

Funding Opportunity Details

Funding Organization

Canadian Institutes of Health Research

Program Name

Fellowship : CIHR Fellowship

(CIHR Fellowship: 2020-2021)

Program Launch Date

2020-09-01

Deadline Date

TBD (To be determined)

Important Dates

Competition	202012MFE CLOSED
Application Deadline	2020-12-01
Anticipated Notice of Decision	2021-05-31
Funding Start Date	2021-06-01

Notices

The content of this funding opportunity has been updated

Date updated: 2020-11-17

Section(s) updated: Guidelines

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Description

CIHR's Health Research Training Strategy (<http://stage.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/50507.html>) aims to equip (<http://stage.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/50517.html>) research trainees so that they emerge from their training as scientific, professional, or organizational leaders within and beyond the health research enterprise. Generating Research Leaders of tomorrow (<https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/50519.html>) is a key objective for CIHR.

Fellowships provide support for highly qualified applicants in all areas of health research (<https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/43753.html#Health>) at the post-PhD degree or post-health professional degree stages to add to their experience by engaging in health research either in Canada or abroad.

Relevant Research Areas

Additional funds are available through this competition to support Fellowship award applications in the following specific research areas:

- Fellowship: Fall 2020 Priority Announcements (Specific Research Areas) (<https://www.researchnet-recherchenet.ca/rnr16/viewOpportunityDetails.do?progCd=11082&language=E&org=CIHR>)

Funds Available

CIHR and partner(s) financial contributions for this initiative are subject to availability of funds. Should CIHR or partner(s) funding levels not be available or are decreased due to unforeseen circumstances, CIHR and partner(s) reserve the right to reduce, defer or suspend financial contributions (https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/InterAgency-Interorganismes/TAFA-AFTO/guide-guide_eng.asp#17) to awards received as a result of this funding opportunity.

- The awards consist of a stipend and a research allowance and are valued in Canadian dollars. It is anticipated that approximately \$21 million over five years will be available through this competition.
- The maximum amount awarded for a single award is up to \$60,000 per annum for up to 5 years. The value and duration of each award is determined by the degree(s) held, licensure (where applicable), location of tenure and experience of the applicant.

Stipend

The annual stipend level for:

- Trainees with a PhD degree is \$40,000 per annum.
- Health Professionals **who hold licensure (full or educational) in Canada and have less than 2 years** of research or clinical training experience since the completion of their health professional degree is \$40,000 per annum. Upon completion of two years of postgraduate research training, the awardee may be eligible to receive a stipend increase to the higher level.

- Health Professionals **who hold licensure (full or educational) in Canada and have two or more years** of research or clinical training experience since the completion of their health professional degree is \$50,000 per annum.
- Health professionals **who do not hold licensure in Canada** is \$21,000 per annum. Upon completion of two years of postgraduate research training, the stipend may increase to \$40,000 per annum.

For awards physically held outside Canada, \$5,000 is added to the annual stipend.

Research allowance: \$5,000 per annum.

Duration of Support

The maximum duration of support, taking into account all federal funding held, will depend on the degree(s) held by the applicant. For holders of a:

- PhD degree, or PhD and health professional degrees, the maximum period of support is three (3) years minus the duration of any previous Tri-agency support held at the postdoctoral level.
- Health professional degree who are not requesting support to pursue a graduate degree, the maximum period of support is four (4) years minus the duration of any previously held postgraduate Tri-agency support.
- Health professional degree who are requesting support to pursue a graduate degree, the maximum period of support to complete the degree is five (5) years minus the duration of any previously held postgraduate Tri-agency support.

Note: Health Professionals who receive funding through this program to pursue a graduate degree must terminate their award upon completion of the degree. Applicants must submit a new application to be considered under this program as PhD holders.

Supplement: The Alice Wilson Award

A \$1,000 award is offered yearly by the Royal Society of Canada (RSC) to three women of outstanding academic qualifications entering a career in scholarship or research at the postdoctoral level via a Tri-Agency fellowship program. CIHR will seek the consent of top-ranked women who accept a CIHR Fellowship to share their information as potential nominees to the RSC, who will make the final determination and inform successful candidates upon completion of their selection process.

More information is available on the Royal Society of Canada (<https://rsc-src.ca/en/awards-excellence/rsc-medals-awards#Wilson>) website.

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Objectives

The specific objectives of this funding opportunity are:

- To provide recognition and funding to academic researchers;
- To provide a reliable supply of highly skilled and qualified researchers.

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Eligibility

Eligibility to Apply

For an application to be eligible:

1. The Nominated Principal Applicant must be a trainee (<http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/34190.html#t2>) (and maintain such status throughout the award duration) and meet the minimum commitment of 75% of their time in the proposed research training (Research + Course Work) throughout the tenure of their award. **Note:** For the purpose of this funding opportunity, trainees cannot hold or be on leave from an independent research (<http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/34190.html#r6>) position.
2. A primary supervisor (<http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/34190.html#s6>) must be identified on the application. An additional supervisor (<http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/34190.html#s6>) may also be identified.
3. As of the application deadline, the Nominated Principal Applicant must hold or be completing a PhD or a regulated health professional degree. The Nominated Principal Applicant must expect to complete all of the requirements of the degree by the latest possible date on which they can take up their award (see Conditions of Funding). To determine if a particular health professional degree is eligible, please consult the list of Eligible Health Professions (<http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/38886.html#an>).
4. Canadian citizens and permanent residents of Canada are eligible to hold a CIHR Fellowship award in Canada or abroad. Nominated Principal Applicants who are neither a Canadian citizen nor a permanent resident of Canada may only hold a CIHR Fellowship award at a Canadian institution.
5. A recipient of a CIHR doctoral-level award **with a health professional degree** may apply to the Fellowship funding opportunity no earlier than during the last year of their award. If a recipient of a CIHR doctoral-level award **with a health professional degree** applies to the Fellowship funding opportunity for doctoral support before the last year of the doctoral award, funding for the currently-held doctoral award will be cancelled as of the first potential effective date of the Fellowship award, even if the application is not successful through the Fellowship funding opportunity.
6. The Nominated Principal Applicant may submit **only one application per year** (September 1 to August 31) for funding from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) or the Social Sciences

and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC). However, individuals eligible to apply to the Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships program (<http://www.vanier.gc.ca/>) or the Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships program (<http://banting.fellowships-bourses.gc.ca/>) may also submit an application to the CIHR Fellowship program (other exceptions may apply depending on the program's objectives, but would be indicated in the specific funding opportunities).

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Guidelines

General CIHR Policies

Successful applicants funded through this funding opportunity and any other persons working on the project must fully comply with the applicable CIHR Funding Policies (<http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/204.html>).

Allowable Costs

Applicants should review the Use of Grant Funds (https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/InterAgency-Interorganismes/TAFA-AFTO/guide-guide_eng.asp#8) section of the Tri-Agency (CIHR, NSERC and SSHRC) Guide on Financial Administration for a complete listing and description of allowable costs and activities.

Conditions of Funding

- The award must be accepted within 15 working days of the date of offer or the award will be cancelled and could be offered to the next fundable applicant.
- Successful applicants must begin their award within 12 months of the earliest possible start date stated in this funding opportunity (payments can be made retroactively as of the earliest start date):
 - For post-PhD and health professional awardees not enrolled in a degree program: awards may commence on the first day of any month.
 - For awardees registered in a graduate program: awards must start either on June 1, 2021; September 1, 2021; or January 1, 2022. **(Updated: 2020-11-17)**
- For individuals who do not hold a health professional degree, awards will only begin after proof that the recipient has completed all the requirements of the PhD program (including the oral examination) is provided.
- Applicants are required to obtain the research institution's (<https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/50805.html#g-2>) signature.
- For individuals who are seeking support to pursue a graduate degree, award will only begin after the recipient has registered in a full-time graduate program and has provided official confirmation from the Registrar's office of their registration.

- For Canadian applicants who are seeking support to hold their award abroad, the award will only begin after the following documents have been provided:
 - Proof of Canadian Citizenship or Canadian Permanent Residency;
 - Proof of visa to enter the foreign country.
- For foreign applicants, awards will only begin after proof of an entry visa into Canada has been provided.
- If the candidate holds another direct Tri-agency training award, it must be terminated prior to the start of the CIHR Fellowship.

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Review Process and Evaluation

Review Process

Peer review will be conducted in accordance with the [CIHR Reviewers' Guide for Fellowship Awards \(http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/26720.html\)](http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/26720.html).

For information on CIHR's peer review principles, see the [Peer Review: Overview \(http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/39380.html\)](http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/39380.html) section of CIHR's website.

Funding Decision

Upon completion of the peer review, CIHR will generate ranking lists for each committee. These lists will be used for funding decision-making purposes and will remain anonymous. Applications will be funded by committee from the top down in order of ranking as far as the budget will allow.

CIHR reserves the right to break ties in ranking by prioritizing applications based on overall scores received for specific evaluation criteria, in the following order of priority: Achievements and Activities of the Candidate, Research Training Environment, Sponsor's Assessment of the Candidate's Characteristics and Abilities.

Applications that receive a final rating below 3.5 will not be funded.

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How to Apply

- To complete your application, follow the instructions in the [Fellowship Awards - Application Instructions \(http://www.cihr.gc.ca/e/38886.html\)](http://www.cihr.gc.ca/e/38886.html).

- **Important:** Please read all instructions to familiarize yourself with the application process before applying.
- Consult the [CIHR Fellowship – Frequently Asked Questions \(http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/44244.html\)](http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/44244.html).
- In order to ensure fairness in the evaluation of applications, CIHR will **not** accept updates to applications after the application deadline.
- Nominated Principal Applicants and their supervisor(s) are required to:
 - Have/obtain a [CIHR PIN \(http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/38201.html\)](http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/38201.html);
 - Complete the [Equity and Diversity Questionnaire \(http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/50959.html\)](http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/50959.html).
- This Funding Opportunity participates in the [eApproval process \(http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/38314.html\)](http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/38314.html). As such, once submitted the application will be electronically directed to the proposed [Institution Paid \(http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/36374.html\)](http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/36374.html) for review and approval. The eApproval process allows Administrators at the Institution to review and electronically approve an application for which the Nominated Principal Applicant has identified their institution as the Institution Paid. Once the application is reviewed and approved by the Institution, it will be submitted electronically to CIHR on behalf of the Nominated Principal Applicant. When completing the application on ResearchNet, detailed instructions on the eApproval process are available in the "**Electronic Approval tool - Applicant's Guide**" under the **Enter Proposal Information** task, "**Details**" subtask.

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Contact Information

For all inquiries, please contact:

CIHR Contact Centre

Telephone: 613-954-1968

Toll Free: 1-888-603-4178

Email: support-soutien@cihr-irsc.gc.ca (<mailto:support@cihr-irsc.gc.ca>)

For service hours, please consult our [Contact us \(http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/9833.html\)](http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/9833.html) page.

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Sponsor Description

Internal Collaborators

Canadian Institutes of Health Research (<http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/>)

At the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), we know that research has the power to change lives. As Canada's health research investment agency, we collaborate with partners and researchers to support the discoveries and innovations that improve our health and strengthen our health care system.

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