New Funding Opportunity - Open to All!

Maine Medical Center Department of Medical Education and MaineHealth Innovation

Interprofessional Innovation in Education Fund Award

February 27, 2023

https://innovation.mainehealth.org/innovation-in-education-fund/

Description

The **Interprofessional Innovation in Education Fund Award** is a new funding opportunity open to all 22,000 MaineHealth care team members. Maine Medical Center (MMC) Department of Medical Education (DME) and MaineHealth Innovation are collaborating to support novel ideas that solve an unmet health care professional education need.

We invite you to submit innovative learning and development models (e.g., curriculum), processes or products that will positively impact care team members and help us achieve the MaineHealth vision of working together so our communities are the healthiest in America.

In the spirit of interprofessional collaboration, this award requires that the applicant and implementation team represent more than one health profession. Ideally, your innovative idea will also apply to learning and development in more than one health profession.

Priority

Priority will be given to applicants who can identify 2-5 specific learning objectives and examples for how those may be met by learners of different professions and/or discuss how they will adapt the learning to meet the needs of different disciplines and professions. If examples do not exist, applicants should provide a "vision" of this innovative approach.

Learners are defined broadly and can include care team members at any level of training or practice, and may also include patients as a group of learners. Applying and collaborating in digital transformation in healthcare is also a priority as this is occurring at an increasingly rapid pace (e.g., artificial intelligence, machine learning, and augmented reality). Priority will be given to the "future of" projects and novel experiential education projects.

Application

Apply online or submit to ***innovation_center@mainehealth.org***.

Please use this application which should address the following questions in 3 pages or less, single-spaced, 12-font:

- Need: Describe the unmet need.
- Approach: Describe the innovation.
- Benefit: Describe the impact of the proposed novel project/solution on the MaineHealth mission and vision. Explain how this novel solution impacts more than one of the

[MaineHealth strategic priorities](#) of Community, Patients, People, Processes and Financial Health.

- Competition: Describe what competing programs, products, or services might exist. Describe what makes your innovative approach unique.
- Outcomes: Describe the desired outcomes of this novel solution and how success will be measured.
- Sustainability: Describe the opportunities and/or need for external or institutional funding to continue the project after pilot funding is complete. How is the project sustainable?
- Dissemination Plan: Describe how this project will be disseminated including but not limited to scholarly publications or presentations.
- Team: Describe the interprofessional team that is engaged with this work. Do you have the experience and passion to make this idea a reality?
- Departmental Support: Please note if the team has department support from your supervisors and leaders for this project. Confirm that you have the time to complete the work within the timeframe of the grant funding.
- Intellectual Property Considerations (optional): How might this project create intellectual property for the innovators?

In addition to the above project description, applicants should submit:

- A proposed budget detailing how funds will be used
- A project timeline with milestones for the funding period
- If you have an existing biosketch please submit that. If not, please share a summary of each team leader's background including relevant skills and expertise necessary to complete the proposed project. This does not need to be longer than one paragraph for each person.
- If additional skills and expertise are required to complete the project, identify who the team members will be, or who from other partner institutions such as The Roux Institute or University of Maine, will provide the appropriate expertise and skills.
- If resources from other departments are required to complete the project please submit a letter of support from the appropriate department leader.
- A brief letter of support from the applicants' supervisors.

Timeline

Call for Applications: 1/27/2023

Completed applications Due: <mark>April 10, 2023 at 11:59pm</mark>
We encourage applicants to meet with Dr. Bob Bing-You prior to submitting the application
Robert.Bing-You@mainehealth.org

[Apply online](#) or submit to ***innovation_center@mainehealth.org***.

Info Session and Office Hours: (Pre-registration for the below sessions is required)

- **March 15, 2023** | 7- 8 am via Zoom. [Zoom link for the March 15 session](#).
- **March 16, 2023** |12 – 1 pm via Zoom. [Zoom link for the March 16 session.](#)
- **March 22, 2023** | 7 – 8 am via Zoom. [Zoom link for the March 22 session.](#)

Five-minute pitch and Q & A to Selection Committee:
Wednesday afternoon, May 17, 2023 [by Zoom]
We encourage applicants to meet with Dr. Bob Bing-You prior to the pitch day presentation
Robert.Bing-You@mainehealth.org

Committee Review with Decision: by June 30, 2023

Initiation of Project: September 1, 2023

Eligibility

This award is open to all 22,000 MaineHealth care team members. Applicant leaders must include a care team member of the MaineHealth community. Projects must be collaborative in nature representing more than one discipline. Faculty, staff and learners from across the educational continuum are encouraged and welcome to apply.

Scope

Projects should have a scope and objectives that can be accomplished within 6–12 months, with defined and measurable milestones and objectives.

Budget

The budget should not exceed $10,000 and may be less, depending on the scope of the proposal. Under special, uncommon circumstances, proposals with budgets greater than $10,000 will be considered. If such is the intent, this should be clearly indicated in the application and *fully justified* in the actual application. Budgets cannot include requests for salary support. Budgets can include requests for supplies, consultants, resources, and other items necessary to accomplish the aims of the project. With rare exceptions travel will not be funded. Consideration for budgeting for the evaluation plan is encouraged.

Human Subject Protection

If projects utilize any human subjects or sensitive data, appropriate training and institutional approvals through the MMC Institutional Review Board (IRB) will be required and must be initiated prior to receiving an award and beginning the project.

Interim and Final Reports

Grant recipients agree to:
- Participate in monthly group check-in sessions.
- Submit interim progress reports including budgets at 6-month intervals to verify progress on the proposed time line.
- Submit a final report and, if applicable, an educational product within 60 days of the completion of the funding period.
- Submit timely submission of receipts for grant expenses.

Frequently Asked Questions

GENERAL

What is an educational "process"?
This can be defined broadly.

Does my novel education solution have to be either a new model, a product, or a process, or can it be a combination of all three?
Think big and broad! Applications that incorporate elements of all three types of solutions may make for a stronger application, but it is not required.

Does the proposed solution have to be innovative in terms of the approach itself, the stakeholders and professions being brought together, or the actual educational content being delivered?
Yes, yes and yes! An ideal solution may incorporate all of these elements.

Is there a repository of prior projects?
Please see the [two awardees from 2022](#). An ideal solution will be highly Interprofessional in focus, innovative and novel.

Are APPs and physicians considered different professions?
Yes. Note that your project team should be Interprofessional.

What if my novel solution is a curriculum that could potentially be copyrighted and sold?
Please visit the MaineHealth Intellectual Property webpage for more information on how to protect innovative ideas. https://innovation.mainehealth.org/intellectual-property-resources/

Will this funding opportunity be offered every year?
This annual funding opportunity was first offered in 2022 with hopes to continue in future years.

Does the proposed solution have to generate intellectual property?
No, this is not a requirement, but your solution may be unique enough to file a patent. The MaineHealth Director of Intellectual Property and MaineHealth Innovation are available to support you in this process, if applicable.

TIMELINE

Is it possible for a project to be completed before the 12-month project period?
Yes, the project can be completed any time within the project period.

Can a portion of the award be applied to sustaining work into the future or does the award only support initial costs?
We would like you to ideally use a majority of the funds in the 12-month time period. The intent of this award is to make your novel educational innovation stronger to secure additional funds from other sources in the future.

USE OF FUNDING

Can the funding be used for staffing and personnel needs?

No, the award cannot be used to supplement MaineHealth FTEs. A small portion of the award can, however, be used to pay for consultant services.

Can the funding be used to provide participants with incentives?
Yes, that is possible as long as the incentives fall within the MaineHealth Human Resources guidelines on incentives and gifts.

Can funding be used to innovate upon an existing educational program?
Yes, that is possible.

How many awards will be funded this cycle?
We expect to fund up to 3 awards.

What are the monthly group check-in sessions for?
The monthly group check-in sessions are dedicated times to ask questions and see how we can support you as you move your project forward. It is a great opportunity to get insights from the other fund recipients, too.

APPLICATION

What background information is needed on the project team members?
If you have an existing biosketch please submit that. If not, please share a summary of each team leader's background including relevant skills and expertise necessary to complete the proposed project. This does not need to be longer than one paragraph for each person.

I am listing another provider as part of the project team in my application. Does that provider need to do anything to submit this application?
Not necessarily. Please list all project team members in your application document. We are looking for an Interprofessional project team. Anyone can submit an application on behalf of the project team. The listed project team members are the ones who will execute the project.

Can I submit this application on behalf of the project team, even though I will not have anything to do with the project itself?
Yes, it just needs to be clear in the application who the project team members, and co-leaders, are.

Questions & More Info

Visit https://innovation.mainehealth.org/innovation-in-education-fund/ or email *innovation_center@mainehealth.org* with any questions.