

Digital Health Accelerator Grant - Peer review process

Program Overview:

The BC Children's Hospital Research Institute (BCCHR) and Women's Health Research Institute have established Digital Health Research (DHR) as a joint strategic initiative. The DHR Accelerator Grant is intended to support digital health innovations that will benefit women, children and families. Applicants for funds can apply at any Technology Readiness Level but are required to advance your project's TRL by at least one level from its original state by the end of the funding cycle. There are two stages of the application process; a letter of intent (LOI) and a full proposal.

Funding decisions for the Accelerator Grant Program are based on peer review using a set evaluation rubric and evaluation form at both the LOI and full proposal stage.

Peer Review process:

Stage 1: Letter of Intent

- Each application form will be reviewed by a member of the DHR team to confirm it meets basic eligibility criteria using the eligibility checklist.
- All eligible LOI will be reviewed by 2 independent peer reviewers using the provided evaluation rubric and evaluation form.
- Scores from reviewers will be summed and averaged.
- All applications that achieve an average score of 6 or higher will be invited to submit a full proposal.

Stage 2: Full proposal

- Each submitted full application package will be reviewed for completeness by a member of the DHR team. Any missing information will be flagged to the PI and they will be given until the submission deadline (Dec. 6, 2024 at 11:59pm) to correct the error. Only complete applications will be reviewed.
- All complete proposals will be reviewed by 3 independent peer reviewers using the provided evaluation rubric and evaluation form.
- Scores from reviewers will be summed and averaged.
- **The top 2 ranked Women's Health applications; top 3 ranked general Children's health applications and top 1 ranked data mining proposal will be awarded funding.**
- A review meeting will be held over Zoom to discuss the top ranked proposals, resolve any discordance in ranking or ties and come to consensus on funding decisions in each funding stream (Women's; Children's; Data mining).

Reviewer Eligibility:

We will recruit a diverse set of peer reviewers all of whom share the following characteristics:

- Have a minimum qualification of a Masters degree with at least 5 years relevant experience in the digital health field; or
- Be registered with a recognized professional college within the healthcare field (ie. BC college of Physicians or BC college of Nurses) and at least 5 years relevant experience in the digital health field; or
- Have a minimum 10 years industry experience in the Digital Health Field.