



**Manitoba Medical Service
FOUNDATION**

Supported by Manitoba Blue Cross

P.O. Box 1046, Stn. Main, Winnipeg, MB R3C 2X7 (599 Empress Street) (204) 788-6801 Website: www.mmsf.ca

Backgrounder

About Manitoba Medical Service Foundation

The Manitoba Medical Service Foundation (MMSF), incorporated in 1971, began making grants for medical research and a broad range of other health-related programs and projects in 1972. From the beginning, Manitoba Blue Cross has been the major supporter helping MMSF to provide over almost \$22.8 million to promote health-related research for the betterment of Manitobans.

In seeking funding for a research project, certain application criteria must be met. The foremost is the requirement that the research promotes scientific, educational or other activities for the maintenance and improvement of the health and well-being of Manitobans.

MMSF is particularly interested in young scientists early in their careers. We support the summer student research programs for B.Sc. Medicine and B.Sc. Dental students who present their work after their second year of summer research. Through the grant competitions, we support salaries of graduate students. We also recognize students who may receive awards for excellence. The grant support for new investigators and professorship awards have proven to be great steppingstones to success in competitions with the Canadian Institute of Health Research and other national granting agencies.

We are encouraged by the results of the Foundation's distinctive awarding process. Members of the Board of the Foundation personally get to meet and to interview all of the prospective grant applicants during the selection process.

Researchers in the area of health are encouraged to apply for funding, including those in basic health research, clinical research and population health. The pool of applicants is mainly comprised of medical, dental and basic scientists, but also includes social workers, epidemiologists, pharmacists, physiotherapists, kinesiologists and more.

Through MMSF, Manitoba gains by being able to attract high-calibre leaders in clinical medicine and allied health, which in turn has a direct impact on patient care in the province.

The MMSF Board is comprised completely of volunteers, with a range of medical and/or scientific backgrounds and members from the general community.

To help maintain and expand its funding program, MMSF has partnered throughout its history with the CancerCare Manitoba Foundation, The Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba, The Health Sciences Centre Foundation, The St. Boniface Hospital Albrechtsen Research Centre, The Kidney Foundation of Canada, the Manitoba Health Research Council, the Manitoba Medical College Foundation, the University of Manitoba, the Victoria General Hospital Foundation and The Winnipeg Foundation. While Manitoba Blue Cross will always be our primary supporter, we continue to pursue new partnerships in research to help us in expanding our mandate.

You can find us on the web at www.mmsf.ca

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Supporting health through research and education.
Operated with the assistance of Manitoba Blue Cross