Hamilton Academic Health Sciences Organization (HAHSO)

AHSC AFP Innovation Fund
Local Guidelines and Application Process

Background
The Provincial AHSC AFP Innovation Fund was established from new annual AHSC AFP funding under the Physician Services Agreement between the Ontario Medical Association (OMA) and the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC). This Innovation Fund is targeted to support: "the development of new and innovative practices in health care delivery, and to support leadership and the dissemination of knowledge across the healthcare system."

The HAHSO Grant Adjudication Panel manages the application process and formulates recommendations regarding funding approval of Innovation Fund proposals to the HAHSO Board of Directors who in turn submit recommended projects to the Innovation Fund Provincial Oversight Committee. (IFPOC)

Criteria for the Innovation Fund
1. The proposal must indicate a topic and description that is in-scope as defined by the Provincial Innovation Fund Guidelines.

2. The format of the documentation must adhere to provincial requirements.

3. The proposal should include a target start date, an implementation plan, a reasonable and well-documented budget, and provide indicators of progress against which the success of the project will be measured. The maximum annual funding is limited to $100,000.00 and the maximum duration of the project is two years.

4. The resource implications for the Hospital and/or the University must be considered. If there are resource implications (space, staff, resources), formal approval by each institution is required.

5. The principal investigator must be a participating physician in the AHSC AFP.

6. Each physician association must sign off on member’s applications prior to review by the Grant Adjudication Panel.

7. Provincial guidelines for physician compensation will be applied to all successful proposals.

8. The funding is a one-time investment over an agreed-upon limited time frame, but no longer than two years. Funding will be provided for the initial year with the release of the second year contingent upon an annual review process to ensure the project is achieving its stated objectives.
9. The proposal should articulate a continuity plan if the project term exceeds the funding term. Continuity support from the Hospitals and/or University cannot be assumed.

10. The release of funding will be conditional upon receiving Research Ethics Board approval or a letter from the Research Ethics Board stating approval is not applicable for the project.