

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

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Grand Challenges Canada™
Grands Défis Canada^{MC}

BOLD IDEAS FOR HUMANITY.™

Stars in Global Health Round 5 Phase I

November 2012

Executive Summary

Massive inequalities in health exist across the globe because of persistent global health challenges. The urgency to address these health disparities was reflected in the eight goals for development agreed upon by United Nations member states in the Millennium Declaration. Four of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) directly apply to health: MDG 1, eradicate extreme poverty and hunger; MDG 4, reduce childhood mortality; MDG 5, improve maternal health; and MDG 6, combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other diseases.

Historically, some of the greatest impacts in global health were from innovators who tried out **bold ideas**. The discovery of vaccines over 200 years ago and of antibiotics in the last century are classic examples of unorthodox thinking that resulted from **bold ideas** that have had **big impact** and saved millions of lives.

Grand Challenges Canada, which is funded by the Government of Canada, has developed this *Stars in Global Health* program to support **Bold Ideas with Big Impact™** from the best and brightest talent, both in low- and middle-income countries and in Canada, to use scientific/technical, social and business innovation to address some of the most pressing global health problems.

A total of \$74 million CAD has been committed to this initiative, to be awarded as competitive grants through various rounds. In each round, we expect to fund approximately 50-75 proposals from applicants in low- and lower-middle-income countries and in Canada. Awards are initially valued at \$100,000 CAD for up to 12-18 months, to demonstrate proof-of-concept of the idea.

Phase I grantees who complete a minimum of nine months of their Grand Challenges Canada grant, complete their proof-of-concept projects and have solutions that are ready to transition to scale will be invited to submit **Phase II Transition to Scale** proposals. The **Phase II Transition to Scale** program will require 50% matching of funds through partnerships to be eligible for Grand Challenges Canada funding.

Since October 2012, Grand Challenges Canada has awarded close to a 100 Phase I grants, each at \$100,000 CAD. These projects run across the whole spectrum of global health, from drug discovery, vaccine development, health and medical education, maternal and child health, non-communicable diseases (including cancer), health-related water and health-related agriculture, information communication technologies and behavioural change.

In this Request for Proposals, Grand Challenges Canada is seeking to support any **Bold Ideas with Big Impact** that improve global health, including those from agriculture and water and sanitation sectors, from talented innovators from Canada or from low- or lower-middle-income countries.

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1. Introduction

1.1 GRAND CHALLENGES CANADA

Grand Challenges Canada is dedicated to supporting **bold ideas with big impact** in global health. We are funded by the Government of Canada and we fund innovators in low- and middle- income countries and in Canada. The bold ideas integrate science and technology, social and business innovation (we call this *Integrated Innovation*) and we work to catalyze scale, sustainability and impact. We have a determined focus on results and on saving and improving lives.

“Canada has supported development innovation, pioneering new approaches to maximize impact and leverage private sector capital to address global development challenges. Canada’s strategic investments over the past several years are showing promising results... progress by Grand Challenges Canada in tackling critical barriers to solving some of the most pressing global health challenges”

Budget 2012, Fostering Sustainable Global Growth

Through the 2008 **Development Innovation Fund**, Canada was the first country to adopt a Grand Challenges approach to solving global health challenges in its official development assistance envelope. Grand Challenges Canada is the primary delivery vehicle for this fund, working alongside its consortium partners, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the International Development Research Centre.

Grand Challenges Canada is a significant new undertaking in Canadian foreign aid. Our vision is: **Bold Ideas. Big Impact. A Better World.** Our mission is: **Saving and improving lives in low- and lower-middle-income countries through Integrated Innovation.** Our primary priority is: **Solving critical global health challenges.**

At the core of our operating philosophy is **Integrated Innovation™**, which is the coordinated application of scientific/technological, social and business innovation to develop solutions to complex challenges, and to identify and overcome barriers in order to sustainably bring these solutions to scale. (Please see www.grandchallenges.ca/integrated-innovation.)

1.2 BACKGROUND

The Problem

Despite more than a decade of focus on the Millennium Development Goals, intolerable inequities in health between high- and low-income areas in the world persist. For example, malnutrition in children is over 10 times more prevalent in developing countries than developed countries, a newborn is over 35 times more likely to die in the first month of life in the developing world than in developed countries, a woman in a low-income region is 50 times more likely to die in pregnancy and childbirth than a woman in a high income region, and tuberculosis is still over 100 times more prevalent in sub-Saharan Africa than it is in North America.

In addition, many low- and middle-income countries are now facing a double burden of disease, with non-communicable diseases and conditions such as mental health issues, hypertension, cancer and injuries (which previously were predominant only in developed nations) joining infectious diseases to magnify this health disparity.

Investigators in low- and middle-income countries can significantly contribute to global health, because they live among the target populations and understand the context through which global health interventions will be delivered. In addition, through their access to excellent, world-class training and research facilities, Canadian innovators have the potential to make a difference in the area of global health.

Historically, some of the greatest impact in global health was from innovators who tried out bold ideas. The discovery of vaccines over 200 years ago and of antibiotics in the last century are classic examples of unorthodox thinking that resulted from **Bold Ideas** that have had **Big Impact** and saved millions of lives.

We have developed this *Stars in Global Health* program to support **Bold Ideas with Big Impact** from the best and brightest talent in low- and lower-middle-income countries, Canadian International Development Agency 'Countries of Focus' and Canada who will use scientific/technical, social and business innovation to address these most pressing global health problems.

The tremendous skills and knowledge of these innovators mean that we can harness an opportunity to address these global health challenges. We will accept any **Bold Ideas with Big Impact** that improve global health, including those from agriculture and water and sanitation sectors.

2. Approach

2.1 PROGRAM GOAL

The goal of this Request for Proposals is to support **Bold Ideas** for solutions to global health problems from innovators in eligible countries (see list in Section 4.1 of this Request for Proposals, based on the World Bank's classification of low- and lower-middle-income countries and the Canadian International Development Agencies (CIDA) 'Countries of Focus'). Bold, innovative, transformational, outside-the-box solutions are encouraged.

2.2 PROGRAM SCOPE

Grand Challenges Canada seeks **proposals for innovative solutions** that could be easily implemented in developing countries to improve global health. We seek **ideas** that are **bold and creative** and that have the potential to make a substantial impact on a global health problem. The proposed innovations would need to:

1. Have a strong likelihood of achieving substantial and measurable health gains in an under-resourced setting;
2. Maximize delivery, uptake, acceptability, sustainability and impact by integrating scientific/technological, social and business innovation. We call this “Integrated Innovation”. (See the *Integrated Innovation* white paper available at www.grandchallenges.ca/integrated-innovation)

Desirable attributes include:

- Approaches that can be used effectively to improve health in communities with no or only basic healthcare infrastructure/personnel
- Solutions appropriate for settings with limited infrastructure (e.g., lack of electricity or clean water, etc.)
- Approaches that minimize maintenance and training
- Solutions that can be easily assimilated into cultural practices and existing health delivery mechanisms (including in communities with no or basic health clinics)
- Extreme affordability
- Approaches that reflect an understanding of the target user market and addresses the needs of this user
- Solutions that include a solid business plan to drive market penetration and uptake in poor countries.

We will *not* consider funding for solutions that are not applicable to a low-resource, developing world setting.

2.3 SIZE AND LENGTH OF GRANTS

Assuming a sufficient number of proposals of merit, a total of \$74 million CAD is available for this program through various rounds. Awards are initially valued at \$100,000 CAD for up to 12-18 months to demonstrate proof of concept of the idea.

In this round, we anticipate awarding between 50-75 grants each valued at \$ 100,000 CAD.

Phase I grantees who complete a minimum of nine months of their Grand Challenges Canada grant, complete their proof-of-concept projects and have solutions that are ready to transition to scale will be invited to submit **Phase II Transition to Scale** proposals. The **Phase II Transition to Scale** program will require 50% matching through partnerships to be eligible for Grand Challenges Canada funding.

3. Activities and Deliverables

The principal investigators funded under this effort will be expected to engage in the activities and provide the specific deliverables listed below, which will help to demonstrate project progress and success:

- Progress reporting, including periodic conversations via teleconference and written reports upon request
- Dissemination of knowledge through publications in peer-reviewed literature, etc.
- Provision of a final report that captures a clear assessment of the potential impact of the project; instructions for reporting will be provided to successful grant recipients. This report will also identify social, cultural and commercialization barriers to implementation, and an initial plan for delivering the intervention at scale that addresses these barriers.

In addition to engaging in investigative activities related to their proposed project, grantees will be expected to:

- Where appropriate, actively participate in meeting(s) that bring together grantees to share learning and best practices
- Commit to Grand Challenges Canada's Global Access, Data Access and Ethics policies (see www.grandchallenges.ca/resources/)
- Participate in public engagement activities.

4. Rules and Guidelines

The Canadian Institutes of Health Research oversees the peer review process, and the Grand Challenges Canada Board of Directors makes the final funding decisions.

4.1 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. Eligible applicants include non-profit organizations, for-profit companies and other recognized institutions that can successfully execute the activities in their respective technical area and are capable of receiving and administering grant funding.
2. Applicants from the following list of countries are eligible to apply to this round of the *Stars in Global Health* Request for Proposals. For the purposes of determining eligibility, Grand Challenges Canada may consider both the applicant's home jurisdiction and any other jurisdiction within which grant project activities will take place. The list of countries is based on considerations such as the World Bank's classification of low- and lower-middle-income countries, Canadian International Development Agency 'Countries of Focus' and also includes Canada.

This list is subject to revision by Grand Challenges Canada without notice. Notwithstanding inclusion below, all eligible jurisdictions remain subject to approval by Grand Challenges Canada on the basis of compliance with all relevant Canadian and international laws and policies. Whenever possible, Grand Challenges Canada will provide reasonable notice of a determination of ineligibility for applicants located within jurisdictions listed below.

| | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>Afghanistan</i> | <i>Guatemala</i> | <i>Papua New Guinea</i> |
| <i>Albania</i> | <i>Guinea</i> | <i>Paraguay</i> |
| <i>Antigua and Barbuda</i> | <i>Guinea-Bissau</i> | <i>Peru</i> |
| <i>Armenia</i> | <i>Guyana</i> | <i>Philippines</i> |
| <i>Bangladesh</i> | <i>Haiti</i> | <i>Rwanda</i> |
| <i>Belize</i> | <i>Honduras</i> | <i>Samoa</i> |
| <i>Benin</i> | <i>India</i> | <i>São Tomé and</i> |
| <i>Bhutan</i> | <i>Indonesia</i> | <i>Principe</i> |
| <i>Bolivia</i> | <i>Iraq</i> | <i>Senegal</i> |
| <i>Burkina Faso</i> | <i>Jamaica</i> | <i>Sierra Leone</i> |
| <i>Burundi</i> | <i>Kenya</i> | <i>Solomon Islands</i> |
| <i>Cambodia</i> | <i>Kiribati</i> | <i>Somalia</i> |
| <i>Cameroon</i> | <i>Kosovo</i> | <i>South Sudan</i> |
| <i>Canada</i> | <i>Kyrgyz Rep.</i> | <i>Sri Lanka</i> |
| <i>Cape Verde</i> | <i>Lao PDR</i> | <i>St. Lucia</i> |
| <i>Central African</i> | <i>Lesotho</i> | <i>St. Vincent and the</i> |
| <i>Rep.</i> | <i>Liberia</i> | <i>Grenadines</i> |
| <i>Chad</i> | <i>Madagascar</i> | <i>Sudan</i> |
| <i>Colombia</i> | <i>Malawi</i> | <i>Suriname</i> |
| <i>Comoros</i> | <i>Mali</i> | <i>Swaziland</i> |
| <i>Congo, Dem.</i> | <i>Marshall Islands</i> | <i>Tajikistan</i> |
| <i>Rep.</i> | <i>Mauritania</i> | <i>Tanzania</i> |
| <i>Republic of Congo</i> | <i>Micronesia, Fed. Sts</i> | <i>Timor-Leste</i> |
| <i>Côte d'Ivoire</i> | <i>Moldova</i> | <i>Togo</i> |
| <i>Djibouti</i> | <i>Mongolia</i> | <i>Tonga</i> |
| <i>Dominica</i> | <i>Montserrat</i> | <i>Uganda</i> |
| <i>Egypt, Arab Rep.</i> | <i>Morocco</i> | <i>Ukraine</i> |
| <i>El Salvador</i> | <i>Mozambique</i> | <i>Uzbekistan</i> |
| <i>Ethiopia</i> | <i>Myanmar</i> | <i>Vanuatu</i> |
| <i>Fiji</i> | <i>Nepal</i> | <i>Vietnam</i> |
| <i>Gambia, The</i> | <i>Nicaragua</i> | <i>West Bank and Gaza</i> |
| <i>Georgia</i> | <i>Niger</i> | <i>Yemen, Rep.</i> |
| <i>Ghana</i> | <i>Nigeria</i> | <i>Zambia</i> |
| <i>Grenada</i> | <i>Pakistan</i> | <i>Zimbabwe</i> |

- Depending on whether you are applying from Canada or from the World Bank's classification of low- and lower-middle-income countries, the Canadian International Development Agencies (CIDA) 'Countries of Focus', the following additional eligibility requirements apply:

| | Canadian Based Innovators | Low- and Lower-Middle-Income and CIDA ‘Countries of Focus’ innovators |
|------------------------|--|---|
| Academic qualification | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PhD • Health professional degree (e.g., MD, RN, ND, Chiropractor); • DVM • LLB • LLM • MPH • MBA • Nationally recognized degrees substantively equivalent to those listed above* | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Masters degree • PhD • Health professional degree (e.g., MD, RN, ND, Chiropractor); • DVM • LLB • LLM • MPH • MBA • Nationally recognized degrees substantively equivalent to those listed above* |
| Stage in Career | Open | Must be within 10 years of any degree shown above at the time of application (Degree must have been received after February 1, 2003). |
| Affiliation | <p>Mandatory</p> <p>Primary institution based in Canada</p> | <p>Mandatory</p> <p>Primary institution based in a low and lower-middle income countries and the Canadian International Development Agencies (CIDA) ‘Countries of Focus’.</p> |
| Collaborator | <p>Mandatory</p> <p>Must have a collaborator based in a low- or middle-income country (existing and/or new collaborations are equally encouraged, particularly those that will bring additional components of Integrated Innovation to your project: scientific/technological, social and business innovation)</p> | <p>Encouraged</p> <p>Existing and/or new collaborations are encouraged, particularly those that will bring additional components of Integrated Innovation to your project (scientific/technological, social and business innovation).</p> |

* The determination of equivalence is subject to Grand Challenges Canada’s sole discretion on a non-precedential case-by-case basis

| | Canadian Based Innovators | Low- and Lower-Middle-Income and CIDA ‘Countries of Focus’ innovators |
|-------------------|---|---|
| Mentor | Not Mandatory (early career investigators are highly encouraged to have mentors. Mentor can be from any country). | Mandatory (mentor can be from any country) |
| Public Engagement | Mandatory Be willing to engage the public on their project and, more generally, on global health topics. Must submit a video | Mandatory Be willing to engage the public on their project and, more generally, on global health topics. Must submit a video |

Grand Challenges Canada may, at any time at its sole discretion, modify eligibility criteria with respect to individual applicants, principal investigators or the *Stars in Global Health* initiative, to the extent that such modifications do not materially undermine the review process (see Section 4.3).

4.2 APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Applicants **MUST** apply **online** through the application website, which will become available at a later date.

Application instructions and forms will be posted on the Grand Challenges Canada website (www.grandchallenges.ca/grand-challenges/gc1-stars-program-information/).

The full proposals will consist of:

- a brief (two-page) written proposal
- the applicant’s (principal investigator’s) *curriculum vitae* (CV)
- two-minute video explaining the target global health problem, the proposed solution, and why it is a creative, bold and innovative approach.

Both the application and the video can be submitted in either English or French, or both. We will put the videos on a public website for public viewing and voting.

Applications in other languages will not be considered.

The video must not exceed two minutes; **any videos that are longer than two minutes will not be reviewed past the two-minute mark and may be truncated before the review.**

These videos will be submitted to Grand Challenges Canada as applications for its *Stars in Global Health* program. Grand Challenges Canada does not endorse the content of these videos and takes no responsibility for the accuracy of their content or the process by which they were filmed.

Please note the applicants are responsible for notifying their affiliated organization/institution(s) upon application to the Stars in Global Health program.

4.3 REVIEW PROCESS

The peer review process will be overseen by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). Each Peer Review Committee will include science/technology, social and business experts from high-, middle- and/or low-income countries. Each Committee will advise on the merit of proposals based on the evaluation criteria (see Section 4.5).

Proposals will be evaluated and ranked only with respect to the other proposals submitted to the same stream of funding. The Committee's funding recommendations will be forwarded by CIHR to Grand Challenges Canada. The final selection decisions will be made by the Board of Directors of Grand Challenges Canada at the Board's sole discretion, including its reserved rights set out in Section 4.10.

4.4 APPLICATION SCHEDULE

Please see <http://www.grandchallenges.ca/grand-challenges/gc1-stars-program-information> for application guidelines and submission instructions.

Completed proposals must be submitted by **February 6, 2013 3:00 p.m. ET.**

4.5 EVALUATION CRITERIA

1. Boldness and Creativity

Is the proposed idea innovative and bold? Is it "outside the box"? Does it have the potential to leap-frog conventional approaches? Can the innovation and delivery mechanisms be readily implemented in developing countries to improve global health? Is the proposal creative enough to have the potential to tackle the problem from a different angle, in order to make a substantial impact on a global health problem?

2. Integrated Innovation

Does the proposed solution integrate scientific/technological, social and business innovation? Is the approach truly novel and a departure from incremental or evolutionary improvements over current approaches?

3. Global Health Impact

Is the proposal likely to have a significant impact on global health? Does the proposal address a concern of priority of resource-poor countries? Are the proposed activities likely to have a positive impact on the health of the proposed target population? Does the proposal clearly explain the pathway to impact, including how it will save lives or reduce disability?

4. Technical Merit/Execution Plan

Is the proposed concept and approach based on sound scientific analysis and technical rigour? Is the proposed proof of concept appropriate and technically sound? Are feasible activities set out for the 12-18 month timeline of a Phase I grant? Does the approach represent an efficient use of resources? Does the environment in which the work will be performed contribute to the probability of success? Does the approach take advantage of unique opportunities, including partnerships with industry?

5. Public Engagement

Is the applicant able to present their approach to the public in an engaging manner?

6. Investigator Potential

Does the applicant demonstrate the potential to be a world leader in global health? (Scientific contributions to date, linkages with resource-limited countries and evidence of excellence in scholastic and entrepreneurial activities may be used as metrics of career potential). Are the proposed activities appropriate to the training and experience level of the principal applicant (and collaborators)? For investigators in developing countries, does the applicant have the support of a mentor who is capable of facilitating career development in global health research?

4.6 ALLOWABLE COSTS

Grant funds may be used for the following cost categories:

1. Personnel: *Please note, salary support is an allowable cost.*
2. Travel
3. Consultants
4. Direct Supplies
5. Equipment: *Please note, partial or full support for equipment may be requested. Funding for infrastructure will be limited.*
6. Other Research Costs
7. Sub-grants/Sub-contracts
8. Indirect costs: *Please note, Grand Challenges Canada will provide a limited amount of indirect costs based on the nature of the applicant organization, to a maximum of 13% of direct costs of the Grantee's administered grant value (1-7 outlined above). This amount will be in addition to the \$100,000 CAD of direct costs (i.e., total value of the grant will be $\$100,000 + 13\% = \$113,000$ CAD).*

Please provide a budget estimate according to the categories outlined above. At least some of the budget and activities MUST be spent/carried out in a developing country/countries.

Also note that proposals with thoughtful and efficient use of resources will be preferred over proposals representing comparable efforts that do not have the same value for the investment. In some circumstances (e.g., rapidly changing technologies), subcontracting specific project activities to an outside institution with the infrastructure and expertise to deliver results may be considered advantageous over establishing in house capacity.

4.7 PRIVACY NOTICE

To help us in the evaluation and analysis of projects, all proposals, documents, communications and associated materials submitted to the Grand Challenges Canada (collectively, “Submission Materials”) will become the property of Grand Challenges Canada and will be shared with other members of the Grand Challenges Canada consortium (the International Development Research Centre and Canadian Institutes of Health Research). We will report publicly on the number of applications received and the countries from which they originated.

The proposals will be subject to confidential external review by independent subject-matter-experts and potential co-funders, in addition to analysis by our staff. Please carefully consider the information included in the Submission Materials. If you have any doubts about the wisdom of disclosure of confidential or proprietary information, we recommend you consult with your legal counsel and take any steps you deem necessary to protect your intellectual property. You may wish to consider whether such information is critical for evaluating the submission, and whether more general, non-confidential information may be adequate as an alternative for these purposes.

We respect confidential information we receive. Nonetheless, notwithstanding your characterization of any information as being confidential, we may publicly disclose all information contained in Submission Materials to the extent as may be required by law and as is necessary for potential co-funders and external reviewers, such as government entities, to evaluate them, and the manner and scope of potential funding, consistent with appropriate regulations and their internal guidelines and policies.

4.8 WARRANTY

By providing any Submission Materials, the sender warrants Grand Challenges Canada that they have the right to provide the information submitted. Applicants with questions concerning the contents of their Submission Materials may contact Grand Challenges Canada by email at stars@grandchallenges.ca.

4.9 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Since the output of this program may lead to innovative technologies and/or products for those that need them most in the developing world, the successful development of these products may require involvement and support of the private sector, and may also involve collaborations with multiple organizations, including academic and/or non-profit research institutions. It is the intent of this program to support the formation of appropriate public-private partnerships that are essential to meet these urgent global health needs. Intellectual property rights and the management of intellectual property rights are likely to play an important role in achieving the goals of this program. Grand Challenges Canada's Global Access Strategy will guide our approach to intellectual property, and we urge all applicants, even at the application stage, to consider their willingness to submit a full proposal in compliance with the Grand Challenges Canada Global Access Strategy, the guiding principles of which are as follows:

- Breakthrough solutions to global challenges are made accessible to those in need, particularly in the developing world. Accessibility relates to both price and availability.
- Knowledge gained through discovery is broadly, and as promptly as possible, distributed between related projects and to the global scientific community.
- Commercialization of resulting outputs is encouraged, as long as the first two principles are achieved.

Grantees will be required to sign a Global Access Agreement with Grand Challenges Canada, in line with the Guiding Principles, for the use of intellectual property and other outputs arising from this program, including a non-exclusive, perpetual, irrevocable, royalty-free, fully-paid, sub-licensable, and assignable license in respect of all outputs arising from the work carried out by Grantee, or at the Grantee's direction, in connection with this Grand Challenges Canada Grant, to permit Grand Challenges Canada (and its sub-licensees) to use, educate, conduct research, develop, make, have made, import, export, sell, offer for sale, or distribute products, processes or solutions in developing markets for the purposes of Global Access. For further information, please refer to Grand Challenges Canada's intellectual property policy at www.grandchallenges.ca/resources/.

4.10 DATA ACCESS

Grand Challenges Canada is committed to optimizing the use of data to translate knowledge into life-saving solutions. To fulfill this objective, data must be made widely and rapidly available to the Grand Challenges Canada community and the broader global health community through ethical and efficient data access practices. In accordance with global access, data access represents an elaboration of the second guiding principle of the Global Access Policy which states that knowledge gained through discovery is broadly, and as promptly as possible, distributed between related projects and to the global scientific community.

Data refers at minimum to final, annotated quantitative and qualitative datasets and accompanying information such as metadata, codebooks, data dictionaries, questionnaires and protocols.

Grand Challenges Canada recognizes the value of intellectual property and commercialization and the benefits of first and continuing use of data, but not prolonged or exclusive use. In some cases, intellectual property protection, laws, or regulations may delay or preclude access to data. In such cases, the grantee will provide justification to warrant a partial or complete waiver of the data access requirement.

4.11 NATURE OF THIS PROGRAM

This Request for Proposals is part of a discretionary granting program. Submission of an application does not create a contractual relationship between the Applicant and Grand Challenges Canada. As a result, Grand Challenges Canada may:

1. Cancel this Request for Proposals at any time and for any reason;
2. Reissue the Request for Proposals at any time and for any reason;
3. Accept or reject any application which is nonconforming because it does not meet the eligibility criteria, does not comply with the application instructions, and/or does not comply with the instructions for allowable costs;
4. At Grand Challenges Canada's sole discretion, accept or reject any or all applications, regardless of an application's ranking based on the evaluation criteria, with or without providing an explanation;
5. Award a fewer number of grants than set out above;
6. Award grants with different funding amounts, different durations and/or different conditions than set out above;
7. Verify any information provided by applicants through independent research or by contacting third parties deemed to be reliable by Grand Challenges Canada;
8. Use video or other visual representation submitted by applicants on the Grand Challenges Canada website for public engagement;
9. Not provide critiques or feedback regarding the reasons a proposal was or was not selected;
10. Design grant awards to link to possible funding partners, including private sector investors.

5. Research Assurances

It is the policy of Grand Challenges Canada that research involving human subjects, research with animals, and research subject to additional regulatory requirements must be conducted in accordance with the highest internationally recognized ethical standards. In order to receive funds from Grand Challenges Canada, initially and throughout the course of a research project, researchers must affirm and document compliance with the guiding ethical principles and standards outlined below:

1. **Research involving human participants must be conducted in a manner that demonstrates, protects and preserves respect for persons, concern for the welfare of individuals, families and communities, and justice.¹**
2. **Research involving animals must be conducted in a manner that ensures their humane care and treatment.**
3. **Certain research endeavors, including but not limited to research with recombinant DNA, biohazards and genetically modified organisms, may be subject to enhanced regulation and oversight.**

While not necessary for this application, and as applicable to the individual project, Grand Challenges Canada will require that for each venue in which any part of the project is conducted (either by your organization or a subgrantee or subcontractor), all legal and regulatory approvals for the activities being conducted will be obtained in advance of commencing the regulated activity. We will further require you to agree that no funds will be expended to enroll human subjects until the necessary regulatory and ethical bodies' approvals are obtained. For further details, please see the Grand Challenges Canada Ethics policy at www.grandchallenges.ca/resources/.

Questions about the *Stars in Global Health* program or the application process should be addressed to stars@grandchallenges.ca. Responses to frequently asked questions will be posted on our website [grandchallenges.ca](http://www.grandchallenges.ca) periodically.

¹ Modified from the core principles articulated in TCPS 2 (<http://www.pre.ethics.gc.ca/eng/policy-politique/initiatives/tcps2-eptc2/chapter1-chapitre1/#toc01-1b>).