**Briefing Note**

**Online Partnership to Accelerate Research (OnPar)**

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**The Opportunity**

OnPar (Online Partnership to Accelerate Research) is a new ‘second-chance funding opportunity’ for your research. This ‘matchmaking’ platform provides researchers of high-quality, unfunded grants with a second opportunity for funding by connecting them with potential funders, such as private foundations and pharmaceutical companies.

**Eligibility**

You are eligible to submit your abstract to OnPar if your peer-reviewed grant\(^1\) was unsuccessful but scored in the fundable range. OnPar accepts unfunded grants that reviewers scored within the top quartile; given CIHR’s scoring system, researchers will have to use discretion when submitting (e.g., a score of >3.5 would be considered reasonable for submission). Please note that a copy of the reviewer’s comments will be required if full applications are invited for submission, so there is little-to-no value in submitting poorly ranked applications or applications with unfavorable reviews.

**How to Submit**

1. Register [here](#) (there is no cost to register or submit an abstract).
2. Submit the abstract of your unfunded grant application.
3. Submit the full application and peer review comments of your unfunded application, if invited.
4. Negotiate the final contract with the funding organization/foundation, if selected for funding.

**Q&As**

1. Is there a cost to submit an abstract or application?
   - There is no cost to the researcher to register or submit an abstract/application.

2. Do I have to rewrite or reformat my abstract and application (if invited) for submission?
   - No. OnPar will accept the original abstract, application, and review comments from the original reviewing organization (e.g., CIHR).

3. Who reviews the abstracts and applications?
   - Each funder (e.g., Breast Cancer Research Foundation, Children’s Tumor Foundation) is responsible for reviewing their own applications.

4. Do I have to select a specific funder to submit to?
   - No. OnPar will coordinate your abstract submission with each funder’s priority areas.

5. From how far back can I submit an unfunded grant abstract?
   - OnPar is currently only accepting abstracts of unfunded grant applications from 2016 and 2017.

6. How can researchers ensure intellectual property is protected?
   - If researchers are invited to submit their full application, they will be asked to sign and submit a non-disclosure agreement (alongside the University of Alberta) with the potential funding organization.

**Disclosure**

The FoMD is not in any way affiliated with OnPar, nor are we advocating or promoting the platform. The purpose of this briefing note is simply to inform our faculty members of this potential funding option. As outlined above, this is a new initiative and thus its potential for success in Canada has yet to be demonstrated.

**Questions?**

Contact [OnPar](#) directly if you have questions.

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\(^1\)In Canada, OnPar accepts peer-reviewed grants from CIHR (among other international funders) only; currently, you cannot submit unfunded research from local or provincial sources.