



Coaching Association of Canada
Association canadienne des entraîneurs

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Call for Targeted Research Proposal

The Coaching Association of Canada's (CAC) is inviting the academic research community to submit a targeted research proposal to conduct a project on the effects of blended NCCP delivery on coach development. The grant is a maximum of \$10 000.

Background

The National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) provides standardized, inclusive, and safe sport education to coaches and coach developers across 65 sports. The CAC, National Sport Organizations (NSOs), Provincial Sport Organizations (PTSOs), Provincial and Territorial Coaching Representatives (PTCRs), Canadian Olympic and Paralympic Sport Institutes (COPSIs), and the Government of Canada, share the development and stewardship of the program. Delivered by NCCP Coach Developers, the NCCP curriculum ensures all coaches receive training based on current best practices in instructional design, ethical decision-making, and with content that is relevant, and which leads to the development of competent coaches. The NCCP delivers quality and developmentally appropriate training and gives coaches the confidence to succeed.

The NCCP was always offered through different delivery modes. However, the COVID-19 Pandemic accelerated the revision of program delivery for many sports in Canada. The program is currently delivered by NCCP Partners through In-person workshops (face-to-face or online), eLearning and/or home study. Processes for collecting coaches' feedback are in place, and results shows that coaches are very satisfied with the delivery adaptations. However, coaches' reactions is only one indicator of training impact. As the NCCP partners strive to enhance the experiences of all athletes and participants in Canada through quality coaching, there is a need to assess current direction in coach training and document best practices.

Statement of work

General research goal: Identify effects of NCCP blended delivery training and certification pathway on coach development.

Specific questions:

1. What are the existing models for NCCP blended delivery? (description)
2. How do these models compare to other models described in research from other similar fields (skill-based)?
3. How blended NCCP training impact coaches ability to successfully complete NCCP Certification as compared to face to face delivery?
4. What are coaches developing through the NCCP different blended delivery models?
 - Intrapersonal knowledge
 - Interpersonal knowledge
 - Professional knowledge
5. How the knowledge developed relates to the NCCP Outcomes and Criteria?
6. How do blended NCCP training impact coaches' intention to complete NCCP Training and Certification pathways as compared to face-to-face delivery?
7. How does NCCP blended delivery affect coaches from marginalized populations.



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Expected outcome: The report should:

- Include section on each specific question.
- Include a new framework of concrete principles for effective blended delivery of the NCCP.
- Be submitted in word format and according to the template that will be provided.
- Be written for a sport practitioner audience (NCCP Partners).

Project Process

1. Refine research questions in collaboration with the CAC Project team*
2. Develop the research protocol
3. Data collection and analysis
4. Preliminary report submission
5. Final report submission

* ***Close collaboration is expected with the CAC at all steps.***

This project was identified by the NCCP partners as a priority, and as the most needed project to support their work. The CAC will support the research team to find research participants. At least 17 National Sport Organizations have started or completed delivery revisions.

How to apply

Applications are open to individuals or groups affiliated with universities and colleges in Canada. Graduate student(s) should be involved, but the supervisor must be the applicant and the principal researcher.

We encourage a diverse research team in order to best reflect the diversity of experiences, perspectives and backgrounds of people in Canada. Please review our [Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Policy](#) to learn more about the CAC's commitment to providing opportunities to priority groups.

If you are interested to conduct the project, please email research@coach.ca by **August 30, 2021, 9:00am (EST)** with "*Application: Effects of NCCP blended delivery*" as the subject line.

Your proposal should include:

- Project description (maximum 4 pages, single spaced, references excluded) including:
 - Scope of review undertaken given a maximum budget of \$ 10 000.
 - The CAC does not pay university administration fees.
 - Other sources of funding may be acceptable but must be noted in the budget.
 - Equipment expenses (e.g., computer) will not be accepted.
 - Research method.
 - Timelines, considering that the report is no later than **March 31st, 2022**
- Individuals involved and their responsibilities, with their University or College affiliation
- Research CV of the leader

Applications will be evaluated by the project team and all applicants will be advised of the final decision by September 13, 2021 (2 weeks after deadline for submission).



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Approved Proposal

Commitments and timelines of the approved research proposal:

- **September 2021:**
 - Signed contract with the Coaching Association of Canada
 - First meeting with the CAC project team
- **January 2022:** Preliminary report
- **March 31st, 2022:** Final Report

Terms of agreement

The first payment of 75% of the awarded contract will be made upon the agreement signature, followed by another payment of 25% which will be made upon receipt of the final report.

The Coaching Association of Canada unites stakeholders and partners in its commitment to raising the skills and stature of coaches, and ultimately expanding their reach and influence. Through its programs, the CAC empowers coaches with knowledge and skills, promotes ethics, fosters positive attitudes, builds competence, and increases the credibility and recognition of coaches.