

CALL FOR PROJECT PROPOSALS

Funding available for French-Health projects as part of the program

CONVERGENCE 2028

Working together to improve access to French-language health services

Funding period: 2023–2028

The **Société Santé en français (Société)**, a dynamic national group dedicated to promoting the development of French-language health services for Francophone and Acadian minority communities (FAMC) in Canada, is launching a call for project proposals aimed at improving access to French-language health and social services for these communities. This initiative is made possible with funding from Health Canada through the Official Languages Health Program (OLHP).

1- Background

The Société aims to improve the health of FAMC in Canada through access to French-language health services. To achieve this goal, the Société and its 16 partner networks in the provinces and territories are equipped with a proven networking model and demonstrated expertise. The network builds relationships, engages, equips, and coaches service providers to put their knowledge, tools, and processes in place that can lead to sustainable access to French-language health services for targeted communities.

The purpose of this call for proposals is to provide health establishments or health authorities with the resources and support they need to improve the quality of French-language services on an equal footing with those offered in English.

2- Target audience

This call for proposals is aimed at the following healthcare partners:

- Health and social services **establishments**
- **Healthcare managers** (including **government agencies**) with decision-making and project implementation capacity, with a view to sustainability beyond the funding period.
- **Health professionals** who have a direct impact on increased and sustainable access to French/bilingual health services.
- **Post-secondary health institutions**¹
- **Community organisations**

¹ For more information, please refer to the Applicant's Guide

Funding is reserved exclusively for organizations external to the Société and to French-Health Networks. Partner organizations that have a funding agreement with the Société are generally referred to as “French-health promoters” by the Société.

3- Application details

Timeline

Schedules	Process elements
August 30 th 2023	Call for proposals
August 30 th 2023 to november 03, 2023	Availability of the Société to respond to questions or requests for clarification related to the call (aj.utuza@santefrancais.ca),
September 6 to 11 2023	Time slots for 90-minute team meetings, organized to answer general questions about the call for tenders. See the following interactive links to join the meeting of your choice: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday September 6 between 2 and 3:30 pm Eastern Time at a moment that is convenient • Friday September 8 between 1:00 and 2:30 pm Eastern Time at a moment that is convenient • Monday September 11 between 2:00 and 3:30 pm at a time that is convenient
November 03 rd [at 11:59 pm EDT] 2023	Deadline for project submissions
November 21 st 2023	Deadline for notifying bidders of the Société’s decision
November the 22 nd to 06 th December 2023	Preparation and signature of contribution agreements, including detailed work plan and budget for 23–24 attached.
December 2023	Start of funded projects

**If you have any questions specific to your request when completing the form, see the contact table on page 6 of this document.*

***Please note: The Société reserves the right to request clarifications or adjustments to the proposal during the review period of submissions in order to support the analysis or strengthen the proposed project.*

4- Project duration

Selected projects will be funded as of the **signing of the agreement (December 2023) to March 31, 2028**, at the latest.

5- Funding Amount

Total funding available is \$1.5 million per year, or \$7.5 million over five years. The Société will only receive projects that meet the intended criteria and represent a minimum amount of \$250,000 for the funding period. The amounts per project will be determined through an overall analysis of proposals received and a budget adjustment may be requested based on the quality of the applications or in consideration of the number of submissions deemed eligible.

6- Expected results

Projects must achieve one of the following three outcomes, and may be local, regional, provincial, territorial, pan-Canadian or multi-jurisdictional in scope:

The project must achieve the objective of strengthening the capacity of health and social service providers to increase access to French-language services for FAMC and be in line with the objectives of the OLHP and three of the lines of action associated with the Société's five-year program named "Convergence 2028".

OLHP objectives

- i. Integration of bilingual health human resources
- ii. Adaptation of existing services to improve access by CFASM to health services in the minority official language in priority areas.
- iii. Knowledge development on the health needs of CFASM and on the capacity of health systems to offer services (including activities and tools for data collection, needs assessment and research).

The Société's lines of actions

- i. Healthcare systems: Actively participate in the evolution of healthcare systems through the adaptation, development and implementation of health and social services in French.
- ii. Human resources: Support the identification and development of bilingual human resources in the health and social services field throughout their career path [training, recruitment, welcoming, retention, recognition].
- iii. Linguistic evidence data: Promote the collection and use of linguistic evidence data related to service demand and supply capacity for health systems planning and informed decision-making.

For examples of projects related to the priority areas, please refer to Appendix 2 of the Applicant's Guide.

Projects associated with the following priority areas of intervention will be favoured:

- Primary health services
- Mental health and dependency
- Homecare services, and Palliative and end-of-life care.

7- Eligibility requirements

To be deemed eligible, the proposed project must meet the following conditions:

- The project must be led by or involve at least one organization providing direct health and social services; project management involving more than one organization may also be considered [multiplied impact]
- With an aim to encouraging structuring and sustainable projects, bids must cover a period of five fiscal years [fall 2023 to March 31, 2028] and include work plans with clear activities, outputs, targets, and results [annual funding cannot, under any circumstance, be transferred from one year to the next]. Project submissions must demonstrate how activities will lead to sustainability [financial, capacity, and/or informational], with no expectation of additional financial resources from the Société/Health Canada following the funding period.
- The project must meet the objective of strengthening the capacity of organizations/institutions (see section 5.- expected results).
- Demonstration that the bidding organization has the capacity to manage the project and deploy activities within the expected timeframe.

Please refer to the Applicant's Guide for more information on these eligibility requirements.

** The costs of providing health and social services to the population are not eligible—see the Applicant's Guide for a more exhaustive list of ineligible costs.*

8- Evaluation criteria

The evaluation committee will consider the following elements when analyzing submissions:

A. Relevance

- a. Alignment with regional/provincial/territorial/federal health priorities, or adaptability in the case of pan-Canadian or multi-jurisdictional projects.
- b. Alignment with the three OLHP expected outcomes.
- c. Alignment with the three Convergence 23–28 lines of action related to this application.

B. Potential for achieving results

- a. Expected results must be clearly established in the work plan and linked to the PLOS logic model.
- b. Expected key activities, outputs and targets must be clearly defined in the five-year plan.
- c. Demonstration of the organization's ability to deploy activities in line with expected results and deadlines.
- d. The ability to measure the impact of your actions.

C. Integration of tools and models developed by the Société and French health networks.

D. Sustainability of project results, by demonstrating:

- a. Financial sustainability;
- b. sustainability; and/or
- c. Informational sustainability

Assets:

- Alignment with priority areas
- Involvement of one or more other partners
- Implementation of the project in more than one province or territory

9- Additional Information and Contact

* Please refer to the application kit for detailed information on expressing interest.

The deadline for submitting your project by e-mail is November 03rd, 2023 [at 11:59 p.m. EDT].

For more information, please contact:

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And copy

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