

Innovation Validation Program Application

This program provides an opportunity for student teams to validate a product- or policy-based solution to a current problem facing astroparticle physicists and their collaborators.

Pre-Award Application procedures:

1. Student teams must complete and submit this document with attachments in a single PDF file to Dr. Alexandra Pedersen (alexandra.pedersen@mcdonaldinstitute.ca) by March 1, 2023. Dr. Pedersen will evaluate the application and organize the team's meeting with Edward Thomas (Associate Director, External Relations) for a 45min session on creating a Lean Model Canvas.
2. Following this meeting, student teams must submit their proposed Lean Model Canvas and a detailed budget justification building on the original budget proposal with more details on how the funds will be spend (please see the eligibility criteria for funds on the website). The budget must be approved prior to starting the project. Purchases made prior to the start date will not be accepted for reimbursement.

Post-award follow-up:

3. Upon successful completion of the pre-award steps 1 and 2, student teams will receive an award letter with terms and conditions. Teams will have up to six (6) months to complete the project.
4. Student teams are required to submit a final report. The final report will include three (3) tested assumptions from the Lean Model Canvas and a summary of how solutions would be further developed in the future.

Application (Step 1):

1. Please list all team members, pronouns, programs of study, and year of study (graduate or undergraduate). For example: Alex Pedersen (she/her/hers), Geography and Planning, year 4 (undergrad), Queen's University.
2. Please describe the problem identified and who it impacts.
3. Describe your identified solution (product or policy) and identify any downstream consequences considered. Downstream consequences consider who will be impacted (positively, negatively, or neutrally) by your team's proposed solution. Please make considerations for equity, diversity, inclusion, Indigenization, accessibility, and anti-racism when describing downstream consequences of your proposed solution.
4. Proposal of how the voucher (up to \$2,000 max.) will be spent to validate assumptions.