



SPARCC Pilot Project Research Program - 2021

Objective of the Program

The **Spondyloarthritis Research Consortium of Canada (SPARCC)** is relaunching the **“PILOT PROJECT RESEARCH PROGRAM”** in **2021** which provides seed funding to support research proposals aligned with its primary objective for the advancement of **spondyloarthritis (SpA)**-related research. SPARCC will provide one-year seed grants to be awarded on a competitive basis to innovative proposals in the area of SpA research. SPARCC aims to approve 3 awards in 2021 to successful applicants.

Criteria for Eligibility

The Program is open to Canadian investigators; membership in SPARCC is not a prerequisite. The awards will be for a one-year period. Although an investigator may submit more than one application, only one meritorious grant will be awarded per investigator. The maximum amount per award will be \$25,000 for the one year.

Mentorship

The SPARCC Executive Committee extends mentorship assistance to junior faculty to determine feasibility of projects prior to submission. If you would like to avail of this opportunity, please contact our administrative coordinator appended below.

Grant Conditions

- Grant recipients must acknowledge SPARCC in any communication, materials or publications related to the project. The SPARCC logo must be displayed in all written communication, including but not limited to PowerPoint presentations.
- The results of the project will be presented during the SPARCC annual scientific meeting, with a written report of the entire project submitted to SPARCC within 60 days of that meeting.
- Within three (3) months after the activity, an end-of-grant report will be required summarizing the outcomes and describing how the grant funds were used; any left-over funds will be returned to SPARCC, if applicable. When necessary, grant term extension(s) may be granted on a case-to-case basis.

Adjudication Process

The adjudication process will be conducted by the SPARCC Executive Committee. The criteria for the awards will include the research record of the principal applicant, the quality of the research proposal, and the potential impact for advancing knowledge in SpA. Priority will be given to innovative new research themes with potential for capturing future peer-reviewed funding.

Application Process

The application should include the following:

- CV of the principal investigator and all co-investigators (no particular format);
- A summary of the research project (two pages maximum) which should also include a knowledge transfer (KT) component; and

- Budget (one-page maximum).

Funding Process

- Award notifications will be released to successful applicants following adjudication process but no later than May 17, 2021.
- A Funds Transfer Agreement (FTA) will then be processed between SPARCC’s institution – the University Health Network (UHN) and recipient’s affiliated institution. This process may take 4-6 weeks to complete.
- Funds will be processed effective July 12, 2021 assuming FTA is fully executed.

Applications should be sent via email to:

Ms. Maria Morales

Administrative Coordinator; SPARCC Research Program
 Rm. 2E412a, UHN - Toronto Western Hospital, 399 Bathurst St., Toronto, ON M5T 2S8
 Tel. 416-603-5800 ext. 5093; Fax 416-603-9387
 Email: maria.morales@uhnresearch.ca

Important Dates

Competition	SPARCC Research Pilot Program 2021
Application Deadline	April 30, 2021
Notice of Decision	May 17, 2021
Funding Start Date	July 12, 2021