

## CMPH Educational Research Funding – Guidance for Applicants

### Purpose of the Scheme

The CMPH Educational Research Funding Scheme supports rigorous, methodologically sound research projects that advance teaching, learning, assessment, equity, and student experience across the College. Projects should contribute new knowledge, evidence, or insights that can inform practice or policy.

### What Counts as Educational Research?

Educational research involves systematic inquiry into learning, teaching, curriculum, assessment, pedagogy, learner experience, or educational systems. Methods may include qualitative, quantitative, mixed methods, design-based research, case studies, surveys, interviews, analytics, or experimental approaches.

### Eligibility

Projects must be led by an academic staff member who has teaching as part of their role description. Student-led projects are not eligible, but student participation or co-design is encouraged where appropriate and ethically sound. Cross-disciplinary teams and collaborations are encouraged.

### Strategic Alignment

Applicants must demonstrate clear alignment with the CMPH Strategic Plan 2024-2028. Proposals should show how the research addresses College priorities such as student success, teaching excellence, assessment reform, digital capability, equity and inclusion, or evidence-based practice.

### Funding Scope

Funding may be used for research assistants, participant incentives, specialised software, data collection tools, transcription, analysis costs, research-related travel, workshops, dissemination activities, and open access publication fees. Ineligible costs include personal devices, retrospective expenses, non-research travel, and teaching buyout.

### Application Expectations

A strong application clearly articulates the research problem, situates it in relevant literature, provides well-defined research questions, and outlines a rigorous and feasible methodology. Applicants should detail participant recruitment, data collection, analysis plans, ethical considerations, timelines, budget rationale, and expected outcomes.

### Ethics Requirements

Most educational research will require ethics approval if human participants or identifiable data are involved. Applicants must outline the ethical considerations of their study,

potential risks, mitigation strategies, and plans for informed consent and data management. Ethics approval must be obtained before commencing data collection.

### **Assessment Criteria**

Applications will be evaluated on: (1) Significance and Originality; (2) Research Design and Methodology; (3) Feasibility and Project Management; (4) Impact and Knowledge Mobilisation; (5) Team Capability; and (6) Equity, Ethics, and Responsible Research Practices.

### **Tips for a Strong Proposal**

Be clear and concise; show familiarity with relevant literature; justify your research questions and methods; demonstrate feasibility with a realistic timeline; plan for ethics approval early; highlight anticipated impact; and ensure your budget aligns with your activities.

### **Reporting Requirements**

Successful applicants must provide brief progress updates, a final report summarising outcomes, and evidence of dissemination. Outputs may include publications, presentations, reports, resources, or implementation recommendations.