

HOPE Centre Conference Fund

Call for Applications

The HOPE (Health Outcome Promotion and Engagement) Centre for Sexual and Gender Minority People is also housed in the Faculty of Arts. The HOPE Centre conducts community-engaged, interdisciplinary research to understand and promote the health of people who identify as members of a sexual or gender minority community.

The **HOPE Centre for Sexual and Gender Minority People** is pleased to announce the **HOPE Centre Conference Grant**, which provides financial support to help emerging scholars share their research at academic conferences. This grant is designed to encourage and support eligible applicants, including undergraduate students, graduate students, and other junior researchers, in presenting their work at academic conferences. Successful applicants will receive **funding to cover the registration fee and any associated expenses** for their proposed conference, which may be held **virtually or in person**. Eligible research must focus on **sexual and gender minority (SGM) health**, encompassing the mental, sexual, physical, or medical health of individuals who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, queer, trans, non-binary, 2-Spirit, Indigiqueer, and other members of LGBTQ+ communities. We welcome applications from all academic disciplines and research approaches, including basic, applied, and community-based program evaluation studies. While preference will be given to researchers working directly in SGM health and to collaborations between academic institutions and community-based organizations, all research that contributes to advancing knowledge in SGM health is encouraged and will be considered for publication.

Amount: \$1,000

Funding period: February 1st, 2026 - January 31, 2027

Eligibility:

- Be an undergraduate student, graduate student, or junior researcher (e.g., recent graduate, research assistant, or early-career faculty member).
- Be actively involved in research related to sexual and gender minority (SGM) health.
- Be presenting (not just attending) at an upcoming academic conference, either virtually or in person.
- Have a conference presentation accepted by the conference organizers (proof of acceptance will be required).
- Be affiliated with a university, college, or recognized research institution, or a community-based organization conducting SGM-related health research.

To apply for the HOPE Centre Conference Grant competition, the following components must be included. All documents must use 1-inch margins and should be written in 12-point Times New

Roman font. Principal applicants must be members of the HOPE Centre. If the principal applicant is not located at TMU, a TMU faculty member must be a co-author on the conference presentation. It is acceptable to apply for membership at the same time as submitting your application for the HOPE Centre Conference Grant competition. To apply for membership in the HOPE Centre, please click here: <https://forms.gle/RjJGVpwVXHMsYvX9>

1. **Conference Abstract or Presentation Summary** (maximum 300 words).
2. **Proof of Conference Acceptance or Submission** (e.g., email confirmation or screenshot).
3. **Curriculum Vitae (CV)** (maximum 2 pages).
4. **Brief Statement of Interest** (250–500 words) outlining:
 - The relevance of the applicant’s research to SGM health.
 - The significance of the conference for their academic or professional development.
 - How the HOPE Centre’s support will contribute to their goals.
5. **Budget Summary** (1 page maximum)
 - The following expenditures will be considered eligible for funding:
 - Conference participation costs
 - Research dissemination and knowledge mobilization
 - Honoraria or professional fees
 - Travel and accommodation
 - Meeting and event costs
 - Hospitality expenses
6. **Letter of Support** from a supervisor, faculty mentor, or community partner.

Timeline for Review Applicants:

- Applications due: We accept applications in cycles, with multiple intake periods throughout the year.

Please submit applications via email to: hopecentre@torontomu.ca