

**PERINATAL RESEARCH IMAGING EVALUATION (PRIME) CENTRE
RESEARCH AWARD**

Important dates:

Application Deadline	Friday May 1, 2026, at 11PM PDT
Anticipated Notice of Decision	June 15, 2026
Funding Start Date	June 17, 2026

Description of the Perinatal Research IMaging Evaluation (PRIME) Centre

[The Perinatal Research IMaging Evaluation \(PRIME\) Centre](#) is an ultrasound imaging research facility within the Skidmore Goodman Research Centre for Women's Health at BC Women's Hospital + Health Centre. Improving the health and saving lives of pregnant women and newborns is a priority in Canada and world-wide. Ultrasound scans are an important, non-invasive tool used to find health problems before and after birth.

The PRIME Centre is dedicated to the development of new imaging research and technology to benefit women's, fetal, and neonatal health. It is a hub for researchers to collaborate and to create substantial advances in healthcare using cutting-edge technology. Funded in part by the Canadian Foundation for Innovation, the PRIME Centre has an array of imaging equipment which is dedicated to research. PRIME also offers opportunities for research and training in ultrasound technical skills using two state-of-the-art ultrasound simulators.

Description of the Awards

The Perinatal Research IMaging Evaluation (PRIME) Centre Awards supports studies in women's, fetal and/or neonatal health research to be carried out, in whole or in part, within the PRIME Centre (i.e., making use of the equipment, facility features and personnel support available).

In accordance with CFI guidelines, collaborative projects between university departments and faculties, medical specialties, and industry are encouraged.

Funds Available

One award valued at \$30,000 for a one-year period. Recipients can apply for a no-cost extension should the project not be able to be completed within the one-year time frame.

Applicant Eligibility

The PRIME Award is intended to support researchers in British Columbia engaged in research relevant to women's, fetal and neonatal health and whose proposed studies will be carried out within the PRIME Centre using facility resources.

At the time of application:

- The Principal Applicant must be a resident of BC.
- The Principal Applicant must be a [member](#) of the WHRI at the time of submission.
- The Principal Applicant must be a researcher and/or clinician (which includes those who hold a license to practice as a member of a regulated health profession as recognized by the BC Health Professions Act or who belong to a health profession requiring board certification and are in good standing with the relevant body), and/or must have completed a post-graduate degree (PhD or MD), and cannot be enrolled as a student in a degree or diploma program. It is expected that

applicants will have appropriate training and experience in conducting research.

- The funds must be used for a single project that is not already funded from other sources. If the proposed project is related to, or has a direct connection to, an already funded project, it must be demonstrated that the proposed project addresses a novel and distinct question from the funded project and the budget of the proposed project should demonstrate the other source of funding for the project and how the current funding is distinct. Alternatively, if the recipient receives another grant for the same project after being awarded PRIME Award funding, it is our expectation that the Principal Applicant will notify the Executive Director of the WHRI and that one of those grants must be declined. The PI cannot hold two separate grants funding the same project.
- An individual cannot submit more than one application as Principal Applicant. However, a Principal Applicant can be named as a co-investigator on additional applications.
- The Principal Applicant cannot have received a previous PRIME Award in the 2023 competition cycle as a Principal Applicant

Eligible Expenses

Note that 50% of the budget must be within the PRIME Centre (i.e., making use of the equipment, facility features and personnel support available within the Centre). Please see the accompanying list of costs associated with use of the PRIME Centre and personnel.

Research awards may be used for the following purposes:

- Operating expenses associated with the conduct of the study, including costs associated with use of PRIME equipment or space.
- Research project materials and supplies.
- Salary support for graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, research assistants and staff providing services to support the research activity. This includes costs associated with PRIME-specific personnel, e.g., sonographer time.
- Statistician and data analyst services.
- Database development for data collection.
- Teleconference, meeting, knowledge translation expenses and conference travel expenses.

Project Time Period

The time frame for the project is 12 months. Recipients can apply for a no-cost extension should the project not be able to be completed within the one-year time frame.

Communication Requirements

Recipients are required to acknowledge the PRIME Centre, Women's Health Research Institute as well as the BC Women's Health Foundation in all communication, presentation, or publication related to the project.

Recipients are also expected to provide an academic report, a lay summary and three plain language key messages from the research project to the WHRI at the completion of the project.

Recipients are asked to present their findings at any of the following events: BC Women's Research Rounds, WHRI Public Forum, BC Women's Health Foundation 'Meet the Researcher' events.

Review Process

A peer review committee will evaluate the full application for all complete eligible submissions.

Evaluation Criteria

General review criteria will include whether:

- The research focus is innovative and relevant to women's and/or newborn's health in B.C.
- The plans and objectives of the research activities are clear and well justified.
- The investigators comprise sufficient expertise relevant to the proposed research project.
- The proposed activities will be carried out in whole or in part within the PRIME Centre using facility equipment, space or personnel, where appropriate.
- The proposed activities contribute to the training of research trainees, students and other personnel (HQP) engaged in research.
- The proposed activities can be achieved within the funding period. Note that recipients can apply for a no-cost extension should the project not be completed within the funding period.
- The budget items requested are appropriate and sufficiently justified.
- The plan for dissemination of findings is well constructed.
- The proposed activities integrate [equity, diversity and inclusion \(EDI\)](https://research.ubc.ca/vpri-competitions-initiatives/edi-resources-researchers) (<https://research.ubc.ca/vpri-competitions-initiatives/edi-resources-researchers>) considerations into the research design and into the research and training environment.

How to Apply

The full application is due on **May 1, 2026 at 11PM PDT**. No late submissions will be accepted under any circumstances.

Please note that for Principal Applicants with a UBC affiliation, a [UBC Research Project Information Form](https://research.ubc.ca/support-researchers/research-projectinformation-form) (RPIF) (<https://research.ubc.ca/support-researchers/research-projectinformation-form>) will **not** need to be completed at the time of application submission. Instead, an RPIF will be required only for funded applications at the time funding notifications are received.

Format

Proposals must be written in Arial font (regular) minimum 11pt. Single-spaced text with 2 cm margins on letter size (8½ x 11" (21.2 x 27.5 cm) and saved as a pdf. **Note:** the application file name should be the last name of the principal applicant ('lastname.pdf').

A) Cover sheet (Up to 1 page)

- i. Contact information for Principal Applicant and Co-Investigators (if any). Provide the name, title, name of institution, department name, mailing address, phone number and email address for each investigator
- ii. Contact information for Project Contact, if different from Principal Applicant
- iii. Contact information for the financial administrator, including mailing address, phone number, and contact email address
- iv. Information on host institution: The host institution is most commonly a publicly-funded BC health research institution or university responsible for administering award funds.

- v. Project title
- vi. Expected duration of the project, including anticipated start and end dates
- vii. Total budget amount
- viii. Lay summary with title (maximum length of 250 words)

B) Proposal (4 pages)

The proposal should include a clear, concise description of the research plan that includes:

- i. Overall objectives
- ii. Rationale for the study (Including Background)
- iii. Study hypothesis and aims
- iv. Study design, methodology and analysis plan
- v. Anticipated results
- vi. Study timeline
- vii. Relevance to the health of women and/or newborns in British Columbia

C) Appendix (2 pages maximum)

- i. Dissemination or knowledge translation plan. In this section, please address the following points:
 - Describe the Knowledge Translation goal(s) of the project (e.g. to generate awareness, to inform future research).
 - List your knowledge users or target audience (e.g. clinicians, decision makers, patient partners).
 - Name the KT strategies you will employ to achieve your KT goals (e.g. presentations to specific knowledge user groups, engagement of knowledge users)
- ii. Future goals outlining how the PRIME Research Award will facilitate future funding and research.
- iii. Inclusion of highly-qualified personnel (HQP). Briefly describe how research trainees, students and/or other HQP will be included in the project.
- iv. Consideration of equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI). In this section, please describe how EDI considerations will be incorporated into the proposed activities, including in your recruitment (e.g., participants, trainees/employees), training of highly-qualified personnel (HQP), experimental design and dissemination of project findings (as appropriate).

D) References (5 pages maximum)

E) Budget and Justification (1 page maximum)

Note that the PRIME Award competition is exempt from the application of indirect costs of research.

F) Amounts and sources of other research funding (excluding salary funding), for the Principal Applicant (1 page maximum)

Give titles, brief description, amounts and duration of awards, along with nominated principal investigator and all co-investigators. Indicate percent overlap with the current application. If the list of other research funding for the Principal Applicant exceeds 1 page, please prioritize the funding presented in this list to the largest sources of funding and the sources of funding that are the most relevant to the proposed project (so that this list will fit within the 1-page limit).

G) CV and Letters of Support:

- i. Letter of departmental or institutional support which indicates how the research fits within the department or institution's strategic plan and/or addresses women's or newborn health.
- ii. Letter(s) of support from other organizations involved with the research study, if applicable
- iii. CVs of Principal Applicant and Co-Investigators in either [CIHR Project Biosketch Application](#) or [CIHR Tri-Agency CV](#) Format. Note that if your research team includes any of the following types of Co-investigators, the [CIHR Applicant Profile CV](#) format can be chosen instead (if preferred): patient partners, community partners, knowledge users and international academics.

Submission Instructions

The application is due on **May 1, 2026 at 11pm PDT**. Email a copy of the application in PDF to <carola.munoz@cw.bc.ca>.

Questions about the application process can be sent to <Carola Muñoz> (carola.munoz@cw.bc.ca).