

## **REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS**

### **THE TERRY FOX NEW INVESTIGATOR AWARD (2019)**

#### **Purpose**

To support outstanding new researchers as they develop their careers as independent research scientists or clinician scientists to undertake high-quality cancer research, while in close collaboration and mentorship with established TFRI-funded research teams.

#### **Scope**

Support under this Request for Applications (RFA) is targeted at high-quality biomedical, clinical and translational research, providing information that may form the basis of innovative cancer prevention, diagnosis and/or treatment. The TFRI is looking for outstanding investigators to be mentored by one or more senior investigators of a currently funded TFRI program.

#### **Support Offered**

Awards of up to \$150,000 per annum are tenable for **three years** and provide:

- Research expenses, including research staff, consumables, and equipment<sup>1</sup>
- Travel and accommodation for scientifically justified visits<sup>2</sup>.

#### **Funding Envelope**

The Terry Fox Research Institute (TFRI) has committed to fund up to three awards per competition for this particular RFA. Subject to availability of funds, this competition runs annually. When possible, TFRI will seek partnerships with other Foundations and Agencies to increase the number of awards made each year.

#### **Eligibility**

To apply you should:

- Hold either a PhD, MD, or the equivalent
- Have made intellectual contributions to research that are published in leading journals, and be able to demonstrate your potential to carry out independent research

---

<sup>1</sup> A maximum of \$70,000 is permitted for equipment purchases as part of this RFA, to be requested in the first year of the grant. Details of allowable costs are included in the *Terry Fox New Investigator Application Guide (2019)*.

<sup>2</sup> A maximum of \$5,000 per year is allowed for scientific travel, including participation in the TFRI Annual Scientific Meeting.

- Be within seven<sup>3</sup> calendar years from the start of your first faculty-level appointment, and
- Hold that appointment at an eligible Canadian Institution.

### Ineligible to Apply

- Applicants who currently hold or have held a Terry Fox New Investigator award.
- Applicants who have applied unsuccessfully for a Terry Fox New Investigator award three times.

### Sponsorship

For your application to be eligible for consideration:

1. The research team of an existing Terry Fox New Frontiers Program Project or TFRI Translational Program MUST support and sponsor your application.<sup>4</sup>
  - a. A letter from the Project Leader of the sponsoring Program should accompany your application outlining how your project, if funded, would be integrated into and contribute to that Program and how it will mentor your development as an independent researcher.
  - b. Normally, funding for the sponsoring Program should cover the period of support being requested by the applicant.
2. An eligible Canadian research institution must sponsor your application and:
  - a. Guarantee that you have, or will have, a faculty-level contract of employment with the institution.
  - b. Guarantee that you will have adequate space and time for research, and resources for the tenure of the award.
  - c. Have completed a Memorandum Of Understanding with TFRI on terms and conditions of funding.

### How to Apply

1. A *Full Application* is required electronically by **Monday, July 30, 2018** (5:00 pm Pacific Time)
2. Peer review Committee meeting – **October/November 2018**
3. Funding Announcement – **Early December 2018**
4. Funding Start Date is – **January 1, 2019**

*The Terry Fox New Investigator Application Guide (2019)* will provide detailed guidance to assist applicants preparing their proposal.

### Application Advice

Reviewers normally assess:

- The potential impact of the research and the fit to the scope of the RFA

---

<sup>3</sup> Extended from *five* years in previous competitions.

<sup>4</sup> Each TFRI funded program can sponsor any number of New Investigators at a time. This was previously limited to two.

- The caliber and potential of the applicant
- The excellence and scientific merit of the proposed research, and
- The suitability and support of the sponsors (research environment, mentorship plan and institutional support).

Applicants may only apply for one New Investigator award at a time. Awards are not renewable.

Reviewers will assess the strength of the Sponsor's offer to support and mentor the applicant as part of a long-term commitment to help the applicant realize his/her career development in research.

### **Conditions of Funding**

Applicants and sponsoring Institutions are expected to observe TFRI's Research Administration Policy. This includes:

#### **a. Certificates**

Before funding is made available, the Applicants must obtain from the sponsoring Institution all applicable certificates, including:

1. *Biohazards*. For projects involving use of biological material, a certificate guaranteeing that the project will be conducted under conditions which satisfy the Canadian Biosafety Standard (CBS) 2nd edition (2015) and the Canadian Biosafety Handbook (CBH), 2<sup>nd</sup> edition (2015). (<http://canadianbiosafetystandards.collaboration.gc.ca/>)
2. *Animal Care*. For projects involving use of experimental animals, a certificate guaranteeing that all animals will be cared for and studied under conditions meeting the standards set forth in the Canadian Council on Animal Care's "Guide to the Care and Use of Experimental Animals" Vol 1 (1993). (<https://www.ccac.ca/>)
3. *Human Studies*. For projects involving human subjects, a certificate stating that the protocols and methods have been reviewed by the Institutional Research Ethics Board and found to be acceptable in accordance with current edition of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada: 'Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans' (2014) ([www.pre.ethics.gc.ca](http://www.pre.ethics.gc.ca)). If studies use investigational compounds, regulatory approval from Canada's Health Protection Branch is also required.
4. *Use of Human and Biological Samples*. TFRI is committed to ensuring that high quality bio-specimens are used in research it funds, as these yield high, reproducible quality data. For this reason, TFRI requires all applicants for funding to certify that (i) all prospective (new) bio-specimens included in the TFRI-funded research will be collected in accordance with the standards set by the Canadian Tissue Repository Network (<https://www.ctrnet.ca/resources/operating-procedures>) and/or the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments Act (CLIA) of the United States (<https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/CLIA/index.html>) and/or (ii) all retrospective (old) bio-specimens used in the TFRI-funded research have come from a CTRNet or CLIA-certified bio-repository. Links to the CTRNet certification program and registered biobanks can be found at <https://biobanking.org/webs/certification>. Applicants are required to submit

evidence of current certification and participation in external quality assurance programs with the proposal.

5. *Human Pluripotent Stem Cell Research*. TFRI endorses the guidelines set forward by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research on 'Human Pluripotent Stem Cells' now integrated into the 'Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans (TCPS 2), Chapter 12. Section F (2nd edition) (<http://www.pre.ethics.gc.ca/eng/policy-politique/initiatives/tcps2-eptc2/Default/>). Applicants are required to contact TFRI before submitting an application for support of cancer research requiring any use of human pluripotent stem cells.

**b. Reporting**

TFRI requires funded applicants to submit Annual Scientific Research Progress and Metrics Reports and Quarterly Financial Statements. TFRI also expects the New Investigators to contribute/present at TFRI Annual Scientific Meetings during the term of the award.

**c. Project Title & Use of TFRI logo**

Funded Applications are to be called 'The Terry Fox New Investigator in [*title of program*]'. Investigators are expected to comply with TFRI's Visual Identity Guidelines to be found at [www.tfri.ca](http://www.tfri.ca).

**d. Employment Equity**

TFRI is committed to compliance with the Canadian [Employment Equity Act](#) and to ensuring that our funded research programs provide equal employment opportunities to women, Indigenous persons, persons with disabilities, and members of visible minorities. All Funded Applications are required to employ non-discriminatory hiring practices in their workplaces.

For inquiries, please contact:

**Shane Duan**

Co-ordinator, Projects and Database Management  
Terry Fox Research Institute  
675 West 10th Avenue  
Vancouver, BC V5Z 1L3  
Telephone: (604) 675-8000 ext.7641  
Email: [sduan@tfri.ca](mailto:sduan@tfri.ca)

*Date: May 9, 2018*