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## Department of Medical Imaging Cross-City Collaboration Seed Grant 2025/2026

### Background

The University of Toronto's Department of Medical Imaging is committed to fostering research collaboration across hospital systems and sites that fall under the department's umbrella. This seed grant was developed to foster research collaboration between hospital systems and radiology groups at the University of Toronto. The objective of this Seed Grant is to generate new knowledge, promote innovation, and support interdisciplinary research and collaboration.

The inaugural cross-city collaboration seed grant was launched and awarded in 2024/25.

### Award

- This 2025/2026 seed grant will award up to \$20,000 for one project
- The funding period runs July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026

### Eligibility

- Principal applicants must:
  - a) Hold a faculty appointment at the University of Toronto Department of Medical Imaging (including adjunct); and
  - b) Have a primary affiliation at one of the affiliated hospital groups
- Co-PIs (up to two) with primary affiliations at separate hospital groups are encouraged
- The project must:
  - c) Involve collaboration between at least two separate radiology groups affiliated with the Department of Medical Imaging (for example, JDMI and Sunnybrook)
  - d) Focus on creation of a multi-disciplinary team and generation of pilot data
  - e) Outline a plan for future external funding
- At least one co-investigator with primary appointment outside of the Department of Medical Imaging is encouraged
- Only one application per principal applicant is permitted

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## Application Process

- February 18, 2025 – Call for applications posted
- May 16, 2025, 5pm ET – Deadline for applications
- Mid-June 2025 – Notification of funding decision
- July 1, 2025 – Funding period begins

## Applications

- Research proposal, maximum 3 pages including figures and tables (not including references)
  - a) Background and rationale (<200 words)
  - b) Research Objectives and Approach (<600 words)
  - c) Collaboration: describe how the proposed research fosters collaboration between sites (<200 words)
  - d) Timeline (<100 words)
  - e) Future funding: describe plans for future funding applications (<100 words)
- CVs for PI(s), maximum 5 pages each
- List of Investigators including PI(s) and Co-investigators including brief description of their role, maximum 100 words each
- Budget justification, maximum 1 page
- All documents should be combined in a single PDF and sent as an attachment by email to [medical.imaging@utoronto.ca](mailto:medical.imaging@utoronto.ca) with subject line “**Cross-City Collaboration Seed Grant 25-26**” cc’ing all investigators included in the proposal

## Budget

- Application budgets with direct costs of up to \$20,000 will be considered
- Eligible Expenses
  - a) Funds for trainee support (post-doctoral, graduate, undergraduate)
  - b) All supplies and services relating to the research project
  - c) Purchase or lease of equipment up to \$5,000 (if clearly justified)

Note: Funds for investigator salaries are not eligible

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## **Evaluation**

Applications will be reviewed on the following criteria:

- d) Methods and feasibility (20%)
- e) Novelty and innovation (20%)
- f) Expected impact on sustained multi-site research collaboration (20%)
- g) Expected success of future external funding applications (20%)
- h) Investigators and team (20%)

## **Selection Committee**

Applications will be reviewed by a selection committee appointed by the department Chair.

## **Requirements**

80% of awarded funds will be released by the project start date (July 1, 2025)

20% of awarded funds will be released upon receipt of a final report (maximum two pages) outlining results, barriers, and plans for future grant submissions within 18 months of the start of the funding period (by December 31, 2026)