

Seed Grants in Palliative and Supportive Care

The Global Institute of Psychosocial, Palliative and End-of-Life Care (GIPPEC), the University of Toronto Division of Palliative Medicine (DPM), and the Princess Margaret Global Cancer Program are pleased to offer opportunities for seed grants to support research in palliative and supportive care. This includes research that addresses the medical, psychological, social, legal, ethical, cultural and spiritual challenges related to cancer, and advanced and terminal disease.

Proposals will be accepted for review under the themes of:

- Clinical innovations in palliative care
- Global access to palliative and supportive care

Grant Details

Amount:	Two awards of up to \$20,000 will be offered in: 1. Clinical Innovations in Palliative Care 2. Global access to palliative and supportive care
Feasibility:	Completion of the project within two years upon approval of the grant.
Affiliation:	Applicants from all faculties who have not been funded by this opportunity in the previous year are welcome to apply, with a principal applicant or co-principal applicant affiliated with GIPPEC, the Division of Palliative Medicine at UofT, or the Princess Margaret Global Cancer Program . Applicants who are trainees or who are new investigators (less than 10 years since their first academic appointment) will be prioritized. Criteria and application details for GIPPEC Faculty are available here .
Submission Deadline:	March 2, 2026

Application

- Funding application form
- Applicant CV
- Research proposal
- Project timeline
- Budget
- Letter of support from supervisor (research trainees only)

Research Proposal

The research proposal should be limited to three typewritten, single-spaced pages. All pertinent tables, pictures, and graphs must be included within the three-page limit. The research proposal should contain the following information, with modifications depending on the nature of the project.

Significance and Background:

- Importance of the problem that the proposed project addresses.
- Implications of the proposed project to enhance knowledge, technical capability, policy, and/or clinical practice.
- Impact on the changes to concepts, understanding, methods, interventions, services, or policy in this field.

Practical Considerations:

- What is the relevance of this research project to the applicant's career goals?
- What percentage of time would the applicant spend on this research project if awarded?
- Was this research proposal submitted and/or will be submitted to other funding agencies/organizations? If so, please specify.
- Specific and well-formed research question

Innovation:

- Potential for the proposed research to challenge current conceptual or practice paradigms in the field.
- Novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation or interventions to be developed or used; advantage(s) over existing methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions, if applicable.
- Refinements, improvements, or new applications of theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions.

Relation to Grant Theme:

- Outline the extent to which the topic/problem posed relates to one of the grant themes.
- What disciplines, departments and/or community agencies will be involved? How will they be integrated? How will the quality of collaboration be assessed?

Methods:

- Overall strategy, methodology, and analysis to be used to accomplish the specific aims of the project. Include how the data will be collected, analyzed and interpreted, by who, as well as any resource sharing plans, as appropriate.
- Potential problems, alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success that are anticipated to achieve the aims.
- Description of applicants and team members' roles in the project. When human subjects are involved, the precautions to ensure patient safety and confidentiality and the relevance or implications for patient care should be explained.
- Indicate where research ethics approval will come from.
- List and describe the facilities and resources available to conduct the study.
- Potential risks and mitigation strategies

Project Timeline

Enter major milestones for your project and the expected completion date. The timeline should clearly indicate the outcomes to be achieved during the two-year granting period.

Budget and Justification

Please provide a list of the expected cost of the project and confirm that it is covered with the amount of this award and other sources of funding, if relevant. If additional funding is required to complete this project, details of potential/secured sources should be documented.

The Budget Document should not be longer than one page. The expenses associated with the following sections should include direct (personnel, equipment, supplies, travel, other expenses) and indirect costs.

Supervisor Support Letter (trainees only)

The application should also have a brief letter from the mentor describing the trainee's qualities and their suitability for the project and academic potential of the applicant. The letter should also include a brief description of the project from the Supervisor's point of view. The maximum length of the letter should be one page.

Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated on the caliber of the candidate and research team, innovation and potential for impact within the research theme, research design, feasibility within the grant period (two years), and timeline and budget feasibility.

Review Process

All applications will be reviewed by an executive research committee and/or a group delegated by the committee.

Grant Recipients

All grant recipients will be requested to submit a half page statement reflecting on the impact the grant has on your research and a list of publications resulting from the grant at the end of the funding period. Any publications or communications that result from this funding activity should include: "This research is supported by the Call for Seed Grants in Palliative and Supportive Care through the Division of Palliative Medicine at the University of Toronto, the Global Institute of Psychosocial, Palliative and End-of-Life Care (GIPPEC) and the Princess Margaret Cancer Center Global Cancer Program."

All grant recipients will be required to present their project at a seminar designated by the funding category of this grant.

Funds not spent within the two-year funding term are to be returned to the organizations for future granting opportunities.

Submission of Completed Applications

Completed applications can be submitted [online](#) or sent as one PDF file to gippec@uhn.ca. Please direct any questions to gippec@uhn.ca