up to six applications each, providing a final score and rank of each application, along with constructive feedback.

Along with an evaluation of scientific merit, applications will be assessed for potential to advance the Indigenous Parallel Path insofar as it relates to the proposal topic. Reviewers from community organizations will assess the extent to which the needs of equity-deserving groups

---

² Use of CFREF funds must adhere to the Direct Costs eligibility criteria outlined in the CFREF Administration Guide; funding partners may have additional stipulations on use of funds

³ Visiting scholar stipends are eligible to be paid through CFREF funds
are addressed in the proposed research and its potential to address child health inequities.

Specifically, proposals will be evaluated based on:

- Extent to which the proposal aligns with One Child Every Child themes and accelerators
- Extent to which Indigenous matters have been taken into consideration as appropriate to the proposal topic
- Extent to which needs of equity-deserving groups are addressed
- Innovativeness of the proposed research
- Potential for impact
- Quality of the work plan
- Team composition
- Research environment
- Appropriateness of budget

Reviewers will evaluate applications using a scoring system. Applications considered in the fundable range will also be shared with funding partners who may choose to contribute additional funding for proposals (or specific components of proposals) that align with the priorities of the funding partner.
APPENDIX A: One Child Every Child Parallel Paths, Themes & Accelerators

Understanding the One Child Every Child Parallel Paths Approach

We are committed to a journey of developing ethical spaces and relationships on our parallel paths. This recognition means that there are a range of projects that span those that do not focused on Indigenous peoples and communities, may impact and/or include Indigenous peoples, and projects that are lead and focused on Indigenous peoples and communities. To move along the paths, we commit to contributing to and/or working with Indigenous peoples and/or communities. For example, projects that have a broad scope and may impact Indigenous peoples should include Indigenous communities, researchers, scholars, students, ideas, and/or practices (such as hiring, Indigenous methodologies, or student involvement) to establish and/or enhance relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people. Projects that focus on and include Indigenous communities, organizations, groups and/or persons, must include Indigenous peoples and pre-established relationships with Indigenous scholars, communities, organizations, and/or groups.

Theme: Better Beginnings

Grand Challenge: Address key challenges impacting the health and wellbeing of mothers and babies

Goals
- Identify and address determinants of fetal growth and optimal development for life-long health
- Deliver evidence-informed biomarkers, tools and transformational care models to enable early recognition and prevention of adverse outcomes

Strategies
- Leverage existing pregnancy cohorts
- Create community engaged and culturally appropriate assessments of birth outcomes
- Develop prevention, early identification and treatment interventions
- Enhance access to perinatal healthcare

Theme: Precision Health and Wellness

Grand Challenge: Address key challenges impacting children with chronic or complex medical conditions

Goals
- Reduce the burden of medical complexity through precision health-informed biomedical and social approaches to genetic and chronic disease
- Deliver risk reduction strategies to address co-morbidities to achieve optimal trajectories

Strategies
- Leverage existing chronic disease cohorts – and enhance with prospective recruitment
- Evaluate the role of compounding determinants for children with chronic illness
- Assess prevalence and challenges for Indigenous children
- Design interventions focused on addressing health, social and systemic challenges

Theme: Vulnerable to Thriving

Grand Challenge: Address key challenges experienced by those living with neurodiversity and mental health challenges
Goals

- Advance understanding of neurodiversity and brain and mental health conditions
- Translate knowledge into actionable tools, evidence-based care pathways and effective interventions to achieve optimal outcomes

Strategies

- Determine burden in Indigenous communities via nation-specific indicators
- Support early prediction, diagnosis, and pathways for medical interventions
- Develop culturally based interventions that meet the needs of Indigenous children (i.e. traditional circle-based programs)

Accelerator: Indigenous Ways of Knowing

Mandate: Ensure that work on Indigenous child health relies on relationships with community, intergenerational engagement, Indigenous knowledge and practices, and works towards decolonization to produce transformative impact for Indigenous communities

Plan

- Ensure meaningful and appropriate representation of Indigenous peoples, communities, and perspectives in research studies
- Ensure research recognizes Indigenous self-determination
  - Work directly with Indigenous communities, organizations, and people to identify issues, research goals, methods, and actions
- Initiate and support projects critical to Indigenous child and youth health that do not fit within the three themes
  - Projects are based in the holistic and relational foundations of Indigenous ways of knowing and address structural and upstream factors

Accelerator: Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

Mandate: Take a committed approach to dismantle and disrupt inequities through equitable research practices and inclusive governance

Plan

- Accountable for the development of the EDI Action Plan (year 1 deliverable)
- Provide guidance in addressing barriers to participation and career advancement in underrepresented groups
- Support CFREF activities around:
  - Integrating EDI in health research
  - Incorporating EDI in Child Health and Wellness
  - Mitigating barriers, mitigating equity tax, and engaging stakeholders
- EDI Action Plan and lessons learned from development, implementation, and real-life performance will be shared with our wider community

Accelerator: Transdisciplinary Training

Mandate: Foster a new generation of researchers with transdisciplinary understanding of child health and wellness

Plan

- Recruit, train and retain research trainees and early career researchers (ECRs) with partnering universities
• Provide training across universities and partners of One Child Every Child
• Create certification pathways to guide learners towards tailored curricular content for issues unique to child health and wellness
• Build and sustain inclusive, interdisciplinary communities of trainees, ECRs and mentors to provide advanced training and personalized mentorship
• Increase the number of Indigenous trainees at all levels
• Increase the representation of equity-deserving groups among trainees
• Foster networking from mentorship, collaborations, and partnerships

Accelerator: Comprehensive Data

**Mandate:** Integrate and harness multipronged data sources using cutting-edge data science, develop equitable and inclusive data standards and support the build of a comprehensive data infrastructure

**Plan**
- Use digital health data to drive discovery and innovation
- Leverage digital health resource for insights and health and economic innovations
- Develop advanced computer-aided diagnosis and treatment guidance tools for disease diagnosis and outcome prediction in sick children – enabling a data-driven precision health approach
- Grow our existing digital data footprint into a significant national and international data health research data integration and analysis resource

Accelerator: Technology Solutions

**Mandate:** Develop accessible, distributed, wearable and culturally acceptable precision health interventions

**Plan**
- Co-develop novel health and related technologies with potential for substantial health, social, and economic value
- Ensure inventions are commercialized and diffused for maximum benefit
- Act as a catalyst for new hardware, software and integrated solutions, coordinate activities with the data accelerator and engage with thematic researchers to plan solutions and drive innovations

Accelerator: Impact, Value & Knowledge Mobilization

**Mandate:** Co-develop a national framework for child health with key partners (e.g. UNICEF, Children’s Health Care Canada, Alberta Innovates. children and their families) and advance and deploy effective knowledge mobilization strategies to maximize impact.

**Plan**
- Create an Impact, Value and Knowledge Mobilization Framework specific to child health and wellness
- Embed and Align Impact and Knowledge Mobilization into all CFREF-Funded Projects and Activities
- Assess Economic Impact of One Child, Every Child Research initiatives
- Provide oversight to Performance Measurement Plan and Reporting