WCHRI Summer Studentship Competition 2022

Presenters: Michelle Bailleux and Kathy Morrison
Date: December 17, 2021

Summer Studentship Award Program

This program aims to encourage a new generation of talented young researchers to pursue careers in children's and/or women's health. Students receive direct experience working on specific research projects under the guidance of WCHRI academic members for three or four months between May and August. WCHRI members (in training and supervisors) from all departments and disciplines whose research is <u>relevant</u> to women's and children's health are encouraged to apply.

women & children's
health research institute

Award funding

- A maximum of $1,300 per month paid as a bursary.
- Incentive funding if applicant is successful in receiving another (external) award. Project overlap and period of support apply.
- WCHRI does not require that supervisor's provide a contribution to this bursary.

women & children's
health research institute

Award program timelines

- Application call/ posting: December 1, 2021

- **Application access deadline:**
  January 7, 2022 at 4:00pm

- Application form deadline:
  January 28, 2022 at 4:00pm

- Competition results: April 1, 2022 (tentative)

women & children's
health research institute

Eligibility

- All applications to WCHRI must align with our <u>relevance criteria</u> in order to be eligible for funding.
- Undergraduate students (including medical education students) registered in a recognized full-time degree program at the time of application from any Canadian university may apply.

women & children's
health research institute

Eligibility

- Students must commit to the proposed research for either three or four months between May and August.
- Students must be willing and able to participate in the proposed research activities as per University of Alberta guidelines and policies, including information detailed in the University of Alberta's response to COVID-19.

women & children's
health research institute

Eligibility

- Projects must be supervised by a WCHRI academic <u>member</u>.
- Supervisors must be WCHRI academic members for not less than one year prior to application; except new recruits with an academic appointment of less than one year at the time of application deadline.

Eligibility

- Co-supervision is permitted where the co-supervisor is a currently funded WCHRI Postdoctoral Fellow and the work proposed in the summer studentship application directly supports the research project supported through the WCHRI Postdoctoral Fellowship award.
- Applicants and/or supervisors, including co-supervisors, may have access to and submit a single application only.

women & children's
health research institute

Access forms…

- WCHRI has moved to an electronic application.
- Submission of the WCHRI Summer Studentship application access request form **by the undergraduate student** is required.
- WCHRI will generate in-training membership for all applicants based on applicant information provided in the WCHRI Summer Studentship Application Access Request Form.

Applicants should go onto the website and for the <u>newsletter</u>

SUBSCRIBE NOW

women & children's
health research institute

Access forms…

- Release of an application form link will be sent to the applicant (in one business day) when all application access requirements have been met.
- Application form links are unique and specific to each applicant.

women & children's
health research institute

Access forms…

- Letters of reference are confidential and will be solicited directly by WCHRI from the referee.
- Institutional sponsorship will be solicited directly by WCHRI.

Printed or emailed application material is not accepted.

women & children's
health research institute

WCHRI Relevance

- All applications submitted through WCHRI Grants must align with WCHRI [relevance criteria](#). Applications that do not present as relevant will not be eligible to hold WCHRI funds (other eligibility criteria must also be met).

Relevance

- The research question must specifically target improving outcomes for women and/or children through health research.
- The primary research question must address the unique and distinct health needs of women and/or children. For example:

  -Stating that a particular disease or risk factor is higher in women or in children is not sufficient rationale; the study must explore why prevalence is higher in women or children.

  -If a study is exploring sex/gender comparisons, the comparison must be embedded as the primary research question, not as a secondary outcome.

- Methodology must clearly demonstrate direct applicability to women and/or children's health outcomes. The applicant must provide rationale for their chosen research model, including factors such as sex and age.

The above items are some common considerations; alternative or additional factors may need to be included depending upon the proposed research.

Application access form
what do I do first?

- Read the [application call](#), [program guidelines](#) and [grading grid](#).
- [Complete the WCHRI Summer Studentship application access request form](#).
- Review and submit the access form.

Deadline for submission of the application access form: **January 7, 2022 at 4:00 p.m.**

women & children's
health research institute

Application form
what do I do?

- Refer to the <u>application call</u>, <u>program guidelines</u> and <u>grading grid</u> when completing your application.
- Obtain your transcripts.
- Ask your <u>referee</u> for a letter of reference (note: letters of reference will be solicited directly by WCHRI).
- Ensure that the entire application is proofread.
- Submit the complete application form.

women & children's
health research institute

GPA

Applicants are to list up to the last 30 units taken with a grade point assigned. **Please do not include courses for which a grade point is not provided in the transcript.**

- Transcripts must be provided – an unofficial transcript generated from Beartracks is acceptable.
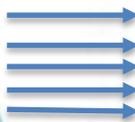
GPA – transcript sample

Fall Term 2020   BSc General
Biological Sciences

Course	Description	Grade Remark	Units Taken	Units Passed	Grade Points	Class Avg	Class Enrl
BOT 205	FUNDAMENTALS OF PLANT BIOL	A	3.0	3.0	12.00	3.2	145
CELL 499A	RESEARCH PROJECT	IP	0.0	0.0	0.00	XXX	16
PSYCO 275	BRAIN AND BEHAVIOR	A+	3.0	3.0	12.00	3.4	515
PSYCO 302	TOPICS-PSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH	A-	3.0	3.0	11.10	3.4	44
	Nonverbal Communication						
	TOTALS		9.0	9.0	35.10		

Do not enter this class → CELL 499A

Grades are Unofficial Until Approved by the Dean

Winter Term 2021   BSc General
Biological Sciences

Course	Description	Grade Remark	Units Taken	Units Passed	Grade Points	Class Avg	Class Enrl
BOT 380	DRUG PLANTS		3.0	0.0	0.00	XXX	155
CELL 499B	RESEARCH PROJECT		6.0	0.0	0.00	XXX	16
PSYCO 367	PERCEPTION		3.0	0.0	0.00	XXX	130
PSYCO 371	NEUROBIOLOGY LEARNING/MEMORY		3.0	0.0	0.00	XXX	375
ZOOL 250	SURVEY OF THE INVERTEBRATES		3.0	0.0	0.00	XXX	86
	TOTALS		18.0	0.0	0.00		

Do not enter this class → BOT 380
Do not enter this class → CELL 499B
Do not enter this class → PSYCO 367
Do not enter this class → PSYCO 371
Do not enter this class → ZOOL 250

Grades are Unofficial Until Approved by the Dean
Page 3   End of Transcript

Complete instruction is available in the application form:
Note:
- If you have less than 30 units taken, enter all units taken.
- If you have a 6-credit course to add where 27 units taken have been entered, then stop at 27 units taken.
- Do not enter more than 30 units taken.

women & children's
health research institute

Grading grid

This is what reviewers use to score your application. the total points are allocated to:

- Student factors (GPA, awards, research outputs, letter of reference, personal statement)
- Supervisor factors (supervisor background, training environment, etc.)
- Research project factors (quality and feasibility, sufficient research funding)

A half a point can be the difference between getting funded or not…

women & children's
health research institute

Lay summary

What they are

- Brief summary of your research – in simple terms for non-experts

Why they are important

- Raises awareness
- Promotes your research activities to our foundations and the public
- Encourages interest
- Fulfills grant requirements

If you are funded and your lay summary is not suitable for a lay audience, *you will be asked to redo it*.

Lay summary: *quick tips*

- Answer the 5 W's

- Include the "so what" or "WOW" factor

- Replace jargon with simple words

- Read aloud to someone who isn't familiar with your field (or even in science)

- Refer to your supervisor if you have any questions

Additional resource: "How to write a lay abstract"

Presented by Dr. Meghan Riddell.

women & children's
health research institute

Review process

- Submission of the complete application to WCHRI by due date.
- Eligible applications undergo committee review:
    - each application is assessed by 2 reviewers using the grading grid.
    - a committee review meeting is held to discuss applications and rankings.
- Competition results are posted on our website by April.

Application feedback is not offered for this program.

women & children's
health research institute

Requirements for funded students

- Participation in two awardee information sessions
- Participation in the WCHRI Summer Student program profiles
- Completion of final reporting
- Your supervisor must provide a final report
- Participation at WCHRI Research Day

women & children's
health research institute

WCHRI awardee information sessions

- Share your research with your peers
- Information about WCHRI award requirements, Research Day and events.

women & children's
health research institute

Thank you for your interest in this funding program...
Questions?

Refer to your supervisor first, please!

If your supervisor asks that you contact us for clarification, then email <u>wcgrants@ualberta.ca</u> with your supervisor *copied on the email.*