



MOVEMBER SPORT HEALTH RESEARCH GRANTS REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS CANADA

Frequently Asked Questions

1 August 2025

Intent of Funding Opportunity:

Movember are seeking applications from potential candidates for our 2026 – 2028 Sports Health Research Initiative Grant Program. The Movember Sport Health Research Initiative aims to utilise the unique elements of sport to nurture healthy behaviours, support identity formation and increase social connectedness in young men (aged 12 – 25 years), leading to improved mental health outcomes. It will also tackle risk factors for poor mental health which are exacerbated by the sport environment, including unhelpful masculine norms, tolerance of violence and aggressive behaviour and overuse/acceptability of unhealthy coping behaviours (such as gambling and using alcohol and/or other drugs). This initiative will run from 2025 – 2028.

Movember are interested in partnering with early career researchers [ECR] working in the area of mental health and sport. Movember aim to fund innovative research projects that seek to meaningfully contribute to promoting mental health in or through community sport. Movember will fund all types of research that have the potential to improve the following impact areas:

1. the design of sports programs (sport as the intervention);
2. policies for sports programs, or;
3. interventions to be delivered in the sports setting.

The grant is aimed at ECRs who are within 7 years of PhD completion, not including any extended leave or career disruption taken during this period, and who can make an impact on mental health in and through sport.

The grant is targeted at ECRs based in Canada only.

Along with the Request for Applications (RFA), below are questions and corresponding answers that may be important when considering your participation in the Initiative. Questions that are not found in this FAQ should be forwarded to shicanada@movember.com.

ABOUT THE INITIATIVE

Q1. Who is eligible to apply?

This grant opportunity is open to any person/institution/organisation in Canada that meets the Funding Eligibility as outlined in the RFA.

Q2. How do I make a submission to this grant opportunity?

Applicants will follow the process outlined in the RFA. The application is to be submitted via the online grant portal at <https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=movember> by 5:00PM EST on 26 September 2025. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Q3. What is an Early Career Researcher (ECR)?

The RFA defines an ECR as somebody who has submitted their PhD and then undertaken up to an additional 7 years of full-time equivalent research.

Q4. Am I eligible if I am planning to submit my Ph.D. before the grant commences in January 2026?

If the Ph.D. has been submitted by the execution of contract, Movember will accept the proposal. Employment within a research institution and in-kind support of the institution is also a requirement. If the Ph.D. is to be submitted before September 26, 2025 and the research institution is willing to employ the ECR for the purposes of the project, if successful, the proposal would be eligible. Movember would need an assurance of this in the proposal. Further revisions on the Ph.D. could not disrupt research activity, which would need to be agreed at contract execution.

Q5. Am I eligible if I submitted my PhD before 2018?

No. The RFP defines an ECR as somebody who has submitted their PhD and then undertaken up to an additional 7 years of full-time equivalent research. This does not include any time off taken for cumulative career interruptions - for example, extended leave and part-time work - and this time can be subtracted from your total years of research.

We would define full-time equivalent as 38 hours each week for 48 weeks per year.

Q6. Are researchers based at research institutions outside Canada eligible for this grant?

This grant is targeted at ECRs based at Research Institutions in Canada who have Sporting Industry partnerships in Canada.

Q7. Is this call targeted at one ECR as the sole applicant or an ECR leading a team?
Either approach is acceptable so long as the ECR is the project lead.
Q8. Does the industry partner need to be finalised at the point of submission?
No. However, an MoU with the industry partner must be provided prior to final contract execution. If the industry partner is not able to provide in principle support for the proposal, evidence of previous partnership with them will be considered favourably.
Q9. Are there particular emphasis on organisations as the ‘industry partner,’ and can a variety be included?
<p>This can be determined by the ECR based on their research idea. There can be flexibility however the focus should remain on community sports as the setting.</p> <p>Movember has focussed on the organised team sports setting, recognising the value of community in improving mental health. However, we would be happy to consider projects related to more individualised nonorganized sports (for example rock climbing, surfing etc) or organised physical activity and exercise (for example Park run, Gym, etc) if potential impact can be demonstrated.</p> <p>The research idea should solve an important problem, be replicable and scalable and should prioritise mental health outcomes so that the research incubates a solution to the problem identified. There is no preference for national or local/ state-based research. The selection of industry partner should be informed by these objectives but be driven by the research question.</p> <p>Multiple industry partners are permitted; for example, if you wanted to work with both a sporting organisation and a secondary organisation focussed on domain interaction with Movember’s other interest areas (i.e., healthy masculinities).</p>
Q10. Where should the industry partner be based and is there a preference for the footprint of the industry partner?
Partners must be based in Canada.
Q11. Does this grant consider esports within the scope of activity?
<p>The focus of these grants is on community sports and physical activity.</p> <p>The RFA states that Movember has focussed on the organised team sports setting, recognising the value of community in improving mental health. However, we would be happy to consider projects related to more individualised nonorganized sports (for example rock climbing, surfing etc) or organised physical activity and exercise (for example Park run, Gym, etc) if potential impact can be demonstrated.</p> <p>We see esports sitting in its own category and this grant is focussed on the above-mentioned sports within physical activity settings. Movember are establishing a</p>

separate dedicated esports research program.

AVAILABLE FUNDING

Q12. What is the maximum amount of funding available?

Funding spans up to a two-year period and varies depending on the budget required, up to an amount of \$180,000 CAD.

We strongly recommend that you apply for the funding required to implement your initiative rather than budgeting to the maximum amount available. Projects that have been recommended for funding will have their budgets reviewed in detail.

Q13. How many projects will be funded under the initiative?

The number of projects funded under the Initiative will be dependent on the individual funding requests. Movember are looking to fund in the region of six projects across Canada, with the goal to build sector capacity and achieve real world impact.

Q14. Is it possible to submit more than one proposal if we have multiple initiatives matching this opportunity?

Multiple Proposals from the same organisation will be considered. Please submit a separate application for each initiative.

Q15. Is it expected to have co-funding for my program?

No. Initiatives are not required or expected to have co-funding in place to access funds. However, employment within a research institution and in-kind support of the institution is a requirement.

Q16. When will the funding be available for successful applicants?

Subject to the full execution of a Funding Agreement, the earliest start date for projects is January 2026.

Q17. What is the timeframe to complete the proposed Initiative?

The default grant period will be from January 2026 – 31 December 2027 to complete proposed activities, including final reporting to Movember; however, publication of research may occur after this window and the term can shift dependent on full execution of the Funding Agreement. Applications should be made for Initiatives ranging for this period, with the submitted budget costed appropriately to reflect the timeframe. Final timing will be confirmed as part of the agreement.

Q18. Is the grant to be directed at the salary of the ECR and what details are Movember expecting in the proposed budget?
<p>Grant moneys can be attributed to the salary of the ECR. An in-kind contribution is expected from the research institution, for example time release from teaching.</p> <p>The budget must cover all research activities including the research itself - data collection and storage, analysis, research assistants, publication and any research enablers, for example costs associated with participation of the industry partner.</p> <p>It is important to Movember to ensure open access to research as we aim to maximise its impact and ensure equity of access. The budget you lodge can include expenditure items for publication however applications that list existing arrangements with publishers that reduce costs of publication will be looked upon favourably.</p>
Q19. Can my submission be over the amount specified per the limit?
No. Funding requests must be made for up to the maximum amount specified in the RFA.
Q20. Is it acceptable to request a higher funding amount in the first year and a lower amount in the second but still be within the maximum funding for the grant?
Yes. Requests to vary the amount of funding is possible. However, the reason for the request would need to be clearly demonstrated in the budget justification.
ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE
Q21. Can I apply to Movember if I'm getting government funding for my initiative?
Yes. You are still eligible for Movember funding if you are receiving government funding.
Q22. While Movember's focus is on young men, can my program include young women?
Yes. We're committed to including and engaging women within many of our programs. However, as a global men's health charity, men and boys remain our primary focus. Your initiative should be able to show strong outcomes and engagement for men and/or boys as the core target audience. For example, we may consider a program that has historically strong female engagement but is aiming to increase male participation as a direct outcome of Movember's investment.
SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION
Q23. How much time do I have to submit a full proposal?
Proposals are due via online grant portal at https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Login?urlkey=movember on September 26, 2025.

Q24. Do you accept French language applications?
Yes. Applications in either of Canada's official languages are welcome. However, given the global nature of the Sport Health Research Initiative, the working language across the Community of Practice is English, hence applicants must have a representative who is able to communicate on behalf of the team in English.
ASSESSMENT OF APPLICATIONS
Q25. How will my proposal be assessed?
A review panel comprised of subject matter experts (SMEs), who do not have any conflict of interest with the Applicants, will be engaged to determine which Applications should be recommended to the Movember Board for funding.
Q26. What are the assessment criteria for the RFA?
<p>The assessment criteria for this RFA are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ELIGIBILITY: Submission meets all the eligibility criteria set out in this RFA, including that the research is undertaken by a post-doctoral researcher; 2. PROPOSED PROJECT: The technical components of the application including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Clarity of the proposal. b. Quality of the brief research outline. c. Suitability of the proposed initiative, including likelihood for real-world impact. 3. TEAM & ENVIRONMENT: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. the capability, capacity and motivation of the Respondent (ECR) to carry out and complete the proposed research activities; b. the extent to which the Respondent (ECR) has demonstrated it has the infrastructure, resource capacity and management approach to support the proposed research activities; 4. BUDGET: the appropriateness of the proposed pricing structure (non-binding indicative budget), inclusive of in-kind support provided to the research activity.
Q27. Will I receive feedback of the Proposal review if unsuccessful?
Due to the expected high volume of submissions, only general feedback will be provided.
Q28. When will I be notified about the outcome of my proposal submission?
Movember are aiming to ensure that applicants receive notification by November 2025.
GENERAL QUESTIONS
Q29. The RFA mentions a preference for leveraging open access agreements to avoid unnecessary open access publishing costs. Why?

It is important to Movember to ensure open access to research as we aim to maximise its impact and ensure equity of access. The budget you lodge can include expenditure items for publication however applications that list existing arrangements with publishers that reduce costs of publication will be looked upon favourably.

Note: Award recipients must make their research outputs and findings publicly accessible as soon as possible, and no later than twelve (12) months following the completion of the project or final publication.

Q30. If we get Movember funding, do we have to grow moustaches and raise money?

While it's not a requirement, we encourage all our program partners to participate in our Movember campaign, which runs annually from November 1st through to November 30th. There are a few different ways you can take part:

- **GROW:** Join the sacred, hairy ritual. Grow a Mo, raise funds and save lives.
- **MOVE:** Run or walk 60km over the course of the month. That's 60km for the 60 men we lose to suicide globally every minute.
- **HOST:** Surrender to a good time. Throw an event to raise funds for men's health.
- **MO YOUR OWN WAY:** A choose-your-own-adventure challenge. You make the rules, set the limits, inspire donations.

Visit Movember.com to learn more.

Q31. Who owns Intellectual Property for the Program?

Any Intellectual Property Rights in an Applicant's Project Materials will remain with the Applicant. Movember will require that a non-exclusive, perpetual, irrevocable, worldwide and royalty-free licence to use the Applicant's Project Materials. Appropriate licensing arrangements will be agreed through the contracting phase. A Movember chief investigator will join each research Project with the goal of a partnership-based approach to research. The level of participation will be based on terms agreed with the Applicant. By responding to this RFA, each Applicant agree to these terms.