



The Shaw Centre for Paediatric Excellence

The Shaw Centre for Paediatric Excellence (SCPE) is a partnership of the Barbados Ministry of Health and Wellness, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, SickKids Centre for Global Child Health and The University of the West Indies. Focused on elevating and further integrating education, clinical care and research to positively impact the health and well-being of children in Barbados and throughout the Eastern Caribbean, SCPE – over a span of 8 years – is investing in excellence and innovation in paediatric education and in paediatric care; patient and family experience and clinical environments; and paediatric research and innovation.

SCPE Paediatric Catalyst Grants

SCPE Paediatric Catalyst Grants are a strategic initiative of SCPE, aiming to support new, unique, innovative initiatives that have the potential to benefit children (in utero to post-adolescent) and their families in Barbados and throughout the Eastern Caribbean. These initiatives may focus on conducting or scaling up research, research implementation and/or social action. Submissions should only be for new project ideas and all work funded under the grants must enable the development of future funding proposals that are suitable for submission to existing, peer-reviewed funding streams.

SCPE will fund a maximum of five awards of up to BBD 25,000 each. Representatives of SCPE partner entities will form a panel to review all applications, scoring them in accordance with the scoring matrix in appendix 1. SCPE is not obliged to fund any grants if the reviewers do not find any of the applicants meet the competition requirements.

Applicant Eligibility Criteria

The eligibility criteria for the 2025 SCPE Catalyst grant competition are:

- One Principal Applicant only
- Principal Applicant must reside the majority of the year in Barbados
- Unlimited Co-Applicants can be listed per application
- A single Principal Applicant can submit only one application per annual competition (but may be named as a Co-Applicant in other submissions)

Criteria for Award¹

Five core criteria will be used to characterize applications of high priority and relevance: Originality; Quality; Equity; Feasibility; and Future Opportunities. The five core criteria are explained further in [Appendix 1](#).

Submission Process

- All applications must be submitted via SCPE's Catalyst Grant online portal: <https://tinyurl.com/7rhxuwux>
- The submission portal includes 3 parts:
 1. Contact information
 2. Uploaded documents
 3. Additional information

Uploaded Documents

Applicants are required to upload two, separate, completed PDF files via the SCPE Catalyst Grant online submission portal:

1. Application Form (including completed signatures page)



2. Research/Project Plan (maximum 5 pages for proposed project + 1 page for references *only*; completed in Arial font 11 pt. 1.5 line spacing, with page margins no smaller than 2.5 cm including top and bottom) including:
 - a. Clear statement of general goals and specific objectives
 - b. Relevance statement – please explain the relationship of the proposed project to the goals of the SCPE Catalyst Grant competition, as outlined above
 - c. Background and rationale
 - d. Methods and expected results
 - e. Potential impact of project **and** relevance to the health and well-being of children in Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean
 - f. Bibliographic references (Vancouver style)
 - g. Timeline for deliverables (over a one-year period)
 - h. Budget **and** budget justification (see section below for further information)
 - i. Figures and Tables (if applicable)
 - j. Description and justification of team roles
 - k. Appendices are **not** permitted. Any pages included that exceed maximum (5 pages for proposed project + 1 page for references) will not be reviewed.

Additional Information

There are two additional questions that applicants must complete on the online submission portal to submit their application. A **maximum of 200 words** may be provided for each of these questions:

1. Please explain how ethical standards will be upheld, to minimize harm to study population and to mitigate any risks encountered.
2. Please describe any in-kind contributions that will be provided to support this project.

Applicants will also be asked on the online submission portal to confirm that they have thoroughly reviewed these terms of reference and agree to all conditions of funding outlined below.

Budget

- Applications may request **up to** BBD 25,000 with justification for each budget category in the Research/Project Plan.
- Funding received under this grant can be used in conjunction with other funds received from other funding sources, but expenses can only be allocated to one funding source.
- Eligible expenses include supplies, project-necessitated travel, equipment, and salaries (applicant, students, research or clinical fellows, project managers, research or clinical coordinators/associates, technical and professional assistants, statisticians).
- Ineligible expenses include administration, conference registration fees, travel to conferences, faculty salary, and overhead.
- Please consider resource and environmental stewardship in identifying eligible expenses.
- All line items will be at the discretion of the SCPE Catalyst Grant Panel.

Conditions of Funding

- The Principal Applicant must agree to submit a Final Report at the end of the project, or at the end of Year-1, whichever comes first. The Report shall include a summary of the project including methods and findings, and list any applications to granting agencies, or any abstracts or manuscripts, which resulted from the seed funding provided by this grant. Further details on the reporting structure will be provided to awardees. Acceptance of catalyst grant funding will constitute acceptance of all reporting requirements and agreement to adhere to all terms of reference.



- The Principal Applicant, or their appointed delegate, will present a summary of their project, including detailed expenditure reporting, at the mid-point and the end of the project, or at the end of Year-1, whichever comes first, to the SCPE Catalyst Grant Panel.
- The Principal Applicant must acknowledge funding provided by SCPE Catalyst Grant in any presentations, invited/submitted posters, and/or publications.
- If the approved budget contains project-related travel, applicants must adhere to guidelines provided by the Human Resources Section and Bursary of The University of the West Indies.
- There is no other funding available to support this project.
- Funding is being provided by generous support from the SickKids Foundation.

Application Process

1. The application submission deadline is Monday, June 2, 2025 at 9 am (AST)
2. Review of all applications will take place in June 2025. This review will be completed using the [Scoring Matrix \(Appendix 1\)](#).
3. A maximum of 10 of the highest scoring applications will be notified on or about June 23, 2025 as to whether their proposal has been selected to proceed to a presentation round to be held on one or more days at the beginning of July. Selected applicants will present their proposal to the evaluation panel. Each presenter will have 10 minutes to present their proposal, followed by 10 minutes for questions from the panel.
4. Proposals will be scored independently by panel members following each presentation, again using the scoring matrix in appendix 1.
5. Awardees will be formally announced July 31, 2025.
6. Grant money will be transferred by September 2, 2025. It is the responsibility of the principal applicant to ensure that, as applicable, all regulatory documents (e.g. research ethics approval, material and/or data transfer agreements) are in place by that date.

Inquiries

Please submit all inquiries regarding the call for application and/or eligibility to scpe.comms@sickkids.ca

Appendix 1: SCPE Catalyst Grant Scoring Matrix

Category	Description of Category	Scoring Scale
1. Originality, Innovation and Impact	Theme of the project is original, novel, and innovative and the purpose of the project is relevant to the SCPE aim to elevate the health and well-being of children in Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean	Each category will be assigned a score out of 5 based on the following:
2. Quality	Quality of scientific rigor, intervention or innovation being proposed, including quality of the written proposal with clearly stated hypothesis, aims/objectives, rationale, methods, team/collaborations, risks, timeline, budget, etc.	Inadequate (1) Marginal (2)
3. Equity	Considers inequities ² between and within groups related to, but not limited to age, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, literacy, race, environmental conditions and immigration status in the project design, analysis or approach. Applicants are required to consider and highlight the inequities relevant to their project context and describe at least one way in which their proposal responds to these.	Adequate (3) Good (4) Excellent (5)
4. Feasibility	Possibility that the project will be completed successfully (e.g., on-time, within budget, target deliverables). Ensure ethical standards are upheld to minimize harm to study population and mitigate any risks encountered such that the proposal is feasible. Feasibility includes strength and composition of team, including collaborations that will determine the likelihood of success.	
5. Future Opportunities	Current or future opportunities to disseminate knowledge, leverage funding, high probability of future grant awards, matching funds, or commercial application to ensure sustainability of the project in the future. Through successful collaborations there is sustained impact on the community (scientific and those studied) that encourages sustainability of the current project and scalability to future projects.	

² Concepts health (in)equity and the social determinants of health are outlined by the WHO. "Health and health equity are determined by the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work, play and age, as well as biological determinants. Structural determinants (political, legal, and economic) with social norms and institutional processes shape *the distribution of power and resources...*"
https://www.who.int/health-topics/health-equity#tab=tab_1