



# 2024 MULTIPLE MYELOMA MARCH RESEARCH FUND-SHARING PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

## DESCRIPTION

Myeloma Canada has initiated a special Multiple Myeloma March (MMM) Research Fund-sharing Partnership Program. Program applicants can qualify to partner with Myeloma Canada on their nearest MMM and be awarded a research grant of up to 50% of the net MMM proceeds.

Applicants must be a charitable organization that is associated with a Canadian myeloma treatment centre or university that conducts myeloma research (i.e., hospital foundation; university foundation). Multiple applications per MMM may be submitted by the same applicant. Applicants must work with at least one myeloma researcher to prioritize and agree upon the project(s) or research-related initiative(s) that will be submitted within the application. Research grant funds will be provided in Q1 2025. All submitted projects or initiatives within applications must be:

- for one year of funding;
- conducted and/or supervised by at least one myeloma researcher, at any career stage, that is affiliated with a Canadian university, hospital, cancer centre, or research institute. The research may include collaborations with affiliated myeloma researchers outside Canada; however, awarded research grant funds may not be used to fund patient research outside Canada.

All research projects and research-related initiatives will be evaluated by an independent review committee to determine their relevance to at least one of Myeloma Canada's Funded Research Principals & Priorities. The research must have a direct impact on:

- improving the quality of life and/or survival of myeloma patients;
- increasing patient access to new myeloma therapies, new treatment combinations, or improved treatment administration;
- improving myeloma healthcare delivery.

Patient involvement in the development of research protocols is an asset. Research that addresses at least one of the [Top Ten priorities for multiple myeloma research in Canada](#) is strongly recommended.

## APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

Applications can only be submitted by a charitable organization that is associated with at least one Canadian myeloma treatment centre or university that conducts myeloma research (i.e., hospital foundation; university foundation).

## MMM ELIGIBILITY

Multiple applications per MMM may be submitted by the same applicant. The treatment centre or university associated with the applicant must be within a 30 km radius of the selected MMM. If there is more than one MMM within the range, the nearest MMM must be selected by the applicant. If there are no MMMs within the range, a new MMM can be created by Myeloma Canada to support the new community, or the nearest MMM (further than 30 km) will be selected.



## FUND-SHARING MODEL

Only one (1) research grant per MMM can be awarded. The MMM must raise a minimum of \$15,000 CDN for a research grant to be awarded. The percentage of the net MMM proceeds that will be awarded as a research grant is dependent on the amount of money raised by the MMM (before expenses):

- **\$15,000 – \$24,999 raised:** Research grant of 25% of the net proceeds
- **\$25,000 – \$34,999 raised:** Research grant of 30% of the net proceeds
- **\$35,000 – \$44,999 raised:** Research grant of 35% of the net proceeds
- **\$45,000 – \$54,999 raised:** Research grant of 40% of the net proceeds
- **\$55,000 or more raised:** Research grant of 50% of the net proceeds

All MMM expenses are managed by Myeloma Canada. Myeloma Canada will charge the following maximum administrative costs (to be counted as a MMM expense) for each MMM based on the amount of money raised by the MMM (before expenses):

- **Less than \$25,000 raised:** \$500 in MMM administrative costs
- **\$25,000 – \$44,999 raised:** \$750 in MMM administrative costs
- **\$45,000 or more raised:** \$1,000 in MMM administrative costs

Myeloma Canada will provide winning applicants with marketing collateral and communication tools for MMM promotion within the treatment centre to be able to maximize the funds raised for the research grant. Winning applicants may invoice the same maximum administrative costs (to be counted as MMM expenses) as Myeloma Canada (described above). Additional non-administrative costs must be pre-approved by Myeloma Canada in order to be counted as a MMM expense. All approved non-administrative costs will be reimbursed upon submission of an expense report with copies of receipts.

## MYELOMA RESEARCH ELIGIBILITY

Research projects and research-related initiatives that may be submitted within an application include, but are not limited to:

- **Research projects:** Academic research, bench research, or clinical research.
- **Research-related initiatives:** Equipment/technology costs, biobanking costs, or database costs.

Awarded funding does not necessarily need to cover a specific project or initiative in its entirety; however, a budget breakdown will be required to outline how the research grant funds will be used.

## APPLICATION & DECISIONS DEADLINE

Applications will be accepted from January 15 – April 1, 2024. Decisions will be communicated to applicants by May 15, 2024, or earlier.

## TO APPLY

Eligible applicants must complete and submit the [2024 MMM Research Fund-sharing Partnership Program Grant Application Form](#) prior to the posted application deadline.

Applications must include the applicant organization's:

- full legal name, address, and charitable registration number;
- charitable purpose, mission, promise, and/or vision.



Applications must also include:

- a description (250 words max) of how the research grant funds will be used;
- an impact statement (250 words max) on the significance and potential impact of the project(s)/initiative(s).

Application components relating to research projects and initiatives should include, but are not limited to:

- name, credentials, affiliations, and role of all researchers/collaborators involved in the research;
- curriculum vitae (CV) of the principal researcher and key research team members;
- list of the researcher's most important related publications and academic/scientific contributions;
- description of the research project (e.g., title, abstract, methods, approaches, rationale, background/importance, questions, goals/aims, expected outcomes, references, tables, charts, figures, photos, questionnaires);
- proof of institutional approvals (i.e., ethics, including animal research if applicable);
- estimated budget (rounded to a multiple of CDN \$100), including:
  - research staff (e.g., associates, assistants, technicians, trainees) and remuneration;
  - research materials, supplies, equipment, and services;
  - costs for open-access dissemination (e.g., journal) and presentation (e.g., conference) of research results (should include travel and up to 3 nights' accommodation);
  - other research-associated costs.
  - budget components for which the awarded funds will be used;
  - other grants applied for, including potential grant amount(s);
  - other funding received/awarded for the research.

## APPLICANT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

### Participation in the MMM Research Fund-sharing Partnership Program

Applicants selected for a research grant must accept to co-promote the MMM internally, at treatment centres, and to their myeloma community.

### Communication of Research Funding and Results

Support for research is an investment by Canadians impacted by myeloma. Myeloma Canada seeks to demonstrate a return on investment for donors through the promotion of key research developments and results. Upon reasonable request, research grant recipients must agree to:

- provide a final research status update;
- collaborate with Myeloma Canada on public communication initiatives related to the description, funding and findings of their research;
- disseminate research findings through an appropriate open access medical journal and/or conference, if applicable;
- cite support from Myeloma Canada and all other sources in all presentations and publications arising from the supported research conducted during the awarded grant period.

Myeloma Canada reserves the right to publicize and report on award recipients and their research project on Myeloma Canada's websites and social media platforms, within Myeloma Canada digital and print publications (i.e., Myeloma Matters email newsletter, Year in Review, Impact Report), news and media releases, and in any other general public announcement.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR RESEARCH INVOLVING ANIMALS

In the event that the submitted research involves animals (i.e., vertebrates or cephalopods), the researchers shall employ the guiding principles of replacement, reduction, and refinement ([Three Rs of Humane Animal Experimentation](#)) according to the Canadian Council on Animal Care (CCAC).



The investigator(s) shall also ensure that research activities involving animals have been pre-approved by their institution and:

- maintain a valid [CACCC Certificate of Good Animal Practice](#);
- ensure that the research fully complies fully with [CCAC standards](#);

Without proper approvals, the awarded funds may be withheld.

## EVALUATION OF THE RESEARCH

All research projects or research-related initiatives will be evaluated by an independent review committee to determine their degree of relevance to Myeloma Canada's Funded Research Principals & Priorities. In the event that there are two or more applications for the same MMM, the review committee will determine the winning application based on the highest degree of impact of the expected outcomes on the field of myeloma, as well as the novelty, appropriateness, and feasibility of the project(s)/initiative(s).

**Confidentiality:** Review committee members may not communicate any information about active applications or their chances of success/failure with applicants or anyone outside the review committee.

**Fairness:** Review committee members will exercise professionalism, rigorous judgement, and be impartial, balanced, and reasonable. Constructive reviews that detail strengths/weaknesses of applications are encouraged.

**Conflicts of Interest:** Review committee members are required to withdraw from reviewing their own proposals or proposals that they are involved in.

**Transparency:** Applicants may request access to all written materials used to evaluate their application. Requests can be sent to Gabriele Colasurdo, Myeloma Canada's Director of Science & Research, at [gcolasurdo@myeloma.ca](mailto:gcolasurdo@myeloma.ca). A list of review committee members involved in the decisions will be posted on the 2024 MMM Research Fund-sharing Partnership Program website within 30 days of the decisions.

## RESEARCH GRANT DISBURSEMENT

Awarded research grant funds will be disbursed in Q1 2025 to ensure that all funds for the 2024 MMM campaign have been received by Myeloma Canada and accounted for. Grant winners must provide Myeloma Canada with an updated budget that is based on the actual amount of the awarded research grant.

## DECISION GRIEVANCES, COMPLAINTS, AND FEEDBACK

Applicants may not always agree with the review committee's opinions and decisions. As such, Applicants may email their questions and concerns to Gabriele Colasurdo at [gcolasurdo@myeloma.ca](mailto:gcolasurdo@myeloma.ca). Myeloma Canada will investigate all inquiries to determine whether the funding decision should be reviewed. Review committee decisions may only be reviewed and overturned under exceptional circumstances. Feedback received may be used to update and improve review processes and communications with applicants.

## QUESTIONS?

For any questions or additional information regarding the 2024 MMM Research Fund-sharing Partnership Program, please contact Gabriele Colasurdo at [gcolasurdo@myeloma.ca](mailto:gcolasurdo@myeloma.ca).