PQI Alum Accelerator Project Overview

The PQI Alum Accelerator provides short-term funding to support the early development of a potential group-based QI project. The goal is to give PQI alums the time and resources to explore, test, and refine promising project ideas in preparation for a full Group Project submission. These criteria ensure alignment with program goals while remaining flexible for early-stage innovation. Funding of _up to_ **$10,000** and **6 months of support** is available per project.

The expected outcome of the Accelerator phase is a QI project charter with a proposed budget, measurement plan, and project work plan.

Eligibility Criteria

To be considered for Accelerator funding, the following conditions must be met:

1. **Applicant Status:**
   a. The applicant must be a graduate of Island Health's PQI Level 3 program.
2. **Project Intent:**
   a. The proposed work is intended to explore or lay the groundwork for a future QI Group Project application.
   b. The idea must be reasonably expected to meet Group Project eligibility and selection criteria with further development.
   c. Projects that cannot evolve into a viable Group Project will not be considered.

Selection Criteria

Projects that meet the eligibility requirements will be assessed on the following:

1. **Potential for Future Impact:**
   a. The project addresses an area of need or opportunity relevant to Island Health, the Ministry of Health, or aligned with system priorities (e.g., MoH, JCC, Health Authorities).
   b. It shows strong potential to meet future Group Project criteria, including alignment with the Quintuple Aim framework, collaborative engagement, and potential for measurable system-level impact.
   c. The Accelerator phase is clearly positioned as a stepping stone, not a stand alone project.
2. **Readiness to Advance:**
   a. The applicant has a clear and focused plan for how the Accelerator will be used (e.g., stakeholder engagement, early testing, data exploration, relationship building).
   b. The proposed work sets the stage for a credible and competitive Group Project submission.
3. **Use of Funds:**

   a. The funding will be used to support foundational work such as:
      i. Building a project team
      ii. Clarifying scope or objectives
      iii. Conducting environmental scans or small tests of change
      iv. Engaging operational or clinical partners
      v. Initiating the data access process

4. **Data and Evaluation Planning:**
   a. The project outlines what kinds of data may be needed and demonstrates an understanding of how data will inform future evaluation.
   b. If Island Health data access is anticipated, the applicant is expected to initiate the request process during the Accelerator phase.

5. **Project Leadership:**
   a. While a full project team is not required at this stage, the applicant should articulate how they plan to engage collaborators (e.g., physicians, operations, patient partners) over the course of the Accelerator.

Deliverables

Throughout the funding period, project teams are expected to:

- Maintain **monthly check-ins** with the PQI Alum support team.

- Present a **Project Charter** at project close.

Please note: Being accepted into accelerator does not guarantee full Group Project funding. If a project does not get accepted for Group Project funding, the charter created during the accelerator can be adapted to apply for other funding sources.