

2026 Canadian Lung Association: Allied Health Research Grant

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Introduction

The Canadian Lung Association (CLA) is pleased to launch the request for applications for 2026 for the Canadian Lung Association: Allied Health Research Grants.

Eligible researchers must be conducting lung research that aligns with the Canadian Lung Association mandate and is a respiratory health professional from a recognized clinically-based discipline (e.g., registered nurse, nurse practitioner; physiotherapist; respiratory therapist; pharmacist; cardio-pulmonary technologist; polysomnographic technologist; kinesiologist; dietician; occupational therapist; social worker; or psychologist) **MDs are not eligible for Canadian Lung Association: Allied Health Research Grant as a Principal Investigator.**

Submission Deadline

Registration deadline: March 25, 2026 by 16:00 EDT

Application deadline: April 8, 2026, by 16:00 EDT

The forms may be downloaded from the Canadian Lung Association website:
<https://www.lung.ca/research>

About the Canadian Lung Association Allied Health Research Award

The research awards program of the Canadian Lung Association was established in 1959. It is financed through generous donations to the Canadian Lung Association.

The objective of the Canadian Lung Association: Allied Health Grant is to promote research in areas that contribute to the field of respiratory health in Canada. Studies should include research related to an applied or clinical question using quantitative or qualitative methodologies. **The study may include a basic science component, but the primary research questions must be patient-centred or clinically**

focused.

The Canadian Lung Association will partner with the Canadian Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology Foundation (CAAIF) on one (1) grant where the research aligns with both organization's missions.

CLA's mission is to improve lung health and save lives through research, education, and advocacy.

CAAIF's mission is to invest in research leading to new and better treatments that improve the lives of Canadians living with allergy, asthma, and immunologic diseases.

It is anticipated that two Allied Health Research Grants will be funded.

Eligibility

To be eligible for a Canadian Lung Association: Allied Health Research Grant the principal investigator, who is considered the principal applicant, must be:

- A Canadian citizen, permanent Canadian resident or landed immigrant.
- These awards must be held at a Canadian post-secondary institution, health care organization, or educational institution that is authorized to administer CIHR grant and award funds (see a list of authorized institutions at: <http://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/36374.html>).
- The principal investigator, who is considered the principal applicant, must be a respiratory health professional from a recognized clinically based discipline (e.g., registered nurse, nurse practitioner; physiotherapist; respiratory therapist; pharmacist; cardio-pulmonary technologist; polysomnographic technologist; kinesiologist; dietician; occupational therapist; social worker; or psychologist). **MDs are not eligible for Canadian Lung Association: Allied Health Research Grant as a Principal Investigator.**
- Pursuing a patient-centred research study with respiratory health as the major focus.
- At the time of submission, and for the duration of the award, individuals who currently hold or have held and/or are being supervised by individuals holding or have held funding, directly or indirectly, from tobacco, vaping, and/or cannabis industry are not eligible.

Award Value

CLA Portion	Minimum Matching funds from Principal or Co-Investigator	Award Value
\$15,000	\$15,000	\$30,000

The Allied Health Operating grant is based on a 50:50 match formula between the Canadian Lung Association and the Principal Investigator. The matching funds can include funding from active operating grants, PI's department or institution, and/or a research partner, including a Provincial Lung Association. The PI, department head, host institution, and/or a partner agency is required to provide written confirmation of the remaining funding - \$15,000 - for one year. Funds from the Canadian Lung Association will not be released until official confirmation of matching funding is received.

Instructions for Submitting a Research Grant Application

The forms may be downloaded from the Canadian Lung Association website: <https://www.lung.ca/research>

- Applicants must register at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2026_AHO_Reg by **March 25, 2026 by 16:00 EDT**. Applicants are required to provide the names of the Principal Investigator, Co-Investigators, supervisor (if applicable), three (3) suggested reviewers, the project title, keywords, and a maximum one-page abstract of your research project. The Canadian Lung Association will confirm receipt of your registration via e-mail on March 27, 2026.
- Upload one (1) electronic copy of the application to https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2026_AHO_App by **April 8, 2026 by 16:00 EDT**. The electronic copy must include a completed copy of the application form with signatures and all the relevant documents. The Canadian Lung Association will confirm receipt of your application via e-mail on April 9, 2026.
- Do not use additional pages except where indicated. Keep the application as clear and concise as possible. Note that copies of your publications are not required.
- Applicants are expected to include within the body of their application, and not in the appendices, all essential information required to permit assessment of the application. Additional information should be included in the appendices, e.g. ethics approval for clinical facilities, questionnaires, and consent forms. Copies of publications is not required unless necessary for the application.
- Ethics approval for the proposed study is required if the proposed work will use human/animal subjects and/or confidential records. Before release of funds occurs, evidence is required of ethical clearance by a duly constituted ethics review committee or other body associated with the institution(s) involved. The same Principal Investigator must be named on the Ethical Approval Certificate and the grant application. The only exception is in the context of a student application where the study might be a component of an approved larger study.
- All co-investigator(s) should be identified, including their professional designations in the Co-Investigator(s) section. Postgraduate students should identify thesis committee members and/or supervisors, as appropriate.
- Complete the application form, filling in all the requested information and obtaining all required signatures. Use 12 point, Times New Roman, single-spaced, with 1.9cm (0.75”) margins.
- Ensure that the budget is accurately calculated and detailed justification is provided for funds requested. If funding and/or other support covering the costs that would otherwise be required for elements of the research will be provided by another source, please identify the item/category and source within the budget section.
- The study proposal must not exceed four pages including figures (excluding references) and should include:
 - Problem statement, significance of the problem and purpose of the study;
 - A review of the present state of knowledge relative to the work proposed, including references to key publications and relevant work carried out by the principal and/or co-investigator(s);
 - Research objectives, questions or hypotheses;
 - A description of the methods and procedures (including study design, recruitment, sampling power calculations and sample size estimates, data collection and plan for data analysis);

- Information regarding the established reliability and validity of existing instruments to be used or steps to establish reliability and validity of any instruments being developed;
- A description of ethical considerations (please include a copy of the consent form(s) in draft or final as an appendix);
- A statement of the relationship of the proposed study to the mission of the Canadian Lung Association, and the Canadian Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology Foundation if the theme of the project is related to the allergy, asthma, and immunologic disease.
- A statement of the expected contribution of the proposed study to the respiratory health field and patients;
- A description of the roles of the principal investigator, co-investigator(s) and other key personnel (e.g. research assistants);
- NOTE: applicants who are postgraduate students applying for funding for research related to their thesis should include the role of the thesis committee members and supervisor(s);
- A detailed timeline;
- Plans for knowledge translation and dissemination to patient communities.
- References (Separate page)
- A complete copy of the applicant(s) (and supervisor's and co-supervisor(s), if applicable) CIHR Biosketch or Narrative style CV.
- Provide a letter confirming source and value of matching funds.
- If collaborators who will make significant contributions to the research proposed are not listed as applicants on this application, a signed statement of agreement from each collaborator must be appended; and
- Acknowledge the eligibility criteria by checking the box and signing the eligibility acknowledgement.

NOTE: Incomplete applications or applications that do not follow guidelines for completion will not be reviewed. It is your responsibility to ensure that your submission is complete.

General Conditions of Awards for Research Grants

The following general conditions apply to research grants awarded by the Canadian Lung Association:

- The Canadian Lung Association assumes no responsibility for accidents, illness, or claims arising out of studies, work, or other activities undertaken with financial support provided by the Canadian Lung Association.
- Copyright of all publications belongs to the author(s). However, in any publication arising from the Allied Health Fellowship award are to include an acknowledgment of award received as either:
 - **The Canadian Lung Association: Allied Health Operating Grant**
 - **Or The Canadian Lung Association/Canadian Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology Foundation: Allied Health Operating Grant**
- It is understood that the name of the successful applicant, his/her field of study and some content

of the lay abstract and final report to the Canadian Lung Association and/or CAAIF (if applicable) will be made public. Successful applicants are expected to facilitate knowledge translation in their field of expertise through presentations in conferences and/or workshops sponsored by the Canadian Lung Association.

- Proposed projects and funding requested for this funding opportunity should be for projects where further funding is not required for completion of the research proposed with funds necessary and sufficient for the described project.
- Any commitments (or expenditures) incurred by a grantee either in excess of the current grant funds or beyond the term of the grant are the responsibility of the grantee.
- The grantee (or the institution on his/her behalf) shall, if the need arises, immediately notify the Canadian Lung Association in writing of his/her inability, for any reason, to carry out or complete the research for which a grant has been made.
- Normally grants are awarded in support of research to be conducted in a specific Canadian institution with concurrence of the institution's executive head. Transfers to another institution are permitted during the course of funding; however, you must request a transfer from the Canadian Lung Association in writing prior to doing so. The request must include an explanation of why the transfer is requested and how the transfer will affect the course of the research and information on how the proposed institution will support the continuation of the research.
- Title to equipment purchased under a grant remains in the institution at which the grant is held but its use for research projects listed on the grantee's application or otherwise approved by the Canadian Lung Association shall be given priority over other uses.
- Applicants may only submit one Canadian Lung Association: Allied Health Research Grant as a Principal Investigator at any one time. Fellowship applicants may apply for both a Canadian Lung Association: Allied Health Fellowship and Grant in the same competition cycle, provided they meet the eligibility requirements.
- Principal Applicants may not hold by funds from tobacco, vaping, and/or cannabis industry.
- A maximum of \$3,000 may be budgeted for knowledge translation activities.
- Salaries paid to research assistants and support staff will be within the acceptable salary range for that institution.
- Grantees are not permitted to receive salary support from this operating grant award.
- All applications involving human/animal investigation must be accompanied by a letter of approval from the ethics committee of the university or other institution(s) in which the work is to be undertaken. If the ethics approval is not available at the time of submission then it needs to be sent to the Canadian Lung Association via research@lung.ca as soon as possible. No funds will be made available until this letter of approval has been received at the Canadian Lung Association.
- The award period is September 1, 2026 – August 31, 2027. Awards must start no later than December 1, 2026.

Review Process

Applications will be received at the Canadian Lung Association and screened by administrative personnel for completion and relevancy. Once an application has been accepted, it will then be reviewed in detail by at least two Review Committee reviewers for scientific merit.

Given the limited funds available, the two applications that receive the highest ranking and supports the mission of the Canadian Lung Association and/or Canadian Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology Foundation (if applicable) will be recommended for funding. Therefore, it is important that all required details are provided to facilitate the review process. The Allied Health Operating grants are administered by the Canadian Lung Association.

Two applications will be funded.

Once the review committee makes its funding recommendations, funding announcements are anticipated to be made in August. A letter of notification including rationale for the decision regarding funding is sent to all applicants via email.

Financial Administration

- The Canadian Lung Association supports only the direct costs of research. No funding is to be used for indirect costs of research including but not limited to general operation and maintenance of facilities (from laboratories to libraries), the management of the research process (from grant management to commercialization), regulation and safety compliance (including human ethics, animal care and environmental assessment).
- Awards are for twelve (12) calendar months from the date stated in the letter announcing the award or as otherwise agreed.
- If the award is accepted, funds are disbursed by The Canadian Lung Association twice yearly. The first installment is normally paid out in September 2026. Upon receipt of a satisfactory progress report and project's ethics approval in February 2027, the second installment is paid in March 2027. Progress and final reports will be shared with CAAIF, if the project is jointly funded by CLA and CAAIF.
- The Financial Officer at your Institution who deals with such funds will administer the award. Please include the name and address of the Financial Officer responsible for administering your award in your application.
- Transfers to another institution are permitted during the course of funding however you must request a transfer from the Canadian Lung Association in writing prior to doing so. The request must include an explanation of why the transfer is requested and how the transfer will affect the course of the research and information on how the proposed institution will support the continuation of the research.
- A 1-year, no cost extension may be allowed for leaves of absence for personal or medical reason upon written request to research@lung.ca prior to the leave being taken.
- At the end of the granting period, unspent funds received from the CLA must be refunded to the Canadian Lung Association. The principal investigator must contact the Institution's Financial Officer and request that the funds be reimbursed.

Project Termination Prior to Completion

In the event of termination of the research prior to completion, you must immediately notify the Canadian Lung Association in writing. Project termination requires the submission of a report detailing the reason for the termination, any results to date, and expenditures. Any unexpended funds must be returned to the Canadian Lung Association.

The Canadian Lung Association reserves the right to terminate further payments and request a refund of the award in the event that the recipient fails to fulfill the conditions specified.

Completion of Award

The Canadian Lung Association requires a final report at the end of the funding period. A final report template will be provided. The financial officer administering the award must submit a financial report upon completion of the award.

Knowledge Translation

- Successful applicants will be highlighted in the National Funding Report posted on The Canadian Lung Association website under the Research section.
- Publication of the research in a suitable, refereed professional journal, as soon as possible after completion of the study, is encouraged. Please notify the Manager, National Research Programs of such publications. Acknowledgement of The Canadian Lung Association support is required in all publications or presentations.
- Successful applicants may be requested to complete a survey (Fellowship/Grant Funding Impact Form) three – six years following receipt of funding support. This information will be used to develop reports on the impact of The Canadian Lung Association's National Research Program for the Canadian Lung Association's Board of Directors and the public.