Feeding Kids, Nourishing Minds School-based Nutrition Research Initiative

Catalyst Funds

Application Form

Date: August 22, 2022

The Feeding Kids, Nourishing Minds (FKNM) School-based Nutrition Research Initiative is a four-year research project that aims to provide a comprehensive overview of school food programs in Canada and identify best practices in relation to the design, delivery, and measurement of school food programs. The Catalyst Funds are available to support FKNM projects that align with tracks 3 and 4 of the project. Examples of eligible expenses include research personnel salaries, materials, and research supplies. Applicants must demonstrate how they are or intend to enter schools.

The Joannah & Brian Lawson Centre for Child Nutrition, which is co-led by the University of Toronto’s Departments of Nutritional Sciences, Family and Community Medicine and Paediatrics, connects scholars, health practitioners, patients, and knowledge users to improve the nutrition of children in Canada and globally.

Eligibility and Requirements:

Applicants can come from any University of Toronto department, including UTSC and UTM and the primary supervisor does not need to be a member of the Feeding Kids, Nourishing Minds steering committee. However, a recommendation from a steering committee member is required.

Due to the primary focus of the Feeding Kids, Nourishing Minds project, it is anticipated that applicants will be primarily from the Department of Nutritional Sciences. However, applicants in other departments are eligible to apply. A recommendation from a steering committee member is required to ensure that the supervisor’s expertise aligns well with the project. For a full list of steering committee members please, email child.nutrition@utoronto.ca. Additional eligibility requirements are identified below.

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<td>Name: Click or tap here to enter text.</td>
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<td>Department/Division: Click or tap here to enter text.</td>
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Are you a FKNM Steering Committee member? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If no, indicate which steering committee member(s) recommended?

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<th>Financial Support from FKNM (CAD):</th>
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<td>Click or tap here to enter text.</td>
<td>☐ 4 months</td>
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*Indicate how the funds will be used (i.e., student stipends, publication fees etc.) and justify.*

*Click or tap here to enter text.*

If applicable, list other funding support:

*Click or tap here to enter text.*
The FKNM nutrition research initiative is designed as four tracks. We are currently inviting proposed project ideas that align with tracks 3 and 4. The tracks are briefly described below.

**Track 3:** The FKNM nutrition research initiative aims to identify high quality measurement tools and related gaps to assess school food environments in Canada. The goal is to assess the school food environment with validated, high-quality measurement tools and design and pilot test a national school feeding strategy. This will include tools to assess the physical (e.g., nutritional quality, availability of food items), economic (e.g., food procurement, prices), socio-cultural (e.g., food service providers, management, nutrition education/knowledge) and policy (e.g., guidelines, regulations) environment. **We are inviting proposed project ideas that will pilot test, assess, and validate measurement tools in a school setting, including assessment of dietary intakes and evaluation of school food programs and environments.**

**Track 4:** The FKNM nutrition research initiative aims to develop, design and pilot test a school feeding strategy, considering equity indicators, in a select sample of school in Ontario and nationally, on student’s dietary intakes, school achievement and health outcomes. The goal is pilot test a school feeding strategy in a minimum of five schools. **We are inviting proposals for a project that will evaluate various aspects of and modes of school feeding strategies in Canada as it relates to dietary intakes, health outcomes and school achievement.**

Please describe the proposed project. Describe in detail the alignment of the project with one or more of the FKNM tracks, the methodology and the relevant expertise of the research team. Indicate how you are or intend to enter schools. Please refer to the accompanying Call for Proposal document for more information on how the proposal will be evaluated.

*Click or tap here to enter text.*
Application Deadline: September 30, 2022

Application Procedure:
Please fill out the application form and submit via email to: child.nutrition@utoronto.ca

Eligibility Guidelines:
1. Principal Applicant must be a University of Toronto faculty and hold a SGS Graduate Faculty Membership: https://facultyandstaff.sgs.utoronto.ca/gfm/faculty-members-a-z/
2. University of Toronto students, including domestic and international students, may be nominated.
3. Steering committee supervisors can be named as primary supervisor for multiple applications of this Program.

The University of Toronto is strongly committed to diversity within its community and especially welcomes applications from racialized persons / persons of colour, women, Indigenous / Aboriginal People of North America, persons with disabilities, LGBTQ persons, and others who may contribute to the further diversification of ideas.

Please direct any questions to child.nutrition@utoronto.ca.