



## 2023 Seed Funding Grants – Call for Proposals Guide

**Applications due 30 November 2023 at 5pm Australian WST.**

The goal of the Rio Tinto Children's Diabetes Centre: A JDRF Global Centre of Excellence in Diabetes Research (Global CoE) is to improve the lives of all young people living with diabetes, their families and community by bringing together research, education and clinical care. The Global CoE is supported by five national and global institutions/hospitals and will be a world-leading initiative building on the excellent team, experience, and connections already in place among the Global CoE and partner sites.

The Global CoE, through its Community Involvement Framework and Guidelines, is committed to embedding consumers and the community within its programs of works to ensure meaningful research occurs that will directly benefit children and young people living with type 1 diabetes.

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### Summary

The Global CoE aims to encourage new and innovative research, researchers and translation ideas and projects. Seed funding grants are made possible through funding support by Rio Tinto, Telethon Trust and JDRF, and are intended to generate pilot data to increase competitiveness and strengthen application for larger grants from sources such as Australia's National Health Medical Research Council and JDRF in future funding rounds. **Applications are sought for projects that progress the goal of the Global CoE which is to improve the lives of children and families living with type 1 diabetes.**

These grants are open for early to mid-career researchers\* (EMCRs) and allied Health Professionals, the amount available per project funded is set at \$20,000 AUD (excl. GST). At least two seed funding grants may be awarded in this funding round; there is provision to award more grants based on proposal merit and the evaluation and recommendations of the Review Panel.

All projects will need well-defined deliverables and applicants must justify their requested budget against defined project costs. If a proposal is successful, the investigator may receive the grant in two 'instalments' according to demonstrated achievement of scheduled deliverables. The planned duration of funded activities will be no more than 18 months.

*\*The 'effective' number of years from the date that Doctorate of Philosophy (PhD) thesis was passed (not date of degree conferral) Relative to Opportunity and once Career Disruptions are considered.*

*"Early Career Researchers" are defined as having less than 7 years' postdoc.*

*"Mid-Career Researchers" are defined as having less than 15 years' postdoc.*

*"Early Career Researchers" may include individuals with a University medical, allied health, nursing or relevant Biomedical Science degree plus three years full-time equivalent of active research. experience (the date the applicant achieved three years (full-time equivalent) research experience will be used as a "PhD pass date" equivalent).*

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### Advice

Seed funding grants will be awarded to projects that address outcomes for type 1 diabetes (T1D) that contributes to at least one objective of the Global CoE:

1. *To formulate a framework to develop, implement and evaluate models of care that lead to improved health outcomes and reduced burden for people living with T1D.*

2. *To promote effective transfer of research outcomes into health policy and/or practice.*
3. *To develop novel advanced economic frameworks that include the broad true costs of T1D to enhance access to novel therapies and shape policies.*
4. *To facilitate effective and cross disciplinary collaboration and partnerships with academia, industry, consumers, clinical organisations and key experts and stakeholders.*

The project proposal should also include one or more of the following:

- Focus on new knowledge or technologies
- Promote effective translation of knowledge or technology into mainstream clinical practice
- Been conceived and driven by members of the community and/or has a clearly identified and involved consumer group
- A focus on an underserved or disadvantaged group.

The purpose of these grants is to fund either seed activities that will support early to mid-career researchers to either generate pilot data to strengthen a major competitive grant application; including proposals that seek to contribute to improving the likelihood of attracting future funding and/or creating discovery, commercialisation, and other translation or impact opportunities.

Seed funding grants can be used toward activities including, but not limited to:

- generating pilot data
- developing collaborations with other labs and institutes
- conducting community/stakeholder consultations
- protocol development,
- simulations to support study design
- development of a competitive project grant submission.

Awarded amounts cannot be used to cover general infrastructure costs (incl. on-costs).

#### **Eligibility**

- Applicants must include a Global GCoE Collaborator as a Co-Investigator, as listed in **Attachment A**.
- Lead applicant must be an EMCR as defined in the 'Summary' section (\*)
- Applicants must submit their proposal using the *RTCDC GCoE Seed Funding Grant Application Form 2023* and follow the process as provided on this form. Only proposals using this form will be considered further.

#### **Application Review Process and Evaluation Criteria**

- A Grant Review Panel, that includes a consumer representative, will review and evaluate the eligible applications.
- Applications will be assessed on **1) scientific merit & feasibility, 2) innovation, 3) potential impact, contribution and alignment to the overall objectives of the Global CoE 4) development benefits for lead investigator and 5) community engagement / involvement** as per the *RTCDC GCoE Seed Funding Grant Scoring Guide 2023*.
- The 2 highest ranked applications will be awarded up to \$20,000 AUD.
- Additional grants may be awarded based on application merit.

### Important dates

<i>Stage</i>	<i>Date</i>
Grant round opens	29 September 2023
Applications close 5pm Australian WST.	30 November 2023
Grant Review Panel assess and make recommendations	December 2023 – January 2024
Talent and Capacity Building Subcommittee consider Panel recommendations.	By 31 January 2023
Management Steering Group endorse recommendations	Feb 2024
Applicants notified of outcome.	Feb 2024
Funds awarded	March 2024

### Conditions of award

- All awarded funds must comply with the Terms and Conditions of the award, including appropriate acknowledgement of the Global CoE in any grant outputs.
- All awarded funds must be expended within 18 months of receiving the award.
- Any funds not expended within 18 months must be returned to the Global CoE.
- Recipients will be required to demonstrate achievement of outcomes by providing:
  - Progress report 9 months from the acceptance of the award (at halfway point of the grant);
  - Presentation to Scientific Program Subcommittee at the end of the grant period on project outcomes.
  - Provide a short report at the end of the grant period (no more than 3 pages, with presentation slide deck as attachment) outlining how the funds were used, and outcomes relating to the agreed deliverables of the award.

### Related Documents

- *RTCDC GCoE Seed Funding Grant Application Form 2023*
- *RTCDC GCoE Seed Funding Grant Scoring Guide 2023*
- *RTCDC GCoE Seed Funding Grants Terms and Conditions 2023*
- *RTCDC GCoE Seed Funding Grant Policy 2023*

**ATTACHMENT A – ELIGIBLE COLLABORATORS AND SITES**

Mr	Cadarette	Daniel	Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health, Boston, US
Dr	Abraham	Mary	Telethon Kids Institute
Prof	Adolfsson	Peter	Gothenburg University, Sweden
Dr	Bebbington	Keely	Telethon Kids Institute
A/Prof	Bergman	Phil	Monash Children's Hospital, Melbourne
Prof	Bloom	David	Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health, Boston, US
Prof	Braithwaite	Jeffrey	NHMRC Partnership Centre for Health System Sustainability, Macquarie University, Sydney
Dr	Burckhardt	Marie-Anne	University of Basel, Switzerland
Dr	Cannon	Jeffrey	Telethon Kids Institute
Dr	Chetty	Tarini	NHS, Lothian, UK
Prof	Coleman	Peter	Royal Melbourne Hospital/University of Melbourne
Prof	Couper	Jenny	University of Adelaide/Women and Children's, Adelaide
Prof	Davis	Elizabeth	Telethon Kids Institute
Dr	de Bock	Martin	University of Otago, NZ/Christchurch Hospital
Prof	Fairchild	Jan	University of Adelaide/Women and Children's, Adelaide
Dr	Fegan	Gerry	Fiona Stanley Hospital, Perth, WA (adult site)
Dr	Ferranna	Maddalena	Stanford University, US
A/Prof	Fourlanos	Spiros	Royal Melbourne Hospital/University of Melbourne
Prof	Fournier	Paul	University of Western Australia, Perth
Dr	Harray	Amelia	Telethon Kids Institute
Dr	Haynes	Aveni	Telethon Kids Institute
Dr	Huynh	Tony	Children's Health Queensland
Dr	Jenkins	Alicia	University of Sydney (adult site)
Prof	Jones	Tim	Telethon Kids Institute
Dr	Kim	KiWook	University of New South Wales
Prof	Maahs	David	Stanford University, US
Prof	Maguire	Ann	Sydney Children's Hospitals Network/University of Sydney
Dr	Messer	Laurel	Barbara Davis Center, Colorado, US
Dr	Neville	Kirsten	Sydney Children's Hospitals Network
Prof	O'Neal	David	University of Melbourne (adult site)
Dr	Pease	Anthony	Monash University, Melbourne
Prof	Riddell	Mike	York University, Toronto, Canada
Dr	Russell	Anthony	Queensland Health (adult site)
Dr	Shetty	Vinutha	Telethon Kids Institute
Dr	Taplin	Craig	Telethon Kids Institute
Dr	Woodhead	Helen	Sydney Children's Hospitals Network
Dr	Zaharieva	Dessi	Stanford University, US
Dr	Zimmerman	Anthony	South Australia Health (adult site)
Dr	Zomer	Ella	Monash University/ Alfred Health/Monash Health, Melbourne
Prof	Zoungas	Sophia	Monash University/ Alfred Health and Monash Health, Melbourne
A/Prof	Zurynski	Yvonne	Australian Institute of Health Innovation, Macquarie University, Sydney