FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

1. Who are eligible Faculty Sponsors for the Career/Educational Initiatives?
Faculty sponsors must be UBC faculty members with a permanent, but not necessarily full, appointment. This includes Professors, Associate Professors, Assistant Professors, Partner Professors, and Clinical Professors.

2. Are there any examples of projects for the Career/Educational Initiatives?
Examples of Career/Educational Initiatives include: creating online learning modules that promote professional development for non-academic health careers; developing an initiative that fosters global collaboration between UBC and graduate students from other countries; delivering an educational workshop that engages community partners; etc.

3. Who are eligible UBC-affiliated Clinical Collaborators for the Research-partnership Initiatives?
UBC-affiliated is interpreted broadly, and includes all clinical fellows, medical residents, health practitioners, and clinical faculty with full, partial, or temporary appointment with UBC or with any of its institutes, centres, academic campuses, clinical academic campuses, affiliated regional centres, community educational facilities, rural, and remote sites.

4. Are there any examples of projects for the Research-partnership Initiatives?
Examples of Research-partnership Initiatives include: adding a novel clinical data component to an existing graduate student project; creating a detailed workup of interesting clinical cases; or analyzing data related to improving clinical practices.

5. Can I apply if my project is in progress or almost completed?
Generally, no; the Graduate Student Initiative Fund is for innovative projects, which precludes projects that are already underway. However, you can apply to the fund for an innovation within a preexisting project. You will need to explain how this innovation will enhance the preexisting project.
6. Can applications be submitted for annual events?
Funds cannot be used to support an ongoing (e.g. annual) activity, unless it is to specifically fund an innovative enhancement to that event (beyond annual changes in event themes). Sponsors of annual events (e.g. conferences, symposiums) who are applying for this one-time-only funding should demonstrate the innovative components of the event for which they seek funding. Applicants for activities intended to be on-going or annual should demonstrate plans to become self-sustaining. The Graduate Student Initiative Fund should be viewed only as start-up assistance for such activities.

7. When exactly does the one year funding period begin?
The one year funding period will begin as of the date of offer of funds.

8. What kind of reporting is required with this fund?
A one-page final report must be submitted to the Assistant Dean, Graduate and Postdoctoral Education within 4 weeks of the conclusion of the funded initiative. The report must include the following components: a summary of the initiative, the benefits of the initiative for graduate students (for Career/Educational Initiatives) or for your research project (for Research-partnership Initiatives), and a summary of expenses.

9. What does this Initiative Fund not cover?
The Graduate Student Initiative Fund will not cover the costs of alcoholic beverages, charitable donations, past initiatives, initiatives for academic credit (including thesis work), or initiatives that do not have either a Faculty Sponsor (Career/Educational Initiatives) or supervisor approval (Research-partnership Initiatives).