



## CATALYST RESEARCH GRANT FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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**1. IS THE CATALYST RESEARCH GRANT LIMITED TO A SPECIFIC AREA OR TYPE OF RESEARCH?**

No, it is open to all areas of research. The Catalyst Research Grant program awards seed funding that allows researchers to develop and test new and innovative research questions and pursue pioneering approaches that have the potential to impact the MS field.

**2. WHAT TYPES OF RESEARCH PROJECTS ARE BEST SUITED TO THIS PROGRAM?**

The intention of this program is to allow investigators to test novel, high-risk ideas or interventions that have not been examined in MS or examined to a limited extent. By testing a new idea or intervention, the researcher will gather important preliminary data to open new lines of inquiry and new avenues of research in MS, as well as build sufficient evidence to apply for larger grants and conduct larger studies. The Catalyst Research Grant is not intended for projects which already have sufficient preliminary data.

**3. DOES MY APPLICATION HAVE TO BE SUBMITTED BY OCTOBER 3?**

Yes, all applications must be submitted by October 3 at 16:00 Eastern Time. The online system will not accept applications after October 3. All required documents must be completed and submitted prior to the deadline, straggling documents will not be accepted. In addition, any documents that surpass the assigned page limits or fail to adhere to the formatting guidelines will be excluded from the application.

**4. DOES THE PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR NEED TO HOLD A FACULTY APPOINTMENT TO BE ELIGIBLE?**

Yes, the principal investigator must be an independent researcher and hold a faculty appointment at recognized Canadian academic institution in order to apply. The same eligibility requirements apply to co-principal investigators.

**5. DOES A CO-APPLICANT NEED TO HOLD A FACULTY APPOINTMENT?**

No, the co-applicant does not need to hold a faculty appointment. However, co-applicants must be at the postdoctoral level or higher (research associate, faculty member).

**6. HOW MANY PRINCIPAL APPLICANTS CAN BE ON ONE APPLICATION?**

There can be only one principal investigator (PI) per Catalyst Research Grant application. There is no limit to the number of co-principal investigators on an application. The PI listed as the primary applicant is responsible for overseeing the proposed research project. A co-principal is an individual who shares responsibility for the direction of the proposed research project with the PI.

## **7. ARE INTERNATIONAL CO-APPLICANT AND COLLABORATORS ALLOWED?**

A Co-Applicant must have an appointment in the same Canadian university department as the PI (of Co-PI) but no specific rank is required (e.g. postdoctoral fellow), while collaborators can be recruited from international institutions only if their role fills an unmet need that is not available in Canada. A letter of collaboration is required from collaborators.

## **8. WHAT PERSONNEL COSTS ARE ELIGIBLE?**

The MSSC will permit trainees as an allowable expense on the grant commensurate with the needed capacity to complete the project. Trainees should be identified in the proposal and justified.

Requested salaries are not to be used to replace salaries or portions of salaries already assured by institutional or other funds, including those receiving endMS Personnel Awards. Eligible trainees are encouraged to apply for funding through the endMS Personnel Awards.

## **9. IS THERE A MAXIMUM BUDGET/TIME PERIOD FOR THE GRANT?**

A Catalyst Research Grant can be up to \$50,000 CAD for up to two years. If the project will exceed two years, a rationale must be provided in the research plan. These grants are non-renewable.

## **10. ARE TRAVEL EXPENSES ALLOWED WITHIN BUDGET?**

Use of funds for conference travel is not permitted. Travel necessary for the conduct of the study will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

## **11. WHAT FORMAT OF THE CV IS REQUIRED?**

The MSSC requires the use of the Canadian Common CV for all Catalyst Research Grant applications. The template can be found at <https://ccv-cvc.ca>. Please select "MSSC" as the agency. For instructions on how to complete the Canadian Common CV, please visit the [Catalyst Research Grant Guide](#) or the [Canadian Common CV website](#).

## **12. DO YOU REQUIRE SIGNATURES FROM THE DEPARTMENT HEADS OF ALL CO-APPLICANTS OR ONLY OF THE PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR?**

The signatures of the Department Head and Dean of the Faculty or Institution of the Principal Investigator are required. Please consult the [Program Guide](#) for more information on the required signatures for the application. Electronic signatures are accepted.

### **13. HOW MANY GRANTS CAN I HOLD WITH THE MSSC?**

A PI can hold a maximum of two (2) Discovery Research Grants (formerly operating grants) and one (1) Catalyst Research Grant (formerly Pilot Research Grant) from the MSSC at one time.

### **14. HOW MANY APPLICATIONS CAN I SUBMIT IN THE CATALYST RESEARCH GRANT COMPETITION?**

The PI may concurrently submit a maximum of one (1) new Catalyst Research Grant application and one (1) Discovery Research Grant) application per competition.

*If the FAQ Guide did not answer your question, please direct inquiries and questions to [ms.grants@mssociety.ca](mailto:ms.grants@mssociety.ca).*