

## Launch of Health Equity Fund

The Health Equity Fund (HEF) internal funding competition, a collaboration between Nova Scotia Health and the QEII Health Sciences Centre Foundation, supports researchers and innovators dedicated to integrating health equity principles and objectives into their work.

The program aims to address inequitable and avoidable differences in social determinants of health, health outcomes, and the impact of interventions for specific populations. The HEF will provide funding opportunities to develop and implement innovative approaches, advanced technologies, inclusive research, and related policies to mitigate implicit bias in the healthcare system.

### Objectives

The HEF program is designed to empower researchers and innovators to:

- **Advance health equity:** Apply research and innovation to increase health equity in equity-deserving communities and populations throughout the Province.
- **Build internal capacity:** Enhance the integration of health equity considerations into research conducted within the Nova Scotia Health research community.
- **Eliminate systemic barriers:** Promote excellence in identifying and addressing obstacles that impede the career advancement, recruitment, and retention of underrepresented and disadvantaged groups.

### Award Streams

The CAB will select one application to fund from each of the available award streams:

- **Research Stream (\$100,000):** Intended for projects that contribute to advancing knowledge and understanding of health equity. Initiatives are focused on rigorous research, data collection, and analysis to identify, address, or evaluate barriers to equitable healthcare access and outcomes.
- **Innovation Stream (\$100,000):** Intended for projects involving creative and practical solutions aimed at improving health equity. Involves the implementation or development of innovative programs, tools, technologies, or approaches that directly address disparities and promote inclusive healthcare practices.

Expressions of interest are now being accepted at

<https://nshealth.submittable.com/submit>.

### Key Dates

- **Expression of Interest due: 02/28/2025**
- Community Advisory Board EOI review: 02/28/2025 – 04/15/2025 **(Anticipated)**
- Applicants Invited to Submit Full Proposal: 04/15/2025 **(Anticipated)**
- **Applications due: 06/16/2025 (Anticipated)**
- Awards Announced: August 2025 **(Anticipated)**

For more information, please reach out to [researchdevelopment@nshealth.ca](mailto:researchdevelopment@nshealth.ca).