
BC Cancer Research Ethics Board Fee Policy

The BC Cancer Research Ethics Board 'REB' has two fees: initial review and annual renewal fees. REB fees apply to research that is sponsored in whole or in part from a for-profit entity (i.e., pharmaceutical/medical device company) or other for-profit organization. A study is considered to be sponsored if a for-profit entity contributes to the design or conduct of the study; coordinates the study as multi-centered; reimburses BC Cancer for any costs associated with the trial; or will have access to, or publish or present data gained from the conduct of the trial (this will also apply to a grant-in-aid which is not without conditions). The protocol, investigator's brochure, and provision of drug/device supplies, contract, etc. will be reviewed by the REB when considering whether fees will apply. It is the responsibility of the Primary Investigator to ensure that terms relating to payment of REB fees are negotiated and incorporated in relevant agreements (e.g., the Clinical Trial Agreement 'CTA') and budgets. In the event REB fees were not negotiated and/or incorporated in relevant agreements, the PI and/or department will be responsible for paying REB fees.

Fees are waived for the following:

- Studies funded by not-for-profit agencies;
- Studies receiving a grant-in-aid – normally an investigator-initiated study with partial funding with no data returned to the sponsor in any form or manner (e.g., supply of drugs or devices or a very limited amount of funding from an industry sponsor);
- Studies funded by Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) and National Institutes of Health (NIH);
- Studies that are BC Cancer investigator-initiated.

Initial Review Fee

This fee covers the cost of the initial review of the new application regardless of the outcome of the review. The initial review fee must accompany the initial application. If payment is not received, the application will not be reviewed or placed on the Agenda for review at the full board REB meeting.

Effective **1 April 2020**, the initial review fees are:

- **\$4,500 CAD** for full board applications;
- **\$2,225 CAD** for delegated (i.e. minimal risk) applications

Up to **31 March 2020**, the initial review fees are:

- **\$4,000 CAD** for new full board applications;
- **\$2,000 CAD** for delegated (i.e. minimal risk) applications

Annual Renewal Fee

The annual renewal fee applies to projects that are sponsored in whole or in part from a for-profit entity that were submitted for initial ethics review on or after April 1, 2011 and are ongoing. This fee covers the cost of the annual renewal and other ongoing oversight for Post Approval Activities “PAAs” such as amendments.

The REB will discontinue renewal fees once a study is completed and a "Completion of Study" notice is submitted in RISE and acknowledged by the REB. Until that time, a project must maintain a valid ethics approval, submit a request for renewal annually, and pay the fee¹.

While the annual renewal fee was increased 1 September 2015, it has subsequently been reviewed and will be increased again effective **1 April 2020**. The annual renewal fee is meant to capture work associated with all PAAs and, in particular, amendments. As the Board’s obligations are expanding substantially due to an ever growing number of PAAs, as well as the increase in complexity of studies, it was decided to increase the annual renewal fee.

Effective **1 April 2020**, the annual renewal fee will be:

- **\$1000 CAD** for both full board and delegated (i.e. minimal risk) studies (for those studies/contracts initiated/approved **on or after 1 April 2020**).

For those studies initiated **prior to 1 April 2020**, annual renewal fees will be:

- **\$750 CAD** – studies/contracts initiated/approved from **1 September 2015 to 31 March 2020**;
- **\$500 CAD** – studies/contracts initiated/approved **prior to 1 September 2015**.

If you have any questions or concerns about fees, please contact BC Cancer Research Ethics: reb@bccancer.bc.ca. Thank you.

¹ Annual renewal fees were previously discontinued in certain circumstances (e.g., if the study was closed to accrual and all subjects are either deceased or on long term follow up, etc.). However, for projects with contracts negotiated on or after 1 April 2020, annual renewal fees will apply until the Completion of Study is received and processed.