



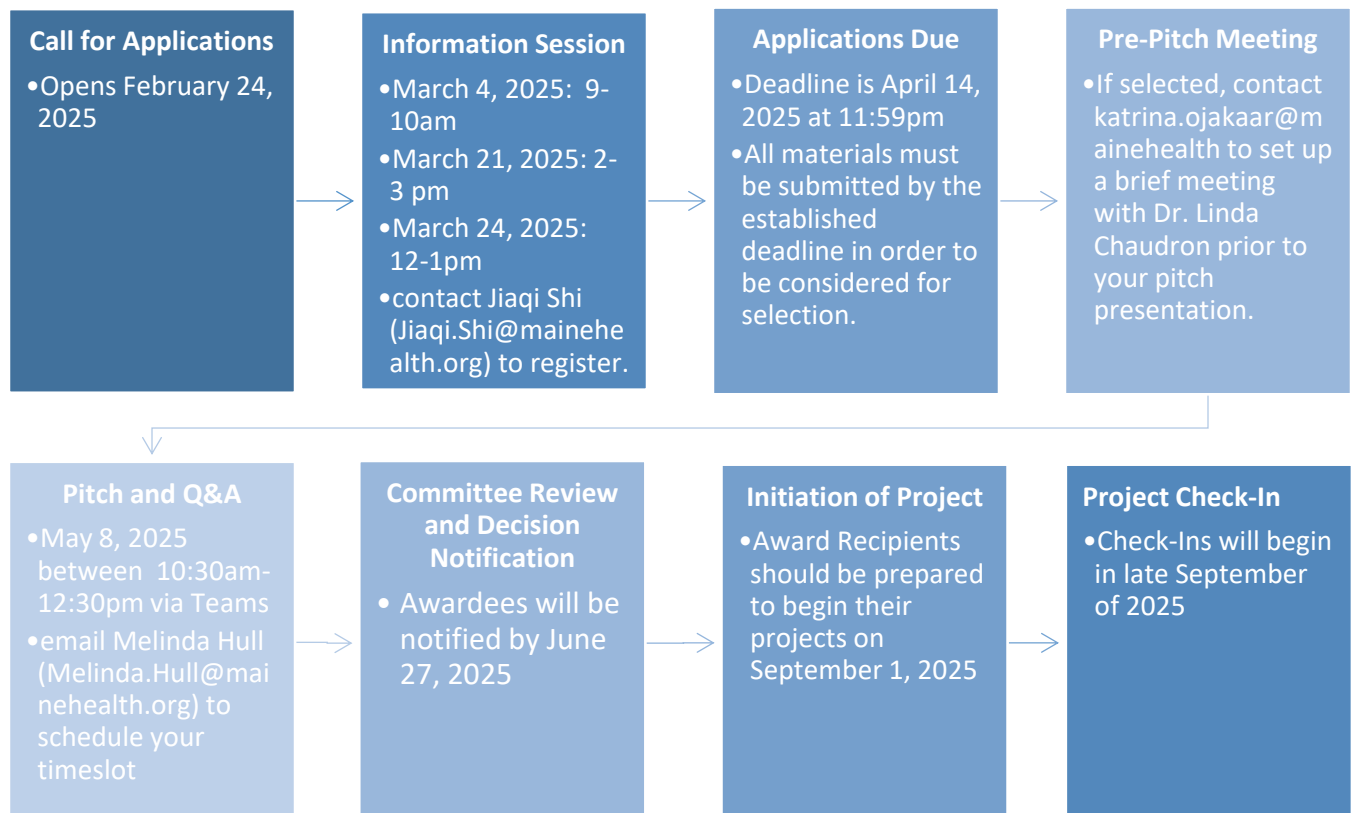
Interprofessional Innovation in Education Fund Award

Description

The [Interprofessional Innovation in Education Fund Award](#) is an opportunity open to all 22,000 MaineHealth care team members. [MaineHealth 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 learners 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.

Timeline





Application

The application requires a series of questions to be addressed and some responses require attachments. The questions are as follows:

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.
Team	Describe the interprofessional team that is engaged with this work. Do you have the experience and passion to make this idea a reality?
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. Utilize the Writing Effective Learning Objectives document and ensure your outcomes are measurable.
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.
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?
Budget	Provide a proposed budget detailing how funds will be used (supplies, resources, consultants, etc).
Timeline	Provide a project timeline with milestones for the funding period.
Team Bio	Provide a one paragraph summary of each team leader's background including relevant skills and expertise necessary to complete the proposed project.
Additional Support	If additional skills and expertise are required to complete the project, identify who the team members will be or what partner institutions have agreed to provide the appropriate expertise and skills.
Additional Resources	If resources from other departments are required to complete the project please submit a letter of support from the appropriate department leader.
Letter of Support	Provide a brief letter of support from the applicants' supervisors.



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.

Priority

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.

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 MaineHealth 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 starting in September of 2025.
- 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.

Questions & More Info

- Visit <https://innovation.mainehealth.org/innovation-in-education-fund/> or email Melinda.Hull@mainehealth.org with any questions.

Frequently Asked Questions

General

What is innovation in education?

- It is a novel idea that solves an unmet educational need. An innovation may be a new model, process or product. Examples are: Interprofessional education and team-based learning, simulation/virtual reality, active learning, “just-in-time” learning, work-place based learning or assessment, cognitive load, IT-supported learning, and learning science methods.

What is an “educational gap” and why is it relevant?

- Innovation has to meet a need. Potential sources to identify an educational gap can be: surveys of healthcare teams or its members, reports of patient outcomes, QI data, patient safety data, literature review, feedback from previous educational activities, community and public health reports, patient reported information, or observation of performance.

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?

- An ideal solution may incorporate all of these elements. An ideal solution will be highly Interprofessional in focus, innovative and novel.

Is there a repository of prior projects or resources to reference when preparing the application?

- Please see the [past project list here](#).
- Readings and Materials on the Interprofessional Innovation in Education on the public Canvas course site <https://mmc.instructure.com/courses/518>

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 has been offered each year 2022-2024 and will continue for 2025.

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.



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 also a great opportunity to get insights from the other fund recipients.

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.

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.

Application

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.