

Fraser Regional Centre Patient-Oriented Research Graduate Training Fellowship

The Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) has developed provincial partnerships to support patient-oriented research with expertise, resources and knowledge. In British Columbia (BC), the BC SUPPORT (**S**upport for **P**eople and **P**atient-**O**riented **R**esearch and **T**rials) Unit is a multi-partner organization dedicated to increasing the quantity and quality of patient-oriented research. It is one of 10 SUPPORT Units across Canada. Within the BC SUPPORT Unit, there is a provincial hub located in Vancouver, which coordinates activities across BC and provides services to the Vancouver region. There are also four Regional Centres, located in other regional health authority areas (Fraser, Interior, Northern, and Vancouver Island). ***The Fraser Regional Centre is sponsoring this Fellowship.***

What is Patient-Oriented Research?

Patient-oriented research is defined as research that is done in partnership with patients, answers research questions that matter to patients, and aims to improve health care. The term patient is overarching and is inclusive of individuals with personal experience of a health issue and informal caregivers, including family and friends (see <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/44000.html>).

PURPOSE

The Fellowship provides opportunities for individuals enrolled in a thesis-based Master's or PhD program at Simon Fraser University to receive training in patient-oriented research.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Fellowship are to:

- Support and train thesis-based graduate students in the principles and practice of patient-oriented research;
- Provide patient-oriented training activities to develop capacity through an interdisciplinary approach that fosters collaboration between research partners (e.g., applicants, thesis supervisors, clinicians, patient partners, and community team members);
- Create opportunities for research partners to work together, from conceptualization of the research question through to dissemination and implementation of results; and
- Demonstrate the impact of the Fellowship for graduate students and their research.

ELIGIBILITY

- Applicants must be enrolled in, or accepted to, a graduate program at Simon Fraser University and be undertaking or planning to undertake health-related thesis research

- Applicants must be registered as a full-time, regular (not on-leave) student for the duration of the fellowship and must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.50. In exceptional cases, other evidence of outstanding ability may outweigh this criterion
- A patient-oriented project, **situated within the Fraser Region**, must form part of the applicant's research plan
- Applicants may be entering their first or second year of graduate studies in either September of the competition year (2018/19) or January of the award year (2019)
- Applicants must have an identified Senior Supervisor for the duration of the Fellowship
- International students are eligible for this fellowship

FUNDS & TERM

The Fellowship will provide a \$10,000 (MSc/MA) or \$15,000 (PhD) stipend for one-year. The award period begins in January 2019 with a total of \$60,000 available for this competition.

EXPECTATIONS & DELIVERABLES

Successful applicants must commit to:

- Active participation in a series of half-day, patient-oriented research sessions during the term of the Fellowship (dates to be determined);
- Presentation of their patient-oriented approach at a final workshop; and
- Submission of a **Studentship Impact Narrative** within one month of the end of the funding year.

KEY DATES

Competition launch	Monday, August 20, 2018
Deadline for application submission	Monday, November 12, 2018 at 24:00 PST
Notification of competition results	December 2018

REVIEW CRITERIA

1. Excellence of Applicant

- Excellence of applicant's academic and research record
- Potential for excellence in patient-oriented research

2. Research Approach

- Clarity and appropriateness of the rationale, research question, objectives, design and patient-oriented methodology

3. Excellence of Research Environment

- Excellence of Senior Supervisor
- Availability of resources (e.g., funding and equipment) required to conduct the research

4. Impact

- Excellence of knowledge translation plan

REVIEW PROCESS & SCORING

The competition will be adjudicated by an interdisciplinary and multi-stakeholder review committee, which could include patient representatives, academic researchers, health care providers and decision makers with relevant expertise in patient-oriented research and knowledge translation.

The four categories of review criteria (Excellence of Applicant, Research Approach, Excellence of Research Environment, and Impact) will have equal weight (25%) in scoring.

SUPPORT FOR APPLICANTS

We strongly encourage applicants to contact Brittney La Pietra, SFU Research Navigator for the BC SUPPORT Unit Fraser Centre, for questions and support with the application process, including pre-submission review. Email: blapietr@sfu.ca

SUBMISSION

Please submit your application package to Brittney La Pietra. Email: blapietr@sfu.ca

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APPLICATION FORM

PROFILE

Applicant Name:

Applicant Email:

Faculty/Department:

Current Degree:

Current Degree start date:

Area of Research:

SENIOR SUPERVISOR

Senior Supervisor Name:

Senior Supervisor Email:

Faculty/Department:

Areas of Research:

PROJECT INFORMATION

Proposed Start Date:

Project Title:

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

1. Applicant Statement (0.5 page)

- Describe why you are interested in pursuing a fellowship in patient-oriented research

2. Patient-Oriented Research Project Plan (1 page)

- Provide an overview of your patient-oriented research plan, including background on the topic, specific project aims and the proposed patient-oriented research methodology
- Background information should include why this project is important to patients or how the research question answers a need in the community. If applicable, please include details of the patient, stakeholder and/or community partnerships that have been obtained, or the strategy in place to secure intended partnerships, and how this will contribute to the success of the project

3. Knowledge Translation Plan (0.5 page)

- Describe how you will share, implement, and/or create impact with your proposed project

4. Senior Supervisor Letter of Support (max 2 pages)

- Describe the applicant's suitability for this fellowship
- Describe how the applicant will benefit from the fellowship and training in patient-oriented research
- Demonstrate commitment to support the applicant's patient-oriented research project (funding, facilities, equipment, etc.)

5. CV and Transcript

- Current CV for both the applicant and supervisor:
 - Applicant to submit a Canadian Common CV using an appropriate 'Funding Source' (not 'Generic') template, e.g., Vanier-Banting, NSERC or SSHRC (<https://ccv-cvc.ca/indexresearcher-eng.frm>)
 - Supervisor to submit an Academic CV in the format of their choice (30-page limit)
- Applicant's transcript (unofficial transcript acceptable)