

# Play Learn Thrive

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ) REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

This document addresses frequently asked questions regarding the Play Learn Thrive Request for Proposals (RFP) launched on January 21st, 2025. Additional questions may be submitted to:  
[playlearnthrive@grandchallenges.ca](mailto:playlearnthrive@grandchallenges.ca)

This FAQ document will be updated periodically during the application submission period. This document was last updated on May 12, 2025.

For technical support, submit a ticket to the technical support team at <https://www.grandchallenges.ca/fluxsupport/>. Be sure to include your application number, a detailed description of the issue, screenshots or error messages (if possible). Note this form is for technical support only. For all questions related to the Request for Proposals or the application process you must email [playlearnthrive@grandchallenges.ca](mailto:playlearnthrive@grandchallenges.ca).

Please also visit Grand Challenge Canada’s online [Innovator Toolbox](#), which contains materials to help researchers and innovators to develop their project proposals and to plan for how their innovation can be sustainably scaled and have global impact.

### CONTENTS

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA	3
AREAS OF FOCUS	5
FUNDING AND DURATION	7
APPLICATION PROCESS AND TIMELINES	9
BUDGET, USE OF FUNDS, ELIGIBLE EXPENSES	14
ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS	15
RESOURCES	16







# ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

## HOW DO I KNOW WHETHER MY ORGANIZATION IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

Each applicant must meet the following criteria to be considered for this RFP:

- Must represent a not-for-profit organization;
- Must be a formed and legally incorporated entity (or the equivalent)<sup>1</sup>
- Must be legally registered to do business in at least one of the four priority countries (Kenya, Uganda, Lebanon, and Jordan)
- Must have an active presence in at least one of the four priority countries
- Must be implementing the project directly (in at least one of the four priority countries)
- Must be implementing their project in at least one of the four (4) priority countries (Kenya, Uganda, Lebanon, and Jordan) to be considered;
- Must adhere to the general areas of focus set out in the RFP (in Section 4.5 for POC and Section 5.5 for TTS)

## WHAT DOES “INCORPORATED” MEAN IN TERMS OF ELIGIBILITY?

The meaning of ‘legally incorporated’ will vary across different jurisdictions. It is the responsibility of every applicant to understand how this applies to their own jurisdiction. Typically, ‘legally incorporated’ means that the entity is incorporated as its own legal person, having separate and distinct legal identity. Please note that local “registration” or the establishment of an in-country office might not mean that the organization is incorporated. However, an incorporated trust or incorporated partnership (sometimes a limited liability partnership in certain jurisdictions) would be eligible. While this requirement will be screened during the Eligibility Screen, Grand Challenges Canada will also conduct a more in-depth due diligence of this criteria during the negotiations process for selected projects.

## WHAT DOES “LEGALLY REGISTERED TO DO BUSINESS” MEAN IN TERMS OF ELIGIBILITY?

Legal registration to do business is required to ensure that an organization can operate in a jurisdiction. The meaning of “legally registered to do business” will vary across different jurisdictions. It is the responsibility of every applicant to understand how this applies to their own jurisdiction. For example, in one jurisdiction, an organization might be required to have a registered office, while in another, an organization might need a license to operate.

## ARE THERE ANY COUNTRIES THAT GRAND CHALLENGES CANADA CANNOT FUND?

In this funding call, Grand Challenges Canada is unable to fund projects in countries other than the following four (4): Kenya, Uganda, Jordan, Lebanon.

Please note that we encourage collaboration with innovators from not-for-profit organizations in other countries; however, the lead applicant must be a locally registered entity in one of these four countries.

## CAN THERE BE MORE THAN ONE IMPLEMENTATION COUNTRY?

Yes, as long as the countries include only one or more of the following four (4): Kenya, Uganda, Jordan, Lebanon.

GCC encourages applicants to take the following guidance into consideration: Given the unique and context-specific thematic focus for each country, applicants submitting a multi-country application must provide a clear rationale for how the innovation or solution responds to the unique context of each implementation country. Please note that the funding maximum remains the same per application. We encourage applicants to carefully consider the funding opportunity to which they are applying, and the suitability of a multi-country innovation, as well as feasibility within the project timeframe/budget.

## DO I NEED MATCH FUNDING?

- **Proof-of-Concept (POC)** – Match funding is not a requirement for POC innovations. However, all successful applicants are encouraged to start securing match funding during the proof-of-concept phase to better position their innovation for scaling as this would become a requirement should your innovation be invited to apply for transition-to-scale funding.
- **Transition-to-Scale (TTS)** – For early-stage Transition to Scale grants, match requirements may be waived on a case-by-case basis. For later stage grants, innovators are encouraged to secure 1:1 match funds (minimum of 1:1 cash-based match to Grand Challenges Canada funds) through strategic funders and partners. At its option, Grand Challenges Canada may require more than 1:1 match funds based on the stage of the innovation.

Though it is preferred, innovators may not be required to secure a commitment of match funds at the application stage and exceptions may be made on a case-by-case basis by Grand Challenges Canada, at its option.

## MUST I BE A CITIZEN OR PERMANENT RESIDENT OF THE COUNTRY THROUGH WHICH I AM APPLYING?

No. Grants are not awarded based on citizenship or nationality. You do not have to be a citizen or permanent resident of the country through which you are applying. However, you must be affiliated with an institution that is incorporated in an eligible country (Kenya, Uganda, Lebanon, Jordan).

## CAN AN INSTITUTION SUBMIT MORE THAN ONE PROPOSAL?

Yes. An institution may submit multiple applications. For multiple applications to be considered from a single institution, the applications must each list a different Project Lead and each Project Lead must register for their own unique Fluxx Portal account.

<sup>1</sup>Incorporation means legally formed or its equivalent in order to be a juridical person. Individuals are not eligible to apply. Organizations incorporated in other countries may still apply if they are legally registered to do business in, have an active presence in, and be implementing the project in at least one of our four priority countries.



CAN AN APPLICANT SUBMIT MORE THAN ONE PROPOSAL?

No. A Project Lead may only be listed on one application to this RFP. However, there will be multiple intake periods for Transition-to-Scale (TTS), and if your application is declined during one intake, you will have the opportunity to reapply in a subsequent intake.

CAN A PROJECT LEAD PREVIOUSLY FUNDED BY GRAND CHALLENGES CANADA SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR THIS RFP?

Project Leads previously funded by Grand Challenges Canada are only eligible to apply for this RFP if their previous project has closed or will be closing before the anticipated start date of this new grant.

I PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED AN APPLICATION FOR FUNDING FROM GRAND CHALLENGES CANADA BUT WAS UNSUCCESSFUL. CAN I SUBMIT THE SAME PROPOSAL FOR THIS RFP?

Yes, you can submit the same proposal as long as your proposed innovation aligns with the scope of this RFP, and you meet the eligibility requirements.

DO I NEED SPECIFIC ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS TO APPLY?

No. This RFP is open to everyone regardless of age or academic qualifications. The Project Lead and team must have the skills needed to carry out the proposed activities of the innovation and administer the grant.

CAN A GROUP OF PEOPLE SUBMIT A PROPOSAL TOGETHER WITH ONE OR MORE CO-APPLICANTS?

We encourage collaboration in the development and implementation of projects; however, proposals can only have one lead applicant who is the project lead. One organization should apply as the lead applicant, they must be legally registered to do business in one of the four priority countries and are the entity who is implementing the project directly. The other partner(s) in the consortium can be listed as sub-grantees or sub-contractors in the budget as relevant. More details and additional eligibility criteria can be found in the [RFP](#) and/or [FAQ](#).

AREAS OF FOCUS



WHAT MUST MY INNOVATION INCLUDE TO BE CONSIDERED FOR FUNDING?

The following general areas of focus must be reflected in all project proposals in order to be considered for funding:

- Innovations should either focus on:
  - Strengthening children’s (from birth to 12 years of age) education and/or development, with a focus on those who are left behind and whose developmental and educational needs are not being met; OR
  - Strengthening the capacity and/or wellbeing of the support networks around children, including though not limited to their educators, caregivers, community care providers, religious leaders etc. OR

- Supporting children AND their support networks. While we would encourage and consider proposals that only focus on one of the first two options, preference will be given to proposals that demonstrate a dual focus on children and key figures in their support networks.
- Innovations should integrate play-based solutions in their programmatic concept (see section 2.2 and Appendix A in the RFP for illustrative examples of play-based solutions).
- Preference will be given to proposals that align with the sub-themes listed in Appendix B of the RFP. Please note that we would still encourage and consider proposals that do not explicitly focus on these sub-themes, so long as they align with the general areas of focus described in this section.
- Innovations should be culturally sensitive and community driven, accounting for the complex social, cultural and environmental drivers contributing to children’s early learning and development in at least one of the four priority countries.
- We encourage innovations that are whole child focused (see Section 2.2), understanding that children’s access to safe and supportive learning environments, both in and out of school, affects their overall development and growth outcomes.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY “SUPPORT NETWORKS AROUND CHILDREN”?

Children’s support networks could include people beyond their caregivers and educators, including community members, health workers, and others who support children closely. We recognize that children’s supports differ depending on their context, which is why we intentionally define this broadly.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY “INCORPORATING PLAY-BASED SOLUTIONS”?

To be considered for funding in this call, your proposal must demonstrate that it incorporates at least one play-based solution, examples of which are captured in Appendix A of the RFP.

Play-based solutions can be general in nature or more focused, such as mental health & psychosocial support solutions that are play-based, school-based play solutions, non-formal education play-based solutions, and more.

Playful activities are: 1) is experienced as joyful and generates feelings of enjoyment, motivation and thrill, (2) helps children find meaning in an experience or to make sense of the world around them (3) involves active engagement, often combining physical, mental and verbal engagement (4) as well as iterative thinking through practicing skills, trying out possibilities, revising hypotheses or discovering new challenges, and (5) is socially interactive, paving the way for children to understand others and build relationships.

HOW WERE THE FOCUS AREAS DETERMINED FOR THIS RFP?

Our funding priorities are guided by locally driven country analyses and consultations with leading humanitarian organizations, technical experts in ECDiE and EiE, and representatives from affected communities, including children, caregivers, and educators, and community-based organizations. The consultations aimed to identify the most pressing barriers and funding gaps affecting children in polycrisis settings which could be addressed through innovation.

Following these analyses, Grand Challenges Canada convened a workshop with nearly 40 global and regional experts from 25 organizations in all four focus countries to validate the findings and develop the scope and priorities of the RFP.



WHO ARE THE POPULATIONS OF FOCUS IN THIS RFP?

We aim to support innovators to create more robust support systems for all children from birth to 12 years of age in at least one of the four focal countries (Kenya, Uganda, Lebanon, and Jordan), with a focus on those who are left behind and whose developmental and educational needs are not being met. While the primary age range is children from birth to 12 years old, please note that projects can include children above the age of 12, to account for over-aged children who could be reintegrated into primary school, or supported through accelerated learning programs, etc.

Specifically, we aim to support children with protection risks, refugees and displaced children, girls and adolescent mothers, children with special needs and disabilities, children with mental health and psychosocial support needs, children living in remote areas (such as rural and/or coastal communities), children living in host communities, urban refugees, child-headed households, and children from minority groups and identities.

ARE WE ABLE TO APPLY EVEN IF WE ARE NOT WORKING WITH REFUGEES OR IN A WAR TORN COMMUNITY?

This RFP is focused on those who are left behind and whose development and educational needs are not being met, including children with protection risks, refugees and displaced children, girls and adolescent mothers, children with special needs and disabilities, children with mental health and psychosocial needs, children living in remote areas (such as rural and/or coastal communities), children living in host communities, urban refugees, child-headed households, and children from minority groups and identities. The RFP is not solely focused on refugees/conflict settings.

FUNDING AND DURATION

WHAT TYPES OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE THROUGH THIS RFP?

There are two types of available funding opportunities:

- Proof-of-Concept (POC) - see Section 4 of the RFP for detailed information
- Transition-to-Scale (TTS) - see Section 5 of the RFP for detailed information



HOW DO THE TWO FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES, POC & TTS, DIFFER?

QUESTION	PROOF-OF-CONCEPT (POC)	TRANSITION TO SCALE (TTS)
What is the total amount of funding available for each project?	Grants of up to \$250,000 CAD	Grants of up to \$1,500,000 CAD
Is there a minimum amount of funding that applicants can apply for?	There is no minimum amount of funding; however, we expect grants to be approximately \$250,000 CAD to achieve the goals and priority outcomes outlined in the RFP	\$300, 000 CAD
What is the duration of the grant?	Between 12 - 24 months	Between 12 - 24 months

I AM UNSURE IF MY INNOVATION IS BEST SUITED FOR POC OR TTS – HOW DO I KNOW WHICH FUNDING OPPORTUNITY TO APPLY TO?

PROOF-OF-CONCEPT PROJECTS

POC funding supports early-stage innovations to test and refine bold ideas. At the POC stage, innovators are not expected to have a previously established evidence base for their innovation, but should provide a clear plan to monitor and evaluate child, caregiver and/or educator outcomes in alignment with Section 2.5 (‘Focus on Results’) and Appendix C. Successful applications will clearly define at least one relevant priority outcome that the innovation will set out to achieve, with clearly targets and plans to measure and evaluate progress (see Section 4.4 ‘Establishing Proof of Concept’).

TRANSITION-TO-SCALE PROJECTS

At Transition to Scale (TTS), we will support promising early-stage innovations that have already achieved proof-of-concept or demonstrated initial positive results of the innovation and have significant potential to achieve sustainable impact at scale or as it reaches more people. There are different possible objectives or purposes for TTS funding based on the stage of development of the innovation, such as:

- Generate additional evidence of impact needed for scale-up, and/or address gaps in existing evidence (e.g. through validation studies);
- Advance planning for scale and sustainability (develop or validate a viable plan, business model, etc.);
- Build organizational capacity and strengthen partnerships needed to scale

Examples of TTS eligibility include:

- I have an innovation that has achieved proof of concept and now I need to develop a viable plan for scale and sustainability and/or generate evidence needed for next phase
- I need to validate the viability and scalability of business/scaling plan and address gaps
- I need to further improve and iterate upon business/ scaling plan, based on lessons learned



WILL THE AVAILABLE TTS FUNDING BE DIVIDED EQUALLY ACROSS ALL SUBMISSION PERIODS?

Each application submitted will be assessed and considered for funding in an equal manner. There are a total of 7 projects that will be funded through this RFP at TTS, and the funding will be allocated on a rolling basis to the successful proposals, depending on the eligibility and relevance of the pool of applications received.

APPLICATION PROCESS AND TIMELINES

WHAT IS THE APPLICATION PROCESS FOR EACH OPPORTUNITY (PROOF-OF-CONCEPT AND TRANSITION-TO-SCALE)?

PROOF OF CONCEPT (POC): PROOF OF CONCEPT APPLICATIONS ARE NOW CLOSED.

TRANSITION TO SCALE (TTS): Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis between January 21st, 2025, and November 27th, 2025. The first application deadline is on April 24th, 2025, at 2 pm ET. Subsequent TTS application deadlines throughout the year are:

- Application Submission Deadline #2: August 21st 2025
- Application Submission Deadline #3: November 27th 2025

TTS applications will involve a two-stage process: completing a screening questionnaire and project summary (stage one) and then submitting a full project application (stage two). Only those applications that pass stage one will be invited to submit a full application (stage two). Stage one applications will be reviewed approximately 1 - 2 months after the application intake deadline and unsuccessful applicants will be notified within this timeframe.

\*For additional details about the application process for each type of funding opportunity, please refer to the following sections in the RFP:

- Proof-of-Concept: Section 4.5
- Transition-to-Scale: Section 5.5

WHEN WILL MY APPLICATION BE REVIEWED AND WHEN WILL THE FUNDING DECISION BE ANNOUNCED?

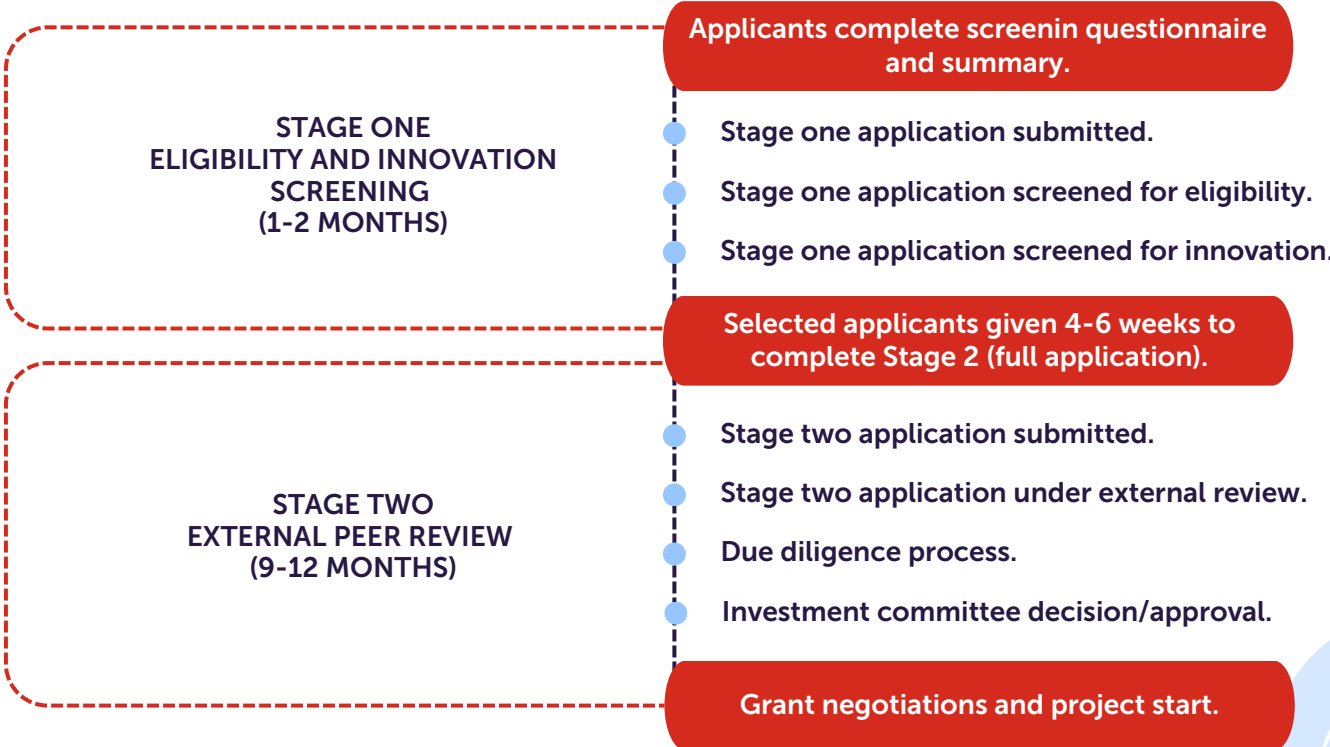
PROOF OF CONCEPT (POC): POC funding could take up to nine months to move through the application process from submission of the application to the start of the project.



Applications will be reviewed approximately 1-2 months after the application intake deadline and unsuccessful applicants will be notified within this timeframe.

Proposals that pass through the two-stage review process (screening and peer review) will be presented to the relevant body of Grand Challenges Canada for a final funding decision.

TRANSITION-TO-SCALE: TTS funding applications could take approximately 9 - 12 months to move through the application process from stage two application submission to project start. Only those applications that pass stage one (screening & Project Summary) will be invited to submit a full application (stage two).



Stage one applications will be reviewed approximately 1 - 2 months after the application intake deadline and unsuccessful applicants will be notified within this timeframe.

Successful applicants that are invited to submit a full application will be given approximately 4 - 6 weeks to complete their stage two application before undergoing external peer review.

Those invited to submit a full application (stage two) will undergo an external peer review process, followed by extensive due diligence on potential for impact, operations, finances, technical parameters, intellectual property, partnerships, gender equality, environment sustainability, and human rights and inclusion.

Final funding decisions are made by Grand Challenges Canada's Board of Directors. Recommendations for funding to the Board of Directors are made by an Investment Committee after review of staff recommendations (based on review of the application documents provided by the innovator and further due diligence) and other available information, such as brief interviews with the innovator.

### HOW DO I SUBMIT AN APPLICATION?

To apply for funding, applicants must use the online application provided, which is ONLY accessible via the Grand Challenges Canada's Fluxx Portal (<https://gcc.fluxx.io>).

If the Project Lead has previously applied for Grand Challenges Canada funding, they will already have a Fluxx account. If you don't remember your username and password, please reset your password instead of registering a new account: [https://gcc.fluxx.io/forgot\\_password](https://gcc.fluxx.io/forgot_password)

New applicants must visit <https://gcc.fluxx.io> and select "Create an account now". You will be asked to complete a short pre-eligibility quiz and fill out information on the Project Lead and applying Organization. Once registered, check your email for a verification link to activate your account. If you don't see the email, be sure to check your junk or spam folder. After activating or resetting your account, login using your credentials at <https://gcc.fluxx.io> and select the appropriate application form. Fill out all required questions. You can save your work and return to it later. Once you are done editing, you must submit your application. You must submit your application before the posted deadline.

### CAN I REVISE MY APPLICATION IF I SUBMITTED IN TIME FOR THE APRIL 24, 2025 DEADLINE FOR A PROJECT IMPLEMENTING IN LEBANON OR JORDAN?

Unfortunately, we cannot allow applications to be revised after submission.

### WHAT HAPPENS IF I EXPERIENCE TECHNICAL ISSUES WHILE COMPLETING MY APPLICATION IN FLUXX?

Google Chrome is the recommended browser. If you are unable to submit your application, you may be missing critical information. Before contacting technical support, ensure you have answered all application questions.

If you experience technical issues while completing your application in Fluxx, please try the following troubleshooting steps. If possible, save your progress before attempting any troubleshooting steps to prevent data loss.

- Refresh your Browser (Reload the page to ensure the issue isn't temporary).
- Clear Cache and Cookies. This can help resolve loading or display issues.
- Ensure you are using an updated version of Chrome.

If the problem persists, submit a ticket before the submission deadline to the technical support team at <https://www.grandchallenges.ca/fluxxsupport/>. Be sure to include your application number, a detailed description of the issue, screenshots or error messages (if possible). Note that this form is for technical support only. For all questions related to the Request for Proposals or the application process you must email [playlearnthrive@grandchallenges.ca](mailto:playlearnthrive@grandchallenges.ca).

Our team will assist you as soon as possible to resolve the issue. Please ensure you allow yourself plenty of time to register and submit your application ahead of the deadline to account for any potential technical support needs.

### IS THE APPLICATION FORM ACCESSIBLE IN OTHER LANGUAGES BESIDES ENGLISH?

No. Only the RFP is available in French and Arabic, in addition to English.

Can I apply in a different language, other than English?

No. Applications will only be accepted in English. Any application in a different language will be rejected without review. Please note that quality of the English language proposal will not play a factor in the evaluation of the proposal unless it significantly affects the clarity of the information.

### CAN I SUBMIT MY APPLICATION VIA EMAIL, MAIL OR IN PERSON?

No. All applications to this RFP must be submitted through the Fluxx (<https://gcc.fluxx.io/>). Any application sent via email will NOT be considered.

### CAN I SPEAK DIRECTLY WITH SOMEONE ON THE TEAM WHO CAN ANSWER QUESTIONS THAT ARE NOT ADDRESSED ON THE WEBSITE THROUGH A MEETING OR PHONE CALL?

Given the volume of queries we are receiving, we are unable to have 1:1 conversations with potential applicants. To maintain a fair process, we are asking that people submit their questions via email to [playlearnthrive@grandchallenges.ca](mailto:playlearnthrive@grandchallenges.ca).

You can also learn more about the Request for Proposals by watching the recording of the Applicant Webinar that was held in February 2025 [here](#).



**WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT ROLES MENTIONED IN THE APPLICATION FORM?**

In the application form, you will find the following ‘role’ types:

**Project Lead:** Project Leads are ultimately responsible for the implementation of the funded project and must comply with Grand Challenges Canada’s requirements for this same purpose. Project Leads must be formally affiliated with the grantee institution, meaning there must be some sort of contract in place between the organization and the individual (this could be a consultancy contract, employment contract, etc.).. The Fluxx account and profile used to create and submit the application must be that of the Project Lead. This is an important consideration, given the Project Lead and team makeup will be assessed as part of the review process.

**Signing Authority:** This must be a person formally affiliated with the grantee institution and who has been appointed with the powers to commit the authorizing organization to a binding agreement. Their name and role title should be provided.

Please note that if your application is selected for funding, you will have the opportunity to add an additional team member from your organization.

**CAN I CHANGE THE INDIVIDUAL AND CONTACT INFORMATION THAT I LISTED AS THE PROJECT LEAD/SIGNING AUTHORITY/FINANCIAL OFFICER AFTER SUBMITTING MY APPLICATION?**

You cannot change the key contact information after you have submitted your application. If your application is successful, you will be given an opportunity to update the key contacts during the Negotiations period.

**ARE LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION FROM PARTNERS OR COLLABORATORS NEEDED FOR THIS APPLICATION?**

No, these documents are not required.

**WILL I NEED TO PROVIDE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR DOCUMENTATION BEYOND COMPLETING THE APPLICATION FORM?**

All information and documentation required during each stage of the application will be listed on the application form. Beyond the documentation that is requested in the application form, no additional information is required at the application stage. If the applicant is successful, Grand Challenges Canada will require additional information during our due diligence and negotiation processes.

**IN THE APPLICATION GUIDELINES FOR THIS RFP, THERE IS A NOTE THAT APPLICANTS ARE REQUIRED TO SEEK AND OBTAIN SIGN-OFF FROM THEIR AFFILIATED ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION(S) BEFORE SUBMITTING THEIR APPLICATION. IN WHAT FORMAT SHOULD THIS PERMISSION BE GRANTED?**

You are required to obtain approval from your institution before submitting your application; however, there is no form or signature that needs to be completed at the time of application. If a grant is awarded, certain documents may be requested at that time.

**IF MY APPLICATION IS DECLINED, AM I ALLOWED TO RE-APPLY IN A FUTURE INTAKE PERIOD?**

For Proof-of-Concept (POC) applications, no. OP

For Transition to Scale (TTS) applications, yes. Applications declined at any stage of the process can re-apply in future intake periods. To re-apply, you will need to start a new application. Please do not register for an account again. You can start a new application by logging into your existing Fluxx account. If you choose to re-apply by submitting a new proposal, we will be looking to see how the team has incorporated the feedback received. Identical proposals will not be considered.

**BUDGET, USE OF FUNDS, & ELIGIBLE EXPENSES**

**ARE INDIRECT COSTS OR OVERHEAD CONSIDERED ELIGIBLE EXPENSES?**

Innovators are entitled to up to 10% of its Modified Total Direct Cost (MTDC) to cover indirect costs. **MTDC means all direct salaries and wages, applicable fringe benefits, materials and supplies, services, travel, and up to the first \$30,000 CAD of each subaward.** MTDC **excludes** equipment, capital expenditures, charges for patient care, rental costs, tuition remission, scholarships and fellowships, participant support costs and the portion of each subaward in excess of \$30,000 CAD. The Innovator must consistently charge its costs as either indirect costs or direct costs but must not double charge or inconsistently charge the same cost, or categories of costs, as both. Please see Section 7 of the RFP for detailed Financial Terms and Eligible Costs.

**WHEN DEVELOPING OUR BUDGET, WHAT CURRENCY SHOULD WE USE?**

Please submit your summary budget in Canadian Dollars (CAD). You can find the current exchange rate using this site: [oanda.com/currency/converter](https://oanda.com/currency/converter)

**IS TIME SPENT WORKING ON THE APPLICATION AN ELIGIBLE COST?**

No. The time dedicated to writing/submitting the proposal is not reimbursable. Salaries to execute the project, if it is selected for funding, may be included in the budget.

**CAN WE INCLUDE PART OF THE OFFICE RENT AND UTILITIES WHERE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION WILL TAKE PLACE?**

Only costs directly related to project activities are allowed under this RFP. For example, rent would only be an eligible expense if space is being rented for participants/research directly (e.g., a daycare centre). If office space is rented for administrative work to be completed, then the portion related to the GCC project would be an eligible expense. Other administrative costs may be eligible under indirect costs.



**DO THE FUNDS THAT A PROJECT LEAD AND COLLABORATOR RECEIVE DIFFER?**

A collaborator may receive funding as remuneration if they are an employee of your organization or a sub-grant organization, or they may be compensated through subcontractors’ fees. If selected for funding, more information would be provided during grant negotiations.

**ARE ORGANIZATIONS ALLOWED TO HIRE ADDITIONAL STAFF (I.E. NOT SUBCONTRACTING) SPECIFICALLY FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPLEMENTING THE PROJECT?**

Yes, you may hire new staff to support project implementation as appropriate.

**WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THE TERM ‘SUB-GRANT’?**

We define a sub-grantee as an external organization that acts like a partner to provide key services required to complete the Project and cannot be easily replaced by a vendor or supplier. In such instances, our funds would flow from your organization to these partnering organizations. See section 7.1 “Eligible Costs” in the RFP for more details on sub-grants.

**RESOURCES**

We strongly encourage applicants to use the following resources as you put together your application:

- Full RFP Document
- RFP 2-pager
- Innovator Resources: List of Grand Challenges Canada policies

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS**

Any additional questions should be sent to [playlearnthrive@grandchallenges.ca](mailto:playlearnthrive@grandchallenges.ca)

