

## Results of the 2021 Graduate Studentship Competition

The [WCHRI Graduate Studentship Program](#) offers competitively funded trainee support to students engaged in a full-time, thesis-based graduate level program of study at the University of Alberta.

The award is valued at up to \$18,000 per year and may be held for up to two years. Incentive awards are offered to those who have been successful in obtaining both the WCHRI Graduate Studentship award and another qualifying studentship award.

On behalf of WCHRI, Dr. Todd Alexander, WCHRI associate director and Dr. Andrew Waskiewicz, chair of the [Graduate Studentship Award Advisory Committee](#), would like to congratulate the awardees and thank all of the applicants for the time and effort invested in their grant submission.

WCHRI would like to acknowledge the ongoing commitment and generosity of the Stollery Children's Hospital Foundation (SCHF) and the Alberta Women's Hospital Foundation (AWHF) for their financial support of this grant program.

A listing of the successful applicants is provided below.

### Listing of awardees

Applicant	Supervisor	Sponsor	Project title	WCHRI Funder
Akter, Aklima	Clemente-Casares, Xavier	Medicine & Dentistry- Medical Microbiology & Immunology	Prevention of neonatal viral myocarditis by maturing the cardiac immune cells	SCHF
Benny, Claire	Pabayo, Roman	School of Public Health	Investigating the relationship between income inequality in youth and deaths of despair in Canada	SCHF
Bruno, Grant	Zwaigenbaum, Lonnie	Medicine & Dentistry- Pediatrics	Experiences of Autism in Maskwacis: A qualitative study	SCHF
Evanchuk, Jenna	Field, Catherine J	Agriculture, Life & Environmental Sciences- Agricultural, Food & Nutritional Science	Exploring the relationship between a mother's diet with iron and vitamin D status across pregnancy and their impact on maternal, infant, and child health outcomes	RAHF/ SCHF
Hager, Amber	Mager, Diana	Agriculture, Life & Environmental Sciences- Agricultural, Food & Nutritional Science	The effect of a 12-week home-based exercise program on muscle mass, strength and quality of life in children post-liver transplantation	SCHF
Hammond, Leah	Rasmussen, Carmen	Medicine & Dentistry- Pediatrics	Executive function and wellness activities following early brain injury	SCHF
Hwang, Yeongho	Carson, Valerie	Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation	Environment profiles in relation to outdoor play in preschoolers	SCHF

James, Ashton	Ospina, Maria	Medicine & Dentistry- Obstetrics & Gynecology	Weaving wellness: Indicators of social and emotional well-being among Métis children in Alberta	SCHF
Kibalnyk, Yana	Voronova, Anastassia	Medicine & Dentistry- Medical Genetics	How the neural crest shapes developmental disorders: insights from a mouse model of KBG syndrome	SCHF
Latif, Asna	Bhavsar, Amit	Medicine & Dentistry- Medical Microbiology & Immunology	Protecting against hearing loss induced by cisplatin chemotherapy in childhood cancer patients	SCHF
Louie-Poon, Samantha	Scott, Shannon	Nursing	Telling the untold stories: improving children's mental health through the narratives of Asian parents	SCHF
Matenchuk, Brittany	Davenport, Margie	Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation	Sleep disordered breathing and the risk of serious complications in pregnancy	RAHF/ SCHF
Narayanamurthy, Rukhmani	Unsworth, Larry	Engineering- Chemical and Materials Engineering	Drug delivery using nanoparticles to treat brain injury in newborns	SCHF
Pherwani, Simran	Lopaschuk, Gary D.	Medicine & Dentistry- Pediatrics	Maturation of energy metabolism in the heart of newborns with congenital heart defects	SCHF
Reif, Rebecca	Hemmings, Denise G	Medicine & Dentistry- Obstetrics & Gynecology	Development of a physiological model to study host-parasite interactions in placental malaria	RAHF/ SCHF
Sell, Hannah	MacDonald, Shannon	Nursing	The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on school-based immunizations in Alberta	SCHF
Shah, Md Nur Ahad	Yokota, Toshifumi	Medicine & Dentistry- Medical Genetics	Enhancing the efficacy of personalized genetic medicine for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy	SCHF
Thompson, Alexa	Charlton, Carmen L	Medicine & Dentistry- Laboratory Medicine & Pathology	Improving the diagnosis and linkage to care for pregnant women infected with Hepatitis C in Alberta	RAHF/ SCHF
Ueda, Kazuki	Simmonds, Andrew	Medicine & Dentistry-Cell Biology	Select peroxisome proteins protect the brain from harmful lipids in diet by storing in body fat stores	SCHF

Feedback will be provided July 5, 2021. Refer to the [program guidelines](#) for additional competition results information and awardee requirements.

### Application statistics

Total eligible applications: 45

Total applications awarded: 19

Funding rate = 42.2%

### WCHRI Program Leverage

Of the 19 WCHRI Graduate studentship awardees offered funding through this program, 5 have funding from alternative funding sources (overall program leverage of 26.3%). Students who are awarded alternative funding receive incentive funding from WCHRI. Leveraging allows WCHRI to fund more students that we would otherwise be unable to fund given budget constraints.

### Application statistics by faculty and department (funded/applied)

Agriculture, Life & Environmental Sciences-Agricultural, Food & Nutritional Science: 2/2
Engineering-Chemical and Materials Engineering: 1/2
Engineering-Mechanical Engineering: 0/1
Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation: 2/2
Medicine & Dentistry-Biochemistry: 0/1
Medicine & Dentistry-Cell Biology: 1/2
Medicine & Dentistry-Dentistry and Dental Hygiene: 0/3
Medicine & Dentistry-Laboratory Medicine & Pathology: 1/1
Medicine & Dentistry-Medical Genetics: 2/2
Medicine & Dentistry-Medical Microbiology & Immunology: 2/3
Medicine & Dentistry-Medicine: 0/3
Medicine & Dentistry-Obstetrics & Gynecology: 2/3
Medicine & Dentistry-Pediatrics: 3/10
Medicine & Dentistry-Physiology: 0/1
Medicine & Dentistry-Radiology & Diagnostic Imaging: 0/1
Nursing: 2/3
Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences: 0/1
Rehabilitation Medicine-Communication Sciences and Disorders: 0/2
Rehabilitation Medicine-Physical Therapy: 0/1
School of Public Health: 1/1

