Welcome!
This webinar session will start momentarily.

CIHR Research Excellence, Diversity, and Independence (REDI) Early Career Transition Award 2022 Funding Opportunity
CIHR Research Excellence, Diversity, and Independence (REDI) Early Career Transition Award 2022 Funding Opportunity

Webinar #2 (English)
February 1, 2023
Welcome!

• If you have questions after this webinar, please email the CIHR Contact Centre at support-soutien@cihr-irsc.gc.ca

To pose a question to be addressed in this webinar:
1. Open the Q&A window
2. Enter your question in the Q&A box, then click Send.
3. Give questions you want answered in the Q&A a thumbs up to upvote them!
Presenters & Agenda

**Christian Baron, PhD**  
Vice-President, Research – Programs, CIHR

**Charu Kaushic, MSc, PhD, FCAHS**  
Scientific Director, CIHR-III

**Vitalie Nyembwe**  
Acting Lead, Program Design and Delivery, CIHR

**Adrian Mota**  
Associate Vice-President, Research Programs - Operations, CIHR

**Marianne Stanford, PhD**  
Assistant Scientific Director, CIHR-III

Opening Remarks

Background & Overview of Funding Opportunity

Application Highlights, Evaluation and Important Dates

Concluding Remarks

Q&A on Funding Opportunity
Opening Remarks

Christian Baron, PhD
Vice-President, Research – Programs, CIHR
Background and Overview of Funding Opportunity

Charu Kaushic, MSc, PhD, FCAHS
Scientific Director, CIHR-III
Background

- Canada is a diverse country, but there is a clear gap between Canada's diverse pool of trainees and its faculty members.\(^1\) While we know that diverse teams are more innovative and productive than homogenous ones,\(^4\)-\(^8\) systemic barriers and other forms of discrimination are limiting our ability to make use of everyone's talents to contribute to health research.\(^9\)-\(^14\)

- CIHR, the tri-agencies, and the Government of Canada have committed to addressing systemic racism, gender inequality, and discrimination in Canada's institutions, and to continue closing systemic inequities faced by Black Canadian communities.\(^15\)-\(^23\)

- The transition from trainee to faculty member is a major attrition point,\(^24\)-\(^26\) particularly for individuals from underrepresented groups in Canada, that perpetuates a lack of diversity in academic faculty and leadership.\(^1\)-\(^3\),\(^27\)-\(^30\)

CIHR Research Excellence, Diversity, and Independence (REDI) Early Career Transition Award 2022
Goals and Specific Objectives

This funding opportunity is a new, transformative program that uses a cohort-building approach to provide mentorship and early career support to specific underrepresented groups of researchers to support their transition to research faculty careers in Canada.

The aim of the award is to increase the diversity of highly qualified health researchers who have independent research careers in Canada.

The specific objectives of this funding opportunity are to:

1. Promote research independence and academic research career readiness of highly qualified post-doctoral researchers, clinicians and PhD-holding research associates belonging to specific underrepresented groups;

2. Increase the number of funded researchers from specific underrepresented groups conducting excellent research who secure their first independent research faculty position in a Canadian academic, health system or research institution; and

3. Provide funded researchers from specific underrepresented groups with early career support to enhance their probability of future success in obtaining independent research funding and launching successful research faculty careers in Canada that will contribute to the creation and/or use of health-related knowledge to improve the health of Canadians.
REDI: A cohort-building approach to increase the diversity of health researchers in Canada through successive launches

• While there are many groups facing barriers, the first iteration of the REDI program addresses the impact of racism and gender inequality on early career researchers.

• **Eligibility for the 2022 award is open to racialized women and Black people.**
  • Racialized women and Black people are among the most underrepresented in science and medicine faculties in Canadian academic institutions,¹⁻³ have the highest unemployment rates compared to non-racialized professors,⁴⁻⁵ and encounter systemic barriers, discrimination, and inequity within academia.⁶⁻¹⁰

• Future launches of the REDI award will aim to support additional populations and will continue to promote the growth of diverse research communities.

---

We acknowledge that conversations about self-identification and terminology continue to evolve, and it is understood that most terms have strengths and weaknesses.

Terms used in this funding opportunity are defined in the Additional Information section and will be reviewed and updated prior to future launches of this program.

---

Partnerships

The CIHR REDI program is led by CIHR’s Institute of Infection and Immunity and made successful through partnership with:

**CIHR Internal Partners**
- CIHR Institute of Aging (IA)
- CIHR Institute of Cancer Research (ICR)
- CIHR Institute of Genetics (IG)
- CIHR Institute of Gender and Health (IGH)
- CIHR Institute of Health Services and Policy Research (IHSPR)
- CIHR HIV/AIDS and STBBI Research Initiative
- CIHR Institute of Human Development, Child and Youth Health (IHDCYH)
- CIHR Institute of Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis (IMHA)
- CIHR Center for Research on Pandemic Preparedness and Health Emergencies (CRPPHE)

**Non-government Partners**

[Images of logos for various organizations]
### 39 + 1 Awards Available Across General & Specific Funding Pools

Many funding pools are funded through internal and external partnerships.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Pools</th>
<th>Number of Awards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Funding Pool – health research across CIHR’s mandate</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aging Person in an Aging Society</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arthritis</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brain Health and Cognitive Impairment</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cancer</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eye Diseases</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Systems</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV/AIDS and Sexually Transmitted and Blood-borne Infections (STBBI)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Development, Child and Youth Health</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infectious Disease and Immune System</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Musculoskeletal Health</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pandemic Preparedness and Health Emergencies</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rare Diseases</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* + 1 award in a new **Women’s Health** Funding Pool will be added to the funding opportunity on ResearchNet in the coming weeks.
**REDI Design Overview**

**Phase 1 (2-3 yrs)**
- Post-doctoral researchers, clinical fellows, research associates
- Research Allowance and Stipend
  - $20K/year research allowance
  - $70K/year stipend
- Independence and academic career readiness
- Data for foundation of independent research program
- Benefit from scientific and career mentoring
- Prestigious award & highly competitive for research faculty positions

**Phase 2 (3-4 yrs)**
- Independent researchers
- Early Career Research Allowance and Salary Support
  - At least $240K/year*
  - *This includes minimum 1:1 matching of CIHR funds by the Phase 2 host institution.

**Transition to Phase 2**
(same or different institution)
- Transition Package for CIHR Administrative Review
  - Guaranteed leverage
  - Power to negotiate
  - No delay in having operational funds for research

- Faculty mentorship
- More competitive for obtaining independent grant funding
- Ability to grow research lab through operational funds
- Cohort = Network of ECRs

---

**Forum**
- 2023
- 2024
- 2025
- 2026
- 2027
- 2028
- 2029
Funds Available

- The total amount available for Phase 1 and 2 is $26,400,000* (CIHR investment of $23,542,200* and partner contributions of $2,857,800), enough to fund approximately 40 awards.* This amount may increase if additional funding partners participate.

*Includes the additional award in the new Funding Pool for Women’s Health that will be added to the funding opportunity on ResearchNet in the coming weeks.

- The maximum amount per award is $660,000 (regardless of how long the NPA spends in Phase 1) up to 6 years funded through two Phases:
  - At Phase 1, the maximum amount per award is $90,000/year for up to 3 years, for a total up to $270,000 per award.
    - $20,000/year for the research allowance; and
    - $70,000/year for the stipend.
  - At Phase 2**, the maximum amount per award is $120,000/year for up to 3 years if NPAs spend 3 years in Phase 1 or up to 4 years if NPAs spend 2 years in Phase 1.
    - Maximum of $60,000/year (50%) as contribution to salary; and
    - Minimum of $60,000/year (50%) as research allowance.

**The total yearly Phase 2 amount must be matched by at least 1:1 by the host institution.
1:1 Matching in Phase 2

While the Phase 2 host institution must provide contributions to match the total annual CIHR contribution at a minimum 1:1 ratio, **multiple matching funds scenarios are possible.***

- The **maximum** CIHR contribution towards the Nominated Principal Applicant’s (NPA’s) salary is **$60,000 per year** (50%) and the **minimum** CIHR contribution towards the research allowance is **$60,000 per year** (50%); and

- Eligible host institution matching contributions include funds for:
  - the NPA’s salary;
  - the NPA’s research; and
  - stipends/salaries for trainees or laboratory/research program personnel dedicated to the NPA’s research program.

- The institution’s offer should be in line with institutional policies and **comparable** to what has been given for other recently hired equivalent faculty positions.

- The CIHR Phase 2 operational funds (research allowance) should be **in addition to the institution’s typical offer** for research start-up funds for new hires.

- **Eligible positions for Phase 2 are research-intensive faculty positions.**

Therefore, matching scenarios and the amount of salary and research allowance requested from CIHR may vary depending on the NPA’s employment offer, their entry position, and whether the host institution is an academic, health system or research institution.

*At least $240K/year from CIHR and the Phase 2 Host Institution*
Mentorship and Career Building

• Mentorship is a critical aspect of this award. You must work with your Primary Mentor/Additional Mentors to develop Mentorship and Career Development Plans.

• Additional mentors can provide guidance on scientific, professional and career development consistent with your career goals and research area/pillar. For example, these individuals may have unique perspectives, skill sets or experiences that will broaden the mentorship experience and foster a more effective plan.

Information Letter on the Primary Mentor Role (REDI 2022)

Thank you for your interest in serving as the Primary Mentor to an applicant for the CIHR REDI (pronounced “ready”) Early Career Transition Award. To help with your decision in becoming the Primary Mentor, this letter provides information on this new program and the role of the Primary Mentor during the application phase and Phase 1 of the award. CIHR recognizes the value of excellent mentorship and the investment of time associated with being a Primary Mentor and is investigating ways we can acknowledge the important contributions to the training and mentoring of a REDI awardee.

As a transition award, the overarching goal of this program is to promote research independence and increase the number of post-doctoral researchers, clinicians and research associates from underrepresented groups that become research faculty members in Canadian academic, health system, and research institutions. The program uses an intersectional framework for race and gender, and the first launch is open to groups who are among the most underrepresented in science and medicine; faculty in Canadian academic institutions, have the highest unemployment rates compared to non-racialized professors, and encounter systemic barriers, discrimination, and inequity within academic racialized women and Black people. The terminology related to equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) is evolving and it is understood that most terms have strengths and weaknesses. Terms are defined in the funding opportunity and will be reviewed and updated for future launches.

The CIHR REDI award is supported by funding from CIHR and non-government partners. The CIHR portion of funding comes from a funding envelope that is separate from the funds reserved for Investigator-initiated Research (funded through the Project Grant competition), or for Training and Career Support (e.g., CIHR Fellowships). The funding envelope used for REDI consists of funds dedicated to “research in priority areas,” the majority of these funds are from CIHR institute budgets (often called “strategic funding”), with additional funds from CIHR corporate.

CIHR plans to relaunch this program in future years with each round of awards open to specific underrepresented groups. Future competitions will benefit from the early learnings of the 2022 funding opportunity, community consultations, and the continued accrual of self-identification data from Canadian academic, health system, and research institutions.

Program Design Overview

This award has two phases across a maximum of 6 years to increase independence and support the transition of successful applicants to independent research careers.

• The mentored Phase 1 (3–3 years) includes a $20,000/year research allowance and $70,000/year stipend. Applicants will propose a Research Project they will work on in Phase 1. This project will establish the foundation for their independent research program as faculty members in Phase 2. Applicants must work with their Primary Mentor to develop Mentorship and Career Development Plans and identify how they will distinguish their proposed research from their Primary Mentor’s program.

• The Independent Phase 2 (3–4 years) includes at least $240,000/year (this includes minimum 1:1 matching of CIHR funds by the Phase 2 host institution) in research allowance and salary support, and faculty mentorship. Awards are expected to transition to an independent research faculty position – marking the start of Phase 2 – within 2 to 3 years of the funding start date.

This award is intended to foster the development of independent research scientists who would benefit from tailored, mentored career development in Phase 1 before transitioning to Phase 2 to establish and sustain an independent research program in academia. It is not intended to extend time in the postdoctoral lab during the faculty job search or cover a research associate's...
The Primary Mentor: The Applicant’s Advocate and Advisor

Their role in the Application Phase includes:

- Helping the applicant prepare their application.
  - This may involve collaborating with up to 5 other mentors to support the development and execution of the Research Proposal, Mentorship and Career Development Plans.
  - Depending on the mentor, this may involve learning more about bias awareness, the principles of culturally responsive mentorship and intersectional EDI considerations. See the Additional Resources in the Additional Information section of funding opportunity.

- Working with the applicant to identify how their proposed research will be distinguished from the Primary Mentor’s research program, such that the applicant achieves research independence and can transition to an independent research position within their proposed timeline.

- Discussing authorship for publications that will result from the applicant’s research funded by the CIHR REDI Award.

- Providing a Letter of Support for the applicant and a Letter from your Host Institution (see funding opportunity for details).

Their role in Phase 1 of the CIHR REDI Award would include:

- Ensuring the successful applicant:
  - Has dedicated research space to conduct the research proposed for Phase 1.
  - Can participate in training courses and conferences.
  - Can use the data from their Phase 1 research for their future grant applications.
  - Is encouraged to take advantage of peer review resources and programs.
  - Can benefit from the tailored mentorship and career development plans in their REDI application.
  - Contributing to a joint assessment by the applicant and Primary Mentor that will be part of the Two-Year Progress Report and Transition Report.

Refer to the Information Letter on the Primary Mentor Role (REDI 2022) for details.
Application Highlights, Evaluation and Important Dates

Vitalie Nyembwe
Acting Lead, Program Design and Delivery, CIHR
Eligibility

For an application to be eligible:

- The NPA **must**:
  - self-identify with at least one of the following groups: racialized women or Black people;* and
  - be a **trainee** by the Funding Start Date and specifically, one of the following:
    - a PhD-holding **post-doctoral researcher**;
    - a **clinician** holding an MD, DVM, DDS or a PhD or equivalent doctoral degree-holding **allied health professional** in either a post-doctoral position, or a faculty position denoting independence in clinical responsibilities but not in research; or
    - a **research associate** or equivalent who is a PhD-holding researcher.

**Notes:**

*In relation to these criteria, **eligibility will be determined using the response(s) provided in the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Self-Identification Questionnaire.** Given that this Funding Opportunity is only open to specific populations, selecting "I prefer not to answer" to one or more of the questions relating to these criteria will prevent your candidacy from being considered. For additional information, please see the FAQ.

On December 16, 2022, CIHR introduced a revised gender identity question within the Self-Identification Questionnaire to broaden the response options. Participants who completed the Questionnaire task prior to December 16, 2022, for this funding opportunity may need to revisit the Questionnaire task and complete the revised gender identity question (Question 2) for the task to be marked as complete.
Some Terminology in REDI

a. Black: In this funding opportunity, we define "Black" as those of Black African descent, which includes those who identify as Black Africans, and those found worldwide who identify as descendants of Black African peoples. Source: Canadian Black Scientists Network. 2021. Message from the President. CBSN.

b. Racialized: In this funding opportunity, the term racialized is used as an alternative to "visible minorities," as used in the Employment Equity Act* and the Self-identification Questionnaire. This definition is consistent with CIHR and Tri-Agency flagship documents such as Dimensions and the NFRF Best Practices in EDI Research.

*As defined in the Employment Equity Act: Visible minorities means persons, other than Aboriginal peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour.

c. Woman: The term woman refers to a person who internally identifies and/or publicly expresses as a woman. This may include cisgender and transgender individuals. Sources: CIHR. 2022. Frequently Asked Questions about the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Self-identification Questionnaire. Question 12. Canadian Institutes of Health Research.
Eligibility

For an application to be eligible (continued):

• The NPA can be Canadian citizen,* permanent resident,* or a citizen of another country.**
  o *NPAs with Canadian citizenship or permanent residency are eligible to hold their Phase 1 awards outside or inside Canada.
  o **NPAs who are neither Canadian citizens nor permanent residents are only eligible to hold their Phase 1 award in Canada.

• The NPA must have successfully completed one of the sex- and gender-based analysis online training modules through the CIHR Institute of Gender and Health.

• The Primary Mentor must be an independent researcher with an academic appointment and be either the NPA's current supervisor or a principal investigator who will function as the NPA's Primary Mentor for Phase 1. Additional mentors do not need to hold an academic appointment.

• For applications focusing on Indigenous Health and/or involving Indigenous Peoples:
  o the NPA must provide evidence of having meaningful and culturally safe involvement with Indigenous Peoples
  o the Primary Mentor must self-identify as Indigenous (First Nations, Inuit or Métis) and/or provide evidence of having meaningful and culturally safe involvement with Indigenous Peoples

Refer to the funding opportunity for the complete set of eligibility criteria.
Relevance Review

- CIHR and partner organizations will perform a relevance review to identify applications that are in alignment with the objectives and research areas of this funding opportunity.

- The Summary and Relevance Form are used to determine relevance to the General Pool and any selected Funding Pool(s). Applicants must ensure these documents include the required information for an accurate relevance review.

- Applications that are not deemed to be relevant to the General Pool will be withdrawn from the competition.
Evaluation Criteria

To support the strategic objectives of the CIHR REDI Program and ensure applications align with these objectives, the following evaluation criteria will be used:

- Experience, Training and Contributions
- Career Goals and Career Development Plan
- Research Approach
- Mentorship Plan
- Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

Refer to the funding opportunity for details.
How To Apply

• Refer to the How to Apply section to ensure you understand all the requirements – email CIHR Contact Center if you have questions.

• Requirement highlights:
  o CIHR PIN
  o Completed Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Self-identification Questionnaire
  o NPA and Primary Mentor* must submit a CIHR Academic CV.
  o Up to five (5) additional mentors* may be identified, including individuals who do not hold an academic appointment.
    o Academic mentors must attach a CIHR Academic CV.
    o Mentors who do not hold an academic appointment must attach an Applicant Profile CV

*Note: In ResearchNet, the Primary and Additional Mentors will be identified in the role of "Primary Supervisor" and "Supervisor", respectively. However, consistent with this funding opportunity, these individuals will be identified as Primary and Additional Mentors within your Proposal.
How To Apply

• The Proposal must address all five evaluation criteria. Note that the Proposal should be organized using specific headers (see below). Applicants are expected to work with their Primary Mentor to prepare the application. See the Information Letter on the Primary Mentor Role for more information.

• Proposal is up to a maximum of 10 pages, not including references – 12 pages for proposals written in French.

• The Proposal should include the following headings (applicants should refer to the FAQ for additional guidance for each section):
  o Experience, Contributions and Career Development
  o Proposed Research
  o Mentorship Plan
  o Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

Additional materials must also be submitted – see funding opportunity for details
Transitioning from Phase 1 to Phase 2

• The Phase 2 portion of the CIHR REDI Early Career Transition Award (2022) will only be open to individuals who are funded in Phase 1 and who are ready to transition into an independent research faculty position.

• Eligible Positions for Phase 2:
  • An independent researcher position that is tenure-track or considered career path
  • Traditionally recognized academic positions with evidence of independence
  • The primary place of employment or primary appointment is in Canada

• An internal review, which will not evaluate the science, will be conducted by CIHR to confirm whether:
  • the applicant has met all the criteria to transition to Phase 2 of the award; and
  • has included all required documents in the Transition Package.

Refer to Supplementary Information for Phase 2 of the CIHR REDI Early Career Transition Award (2022) for details.
FAQ and Supporting Materials for REDI Applicants

See the Additional Information section of the Funding Opportunity for:

- Additional Resources
- Hyperlink for Supplementary Documents:
  - Frequently Asked Questions
  - Information Letter on the Primary Mentor Role (REDI 2022)
  - Supplementary Information for Phase 2 of the CIHR REDI Early Career Transition Award (2022)

Hyperlinks are also found on the REDI webpage on CIHR-III’s website.
New Q&As Coming to the REDI FAQ Page

• I’m not sure if I’m eligible for REDI, can you help?
  • Yes, please email support-soutien@cihr-irsc.gc.ca.

• Is the self-identification mandatory?
  • Yes, for questions that relate to gender and race. If you do not want to provide information about one or more other aspects of your identity, you can complete the survey by choosing the option “I prefer not to answer”. Note however, by choosing “I prefer not to answer” for questions that relate to gender and race, you will not be considered eligible.

• Are PhD candidates (e.g., those who have submitted their thesis and have a date for the oral examination) eligible to apply for the REDI award?
  • Yes, if they will be in an eligible trainee position by the Funding Start Date (July 1, 2023) and will be able to provide proof they have completed all the requirements of the PhD program (including the oral examination) by this date.

• Does the Phase 1 Host Institution need to commit to supporting the REDI awardee for their Phase 2 position?
  • No, while applicants can remain at the same Canadian Host Institution for both phases, this is not required or expected.

• Do I need to secure a phase 2 position before applying for the REDI award?
  • No, while the search for a faculty position may have already begun for some REDI applicants, we anticipate many will begin this search during Phase 1 of their REDI award.
Important Dates and Contact Information

- **Application Deadline** – May 3, 2023
- **Anticipated Notice of Decisions** – September 14, 2023
- **Funding Start Date** – July 1, 2023

Questions?
Email CIHR Contact Center at support-soutien@cihr-irsc.gc.ca

We’re here to help so please reach out!
Closing Remarks

Adrian Mota
Associate Vice-President, Research Programs – Operations, CIHR
Question & Answer Period

**Moderator:**
Marianne Stanford, PhD
Assistant Scientific Director, CIHR-III

Use the Q&A feature to type in your questions.
Give questions you want answered in the Q&A a thumbs up to upvote them!

**Panelists:**
Charu Kaushic, MSc, PhD, FCAHS
Scientific Director
CIHR-III

Adrian Mota
Associate VP, Research Programs - Operations, CIHR

Vitalie Nyembwe
Acting Lead,
Program Design and Delivery, CIHR

Léa Saliba
Supervisor,
Contact Center, CIHR
Thank You!

Please email support-soutien@cihr-irsc.gc.ca if you have questions about this funding opportunity.

We’re here to help so please reach out!

CIHR
Research Excellence, Diversity, and Independence (REDI)
Early Career Transition Award 2022

Thank You!