

# Campus Alberta Neuroscience

## Entrepreneurship Seed Grant Program

### Guidelines

#### Program Description

The Campus Alberta Neuroscience (CAN) Entrepreneurship Seed Grant Program provides funding and collaborative support including education, mentorship and consultation to develop entrepreneurship and accelerate commercialization in the field of neuroscience within Alberta. This year, all 2020 Entrepreneurship Seed Grant Program applicants will automatically be eligible for consideration of additional programs, including consultation with Campus Alberta Neuroscience, matching funding opportunities, educational opportunities, and other commercialization and entrepreneurial support through CAN and its partner organizations.

Campus Alberta Neuroscience will provide one-year seed grants between \$5,000-\$30,000 CAD. The total number of seed grants disbursed will vary depending on the level of funding requested.

#### Desired Outcomes

This program is designed to create a positive impact in the neuroscience community in Alberta, including to:

- Accelerate the entry and growth of entrepreneurship in the field of neuroscience
- Advance commercialization to generate new revenues and investments in Alberta
- Aid in the development and recruitment of high-quality personnel
- Encourage individuals in the field of neuroscience to consider entrepreneurship to launch innovation

*All Entrepreneurship Seed Grant Program applicants must align with at least 1 of these desired outcomes, preferably more than one.*

#### Types of Projects Funded

- Access to commercialization support (IP legal experts, economic development consultant expertise, etc.)
- Support for reviewing commercialization feasibility
- Developing, launching or testing a new idea or approach
- Running a demonstration project
- Support for scaling up of production/commercialization

Campus Alberta Neuroscience will **not** fund:

- Requests to fund previous program or project
- Requests that do not align with the desired outcomes



- Renovations, repairs or new buildings
- Contingency costs

### Eligibility Criteria

#### *Applicant:*

- Must be a neuroscience research member of CAN ([join here](#)) or collaborate with a neuroscience research member of CAN
- The member must be housed within the University of Alberta, University of Calgary, or University of Lethbridge
- Is a key contributor to a small or medium-sized company, or is in the process of creating a company
- Is NOT a recipient of a 2019/2020 Entrepreneurship Seed Grant through CAN

#### *Company:*

- For-profit
- Actively engaged in the development of neuroscience technology
- Potential for generating revenue, investments, and/or developing high-quality personnel in Alberta
- Collaborates with a neuroscience research member of CAN

### Terms and Value

Campus Alberta Neuroscience will provide:

- Funding between \$5,000 - \$30,000 CAD
- Support for engaging and connecting with industries and agencies
- 10% of the funding will be held back, to be paid upon a satisfactory review of the final report

### Additional Support

This year CAN has partnered with a variety of agencies, industries, and mentors to provide an enhanced experience. All 2020 Entrepreneurship Seed Grant Program applicants will automatically be eligible for consideration of additional programs, including a consultation with Campus Alberta Neuroscience, matching funding opportunities, educational opportunities, and other commercialization and entrepreneurial supports through CAN and its partner organizations. By submitting this application, you agree to CAN sharing all application documents with their partner organizations for the sole purpose of being considered for additional funding and support opportunities. Each applicant will have a consultation to tailor their areas of need, subject to provincial and regional availability.

### How to Apply

Complete applications for the Campus Alberta Neuroscience Entrepreneurship Seed Grant Program must be received electronically on the Google Forms Application by **12:00pm MST on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020**. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered for funding.

*A complete application consists of:*

- Completed and signed Campus Alberta Neuroscience Entrepreneurship Seed Grant Program Application Form via the Google Forms Application

*The Campus Alberta Neuroscience Entrepreneurship Seed Grant Program Application Form requires a description of:*

- The proposed plan, including the objectives, approach, and expected outcomes. Plans should be focused on the area of neuroscience
- How the proposed plan will be achieved
- How the proposed seed grant plan will make significant contributions to the Alberta economy

The complete application package, including all necessary components described above, must be submitted electronically on the CAN Entrepreneurship Seed Grant Google Form Application (attached on the CAN website titled as CAN Entrepreneurship Seed Grant Application Form) by

**12:00pm MST on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020.**

### Adjudication

- The CAN Entrepreneurship Seed Grant Program Review Committee will review all applications. Decisions will be based on satisfying the eligibility and adjudication criteria and the potential for the visit to create positive impacts in the neuroscience industry
- The Review Committee will provide comments for the applicant and a recommendation for funding to CAN
- Final decision will be made based on the level of funding available, and with consultation with other experts if needed
- Final decision will be announced the week of October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020

### Adjudication Criteria

- Satisfaction of eligibility criteria
- Reasonable timeline and links between the project activities and the project objectives
- Contribution of the company to neuroscience commercialization in Alberta
- Contribution to the Entrepreneurship Seed Grant Program outcomes
- Potential for success
- Collaboration throughout the province
- The idea, challenge or opportunity is well understood

### Successful Applicants

Please note that all successful applicants, as part of their acceptance of this grant, agree to actively participate in CAN sponsored activities, which may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Participate in an interview for the CAN newsletter, demonstrating how the Entrepreneurship Seed Grant Program has benefited their project
- Attend Entrepreneurship Seed Grant Program related events in their city. These may include industry nights, conferences, government events, and/or education or training sessions.
- Provide a short presentation (30 minutes in length) relating to their application

### Administration of Award

- Applicants will be notified of the decision in writing by Campus Alberta Neuroscience
- The notice of decision normally takes 15 working days following submission of the application
- All decisions are final and cannot be appealed

- The number of applications accepted is dependent upon the availability of funds
- Payment is dependent on compliance with program guidelines and final deliverables

### Reporting Requirements and Deliverables

You will be required to submit a two-stage progress report to CAN in 2020, and a final report within 9-12 months of receiving funds that may include the following:

- Any revisions to the approved project
- The overall development of the project
- How the project accessed commercialization support or scaling up of production / commercialization
- The primary use of funds to date
- Development / training or high-quality personnel
- The number of jobs created
- Creation or development of a new company
- Additional dollars leveraged, obtained or invested
- Total revenue generated during the time of the Entrepreneurship Seed Grant
- Provincial, national and international partnerships established to successfully implement the project
- Technologies / IP developed
- Conferences, publications and media reports generated

### Questions

If you are interested in applying to this program and require further information, please contact Campus Alberta Neuroscience at [abneuro@ucalgary.ca](mailto:abneuro@ucalgary.ca)