

Results of the 2019 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 other qualifying studentship award.

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

Finally, WCHRI would like to acknowledge the ongoing commitment and generosity of the Stollery Children's Hospital Foundation (SCHF) and the Royal Alexandra Hospital Foundation (RAHF) for their financial support of this grant program.

Listing of awardees

Applicant	Institution	Supervisor	Primary Appointment	Project Title	WCHRI Funder
Choi, Won-Shik	Medicine & Dentistry-Oncology	Godbout, Roseline	Medicine & Dentistry-Oncology	Does the cancer gene MYC contribute to retinoic acid resistance in breast cancer?	RAHF
Cunningham, Chentel	Nursing	Scott, Shannon	Nursing	Working with patients to co-develop a tool for families with a child in heart failure	SCHF
Dijk, Stephanie	Medicine & Dentistry-Physiology	Wine, Eytan	Medicine & Dentistry-Pediatrics	Gut bacteria can respond to diet and affect intestinal health in pediatric inflammatory bowel disease patients	SCHF
Fernandez-Sanchez, Higinio	Nursing	Salami, Bukola	Nursing	Mental health status of left-behind women in the context of migration	RAHF
Greenwell, Amanda	Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences	Ussher, John Edward	Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences	Energy metabolism of the heart in Barth Syndrome	SCHF

Hurd, Caitlin	Rehabilitation Medicine- Physical Therapy	Yang, Jaynie F.	Rehabilitation Medicine- Physical Therapy	Parent-therapist partnership to provide early, intensive exercise to enhance walking outcomes in children with Cerebral Palsy	SCHF
Johnson, Peter Anto	Medicine & Dentistry- Pediatrics	Schmolzer, Georg M	Medicine & Dentistry- Pediatrics	A heartbeat away from better lifesaving: new technologies to assess heart rate at birth	SCHF
Keshavarz- bahaghighat, Hedieh	Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences	Seubert, John	Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences	Possible explanations for epoxyeicosatrienoic acids female-specific protective effects in aged female hearts following ischemic heart disease	RAHF
Lowe, Samuel	Public Health, School of	Pabayo, Roman	Public Health, School of	Investigating the link between neighbourhood income inequality and maternal mental health	RAHF/SCHF
Noble, Ronan	Medicine & Dentistry- Pediatrics	Bourque, Stephane	Medicine & Dentistry- Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine	New approaches to treating the long-term effects of iron deficiency in pregnancy	RAHF/SCHF
Paskevicius, Tautvydas	Medicine & Dentistry- Biochemistry	Michalak, Marek	Medicine & Dentistry- Biochemistry	New molecular targets for multiple sclerosis	RAHF
Patricny, Nicol	Education- Educational Psychology	Pei, Jacqueline R	Education- Educational Psychology	Youth living in forensic psychiatric settings: An exploration of strength-based factors that promote positive mental health outcomes and protect against reoffending	SCHF
Punjani, Neelam	Nursing	Papathanassoglou, Elizabeth	Nursing	Strengthening linkages between sexual and mental health of young girls	RAHF

Reklow, Robert	Medicine & Dentistry-Physiology	Funk, Gregory	Medicine & Dentistry-Physiology	Understanding how the premature brain controls breathing to maintain brain oxygen levels	SCHF
Shahbaz, Shima	Medicine & Dentistry-Dentistry and Dental Hygiene	Elahi, Shokrollah	Medicine & Dentistry-Dentistry and Dental Hygiene	Development of the gut microbiome in early life and how its alteration causes autoimmune diseases later in life	SCHF
Wong, Jason	Engineering-Electrical and Computer Engineering	Lou, Edmond HM	Engineering-Electrical and Computer Engineering	Using machine learning to predict worsening of spinal deformity in adolescent idiopathic scoliosis patients to assist clinicians with treatment decision	SCHF
Zatto, Brenna	Science-Psychology	Hoglund, Wendy	Arts-Psychology	Emotion regulation and dysregulation and symptoms of depression and anxiety in early childhood	SCHF

Application statistics

Total eligible applications: 53
Total applications awarded: 17
Funding rate = 32.1%

WCHRI Program Leverage

Of the 17 WCHRI Graduate studentship awardees offered funding through this program, at the time of this announcement, 3 have received funding from alternative funding sources (overall program leverage of 17.6%). 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. All awardees (full or incentive funded) are part of the WCHRI community and participate in two Lunch & Share sessions held over the course of the 2 year award term.

Application statistics by faculty and department (funded/applied)

Agriculture, Life & Environmental Sciences-Agricultural, Food & Nutritional Science: 0/4
Education-Educational Psychology: 1/2
Engineering-Electrical and Computer Engineering: 1/1
Medicine & Dentistry-Biochemistry: 1/1
Medicine & Dentistry-Dentistry and Dental Hygiene: 1/4
Medicine & Dentistry-Medical Genetics: 0/2
Medicine & Dentistry-Medicine: 0/1
Medicine & Dentistry-Obstetrics & Gynecology: 0/1
Medicine & Dentistry-Oncology: 1/3
Medicine & Dentistry-Pediatrics: 2/7
Medicine & Dentistry-Pharmacology: 0/1
Medicine & Dentistry-Physiology: 2/7
Medicine & Dentistry-Surgery: 0/1
Nursing: 3/3
Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences: 2/3
Rehabilitation Medicine-Physical Therapy: 1/3
Science/ Psychology: 1/1
School of Public Health: 1/8

Questions?

WCHRI Grants Administration at: wcgrants@ualberta.ca