York University is committed to excellence and inclusiveness by facilitating research that drives social justice. In support of social justice, the Office of the Vice-President Research and Innovation (VPRI) in collaboration with the Office of Vice-President Equity, People and Culture (EP&C), Executive Committee of African Studies and University Fund Committee has created a seed grant to support Black scholarship. This fund will support early-stage and emerging research projects that help build research careers. The primary intent of this seed is to promote equitable and inclusive funding to help set roots for research projects and support future growth. The pilot round of the York Black Research Seed Fund launched a call for applications in February 2022, with a total of $150,000 of funding awarded to 6 scholars in June 2022. Currently, we are making a call for applications for the second round of funding.

**Purpose:** The York Black Research Seed Fund is intended to support new and early career researchers (ECR) who have a project in a development phase and require funds along with mentorship to generate primary results. Emerging researchers may also apply for this fund to further their research project and better position themselves for future funding applications.

**Objectives:** Research should identify ways to strengthen the academic community-based knowledge creation and/or include community-based research opportunity that benefits the Black community. Among others, projects focusing on political, environmental, economic, social, cultural, health and legal areas that shape Black experiences will be considered. A collaborative approach can aid in understanding these areas, and the diversity and intersectionality of Black communities.

**Outcomes:** The application should identify anticipated outcomes of the research and knowledge mobilization. These outputs should be appropriate to the project, support the needs of the community, and the future research agenda of the applicant. Culturally appropriate scholarly research outputs should be described.

**Deadlines:** The application and supporting documents are to be submitted via the Mach Form link at the end of this call by **4:30pm on January 22, 2024.**

**Amount of Award:** Up to $25,000. There is a total of $225,000 available for a maximum of 9 projects. The amount granted for each project can be spent over the 3-year period. These grants are expected to encompass a variety of projects requiring different amounts of funding.

**Anticipated Start Date:** May 1, 2024

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1 Research involving human participants will be required to attain Ethics approval from York University’s Research Ethics Review Board prior to funds being released. Researchers are reminded to build this into their proposed timelines.
Duration of Award: Projects will normally be completed within 36 months ending April 30, 2027.

Eligibility: Black scholars, pre-tenured faculty members, and post-doctoral fellows may apply. Black retired faculty members who have been research active in the last three years as demonstrated in their CVs may also apply. Only projects with Black researchers as lead applicant are eligible. Applicants unique to the Black Research Seed Grant, who do not currently have a pending or previous funding from another source for the applied application are eligible. Existing grantees are only eligible to apply once their currently funded projects have been completed. Projects should not be part of a larger externally funded initiative; however, we will accept an application for a new element of an existing externally funded project with sufficient justification.

Applications are welcome from and will be considered in the following priority:

1. Black early career researchers (ECR) (a tenure track/pre-tenure holding a York faculty appointment) who currently do not hold a tri-council research grant as a Principal Investigator (co-applicant on a tri-council grant does not exclude you from this opportunity);
   - Early career researchers are within five years of their first research-related appointment and are not yet tenured.

2. Post-doctoral fellows who do not hold a tri-council research grant. If you hold a fellowship or scholarship, you are eligible if your funding does not fund the direct costs of research;

3. Other Black faculty members (including Black retired faculty members) and scholars who have been research active in the last 3 years.

Partnerships: Each applicant may collaborate with Black and other communities and community partners. If applicable, the application should demonstrate how the research responds to the culturally diverse needs expressed by the community and how the research will be conducted with, results communicated to, and data and outcomes transferred to the community and/or partner(s) as appropriate.

Eligible and Ineligible Expenses: All eligible expenses on 400 (internal) cost centers as documented by the Professional Expense Reimbursement guidelines. Only cost associated with the direct expenses of research and knowledge mobilization will be eligible. This includes expenses incurred by partner organizations, where appropriate, in support of the project. Expenses associated with conference travels are not eligible, however, these expenses can be supported by additional York Funding programs.

Funding Grants to support Black Scholarship are intended to support the direct costs of research and knowledge mobilization as well as its dissemination in scholarly and culturally appropriate formats. Any residual funds left after the end of the funding period will need to

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2 Reimbursement of Expenses (Procedure) | Secretariat Policies (yorku.ca)
3 Microsoft Word - York Incentive Grant January 2015 FINAL.docx (yorku.ca) and Funding for Scholarly Events and Outreach Activities - Internal Opportunities - YULink (yorku.ca)
Reporting Requirements: Within 6 months of the end of a York Black Research Seed Grant and no later than October 31, 2027, the applicant must provide a brief (max. 2 pages) report on their efforts to submit an application to an external funding opportunity. The report should outline the activities undertaken, the results obtained, the scholarly and other culturally appropriate research outputs and a description of possible future projects including but not limited to applications for external research funding if applicable. The report is to be submitted to dphipps@yorku.ca.

Selection: The review of applications will be conducted by the adjudication panel with administrative support from the VPRI office. All applicants and recipients are encouraged to take training offered by Research Commons and reach out to their Faculty Research Offices for support in developing applications and administering research cost centers.

Criteria:
- Alignment with the objectives of this call for applications;
- Feasibility and soundness of the proposal;
- Importance of the topic;
- Quality of community collaboration including need identified by community partner if applicable;
- Likelihood of continuing research;
- Justification of the budget.

Successful applications:
- Articulate how the grant will contribute to the future research career of the applicant;
- Articulate how the research informs the larger academic community;
- Articulate how the research is expected to benefit community, if applicable;
- Present a reasonable, and well-justified budget;
- Are not for work already done or applied for; or for “set-up costs” usually borne by Faculties and Departments.

For more information, please contact:
Administrative questions:
- David Phipps, Assistant VP Research Strategy & Impact; dphipps@yorku.ca and contact your Faculty Research Office/Associate Dean Research

Application: Please complete the Mach Form at the following link and submit, uploading all required documents.

https://research.apps01.yorku.ca/machform/view.php?id=110992