

Alberta Innovates: Training and Early Career Development

Information Session

Wednesday, August 28, 2019

2-490 ECHA

Pat Jones and Angela McCormick

Research Facilitators

Research Services Office

Overview

- Describe each of the three programs
- The submission process
- Application assessment
- Potential pitfalls and how to avoid them
- Deadlines: RSO's and Alberta Innovates

Alberta Innovates Training & Early Career Development Programs

- Focus on health research and innovation
- Develop the individual
- Provide multifaceted mentorship
- Recognize non-conventional backgrounds and career paths

Graduate Studentship in Health Innovation

- Support the development of high quality, broadly trained graduate level health researchers
- Must be enrolled in a graduate degree program (thesis-based) at an Alberta university and have completed at least 1 year of graduate studies, at time of award implementation
- Health-related research project associated with a thesis-based Graduate degree (i.e. Master's or Doctoral degree, or the research portion of a combined MD/PhD)

Term and value:

- Stipend up to \$30,000 per year for a maximum of 3 years. A maximum of 1 year of support is available to Master's students.
- Career Development Allowance \$2,000 per year

SPOR Graduate Studentships

- Must be enrolled in the first year of a graduate degree program at an Alberta university
- Health-related research project associated with a thesis-based graduate degree (i.e. Master's or Doctoral degree, or the research portion of a combined MD/PhD)
- Research project includes at least one of the following:
 - Meaningfully engages patients as partners
 - Focuses on patient-identified priorities
 - Aims to improve patient outcomes

Term and Value:

- Stipend up to \$30,000 for a maximum of one year.

AI is holding a webinar Tuesday, September 17, 2019 at 12 – 1 pm.
Register from their site.

Postgraduate Fellowships in Health Innovation

- Support for individuals who will have completed a PhD at the time of award implementation
- Have accepted, or currently hold, a postdoctoral appointment at an Alberta University
- Project must be health-related research

Term and Value:

- Stipend up to \$50,000 per year for a maximum 3 years.
- Career Development Allowance \$5,000 per year

Alberta Innovates' Incentive Award Structure

Upon receipt of a major comparable, peer-reviewed award:

- SPOR: minimum stipend incentive offered is \$12,000
- Graduate Studentship: minimum stipend incentive offered is \$12,000 plus career development allowance
- Postgraduate Fellowships: minimum stipend incentive offered is \$15,000 plus career development allowance

Alberta Innovates 2019 Online Application Process



- Foster the development of high quality, broadly trained health researchers and enhance the important contribution graduate students make to the research and innovation sector.
- Provide support for both scientific training and career development and facilitate the acquisition of the professional skills crucial to achieving success in obtaining a graduate degree and in developing a successful career;
- Provide additional training and career development opportunities for trainees across a wide range of sectors

Who is eligible to apply?

Applicants must be currently enrolled in a graduate program at an Alberta university undertaking health-related training leading to a thesis-based graduate degree. Applicants must have completed their first year of graduate training, at the time of award implementation. The Graduate Studentship is tenable only at an Alberta university.

Important: Please review the Graduate Studentship Program Guide before applying.

Graduate Studentship [Program Guide](#)

Online [application portal](#)

Application [instructions](#)

Biographical [Sketch form](#)

Program Contact Information

Name: Kathy Morrison

Title: Senior Coordinator, Grants Processing

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Click to go to online application

Alberta Innovates

Welcome to the Alberta Innovates (AI) online application portal. To apply for an open grant competition, please use this online tool which has replaced our paper-based form. If you are a new user, please be sure to register in order to access and submit the application.

To find out more about Alberta Innovates please visit our website at www.albertainnovates.ca.

[Register here](#)



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existing
account

Funding Opportunities

Postgraduate Fellowship

Deadline:07/09/2018

Apply Now

MD-PhD Studentship

Deadline:07/09/2018

Apply Now

Graduate Studentship

Deadline:07/09/2018

Apply Now

Clinician Fellowship

Deadline:07/09/2018

Apply Now



Click "Apply Now" to start a new application

My Applications

IN PROGRESS SUBMITTED APPROVED UNSUCCESSFUL / WITHDRAWN / INELIGIBLE

Primary Contact Competition Created Date

No Results Found

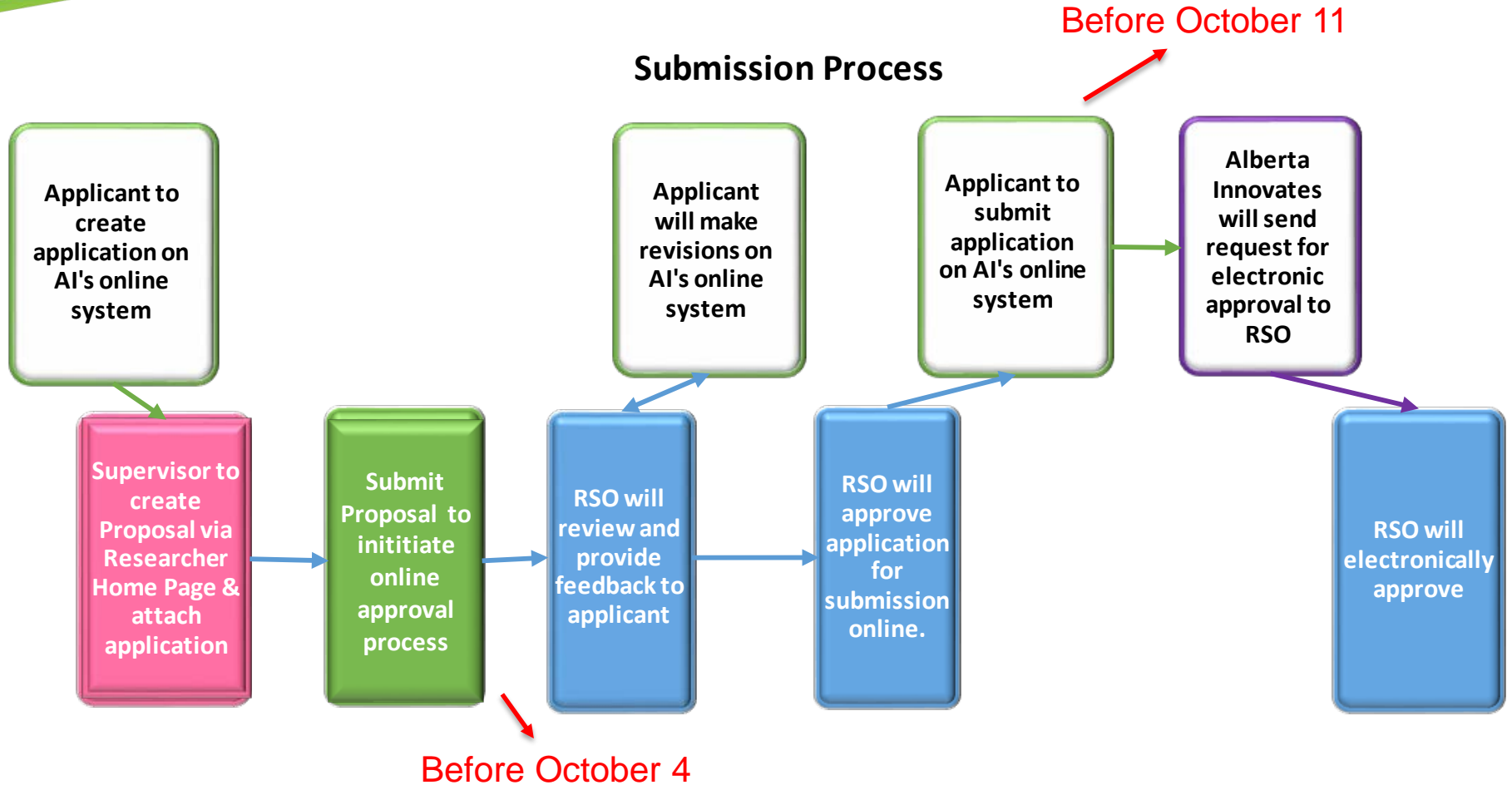
Requires Attention

IN PROGRESS SUBMITTED

Primary Contact Project Title Activity Type Award Year Start date End date Status

No Results Found

Submission Process



Alberta Innovates/University of Alberta Combined Submission Process

1. Supervisor to create Studentship Request on Researcher Home Page
2. Supervisor attaches a complete copy of application to the Request and presses “Submit” which will initiate the online approval process.
3. All supervisor, department (if applicable) and faculty approvals should be obtained before October 4th.

Combined Process cont'd

4. After RSO has provided feedback and RSO has approved the application for submission, the application can be submitted online. **No further changes can be made after submitting online.**
5. After the application has been submitted, Alberta Innovates will send email requests to the applicant for electronic approval and to RSO for electronic approval.
6. These emails are sent after the application has been reviewed by Alberta Innovates staff for eligibility and completeness.

Alberta Innovates Competition Deadline

Friday, October 11, 2019

*Departmental/faculty deadlines will differ, please
contact your department/faculty regarding their
requirements*

RSO deadline no later than Friday, October 4, 2019

Preparing a Successful Application

SUCCESS

→ go get it →

Integrity of Information

Alberta Innovates supports Alberta research institutions in their efforts to promote and ensure the highest standards of research and scholarship practice and behaviour. Each applicant asserts that this application **adheres to all research policies and procedures** in place at his/her sponsoring institution, including those regarding integrity in research and scholarship. Alberta Innovates reserves the right to confirm this assertion through independent means. Alberta Innovates wishes to alert applicants to the **consequences of misrepresentation** in this application, including misrepresentations of authorship, credentials or research support. In the event of material deviations of the information in this application from reference sources, including citation sources (in the case of authorship), issuing organization(s) (in the case of credentials), or granting agencies (in the case of research support), **Alberta Innovates reserves the right to disqualify the applicant from the competition** in question. Further Alberta Innovates actions may include disqualifying the applicant from future Alberta Innovates competitions for a time period to be set at Alberta Innovates's sole discretion, withdrawal of any remaining installments of support for any existing Alberta Innovates grant or award for which misrepresentation appears in the submission, and seeking partial or full repayment of any past financial support under any Alberta Innovates grant or award for which misrepresentation appears in the submission. Further information on Alberta Innovates's support for research and scholarship integrity is found in the appropriate Program Guide.

Application Evaluation Criteria

- Academic track record – 30 %
- Career development and mentorship plan – 25%
- Research proposal – 20%
- Supervisory team and research training environment – 10%
- Research & Innovation Leadership Potential – 15%

Academic Track Record

- Evidence of solid and sustained academic excellence & performance?
- Received academic recognition, prizes, awards? **Local, provincial, national?**

30%

Academic Track Record

Pitfalls

- Missing transcripts
- Transcripts difficult for reviewers to assess (lack formal explanation)
- Previous research positions not adequately described
- Lack of “expected” productivity

Career Development and Mentorship Plan

- Comprehensiveness and coherence of career development plan (e.g., consideration of strengths, career options, rationale for pursuing the research training program, strategies to enhance training with mentorship and professional development opportunities).
- Justification for the selection of the mentors (e.g., do the mentors have relevant expertise and/or a track record of success, are they well-positioned to contribute to the career and/or scientific development of the Trainee, do they address gaps in formal training).
- Plan and justification for use of the career development allowance.
- Commitment to professional and transferable skills.

25%

Career Development Plan

Pitfalls

- Fails to clearly describe how achievements, publications, awards and related work and research experiences have prepared the applicant to meet their career aspirations
- Does not clearly outline how undertaking the current program of study relates to career goals/objectives and will position the candidate to succeed and achieve their career goals
- No clear career goals
- Rationale for the selection of the mentorship advisors not provided
- Letter(s) are too general (failure to address specific criteria), missing from key individuals or originate from referee who cannot provide appropriate comments

Mentorship Advisors

Pitfalls

- Instructions for biographical sketch not followed (funding etc.)
- Have not identified required mentorship advisors (co-mentor and career advisor)
- Mentorship advisors do not reflect identified needs of the applicant or lack necessary experience
- Unbalanced team

Mentoring Plan

Pitfalls

- Failure to provide a plan with specific activities
- Does not address the career and professional development needs of the applicant – connection to career development plan missing
- Does not describe the expertise of the mentorship advisors and how they relate to the career and professional development of the applicant

Supervisory Team and Research Training Environment

- Strength of the supervisor's research qualifications in the area of the proposed research and previous experience in fostering the development of HSPs.
- Extent to which the research training environment provides access to necessary expertise, facilities and equipment, potential to interact with other investigators and professionals, and opportunities for growth.

10%

Research Training Environment

Pitfalls

- Does not describe available resources/opportunities for the applicant
- Failure to discuss collaborative opportunities with other laboratories/investigators
- Inadequate funding (could be no funding, could be very limited funding)

Research Proposal

- Scientific merit of the proposed research question, design, and methodology.
- Potential for advancing the field of study.
- Relevance to the Trainee's career objectives.

20%

Research Proposal

Pitfalls

- Poorly written
- Uses jargon and not plain language
- Fails to summarize the research project
- Too much detail - difficult to assess significance or even identify research question/hypothesis
- Relevant background missing

Research Proposal

Pitfalls

- Poor balance between description of significance and description of methodology
- Inadequate description provided
- Feasibility?
- Unique, innovative?
- Connection with available resources and expertise missing
- Does not reflect the applicant's level of training and/or research experience

Research & Innovation Leadership Potential

- Innovative nature of contributions (e.g., creative use of new ideas, technologies, or partnerships to solve a problem or respond to an opportunity in academic, professional, and/or extra-curricular settings).
- Extracurricular contributions.
- Leadership potential.

15%

Research & Innovation Leadership Potential

Pitfalls

- Lack of research achievements/stage of career (research experience, publications, presentations, awards etc.) OR does not “sell” the applicant’s accomplishments
- Lack of leadership skills and relevant extracurricular accomplishments OR does not adequately identify and/or describe leadership accomplishments (put achievements in context)

BE AWARE!

- The reviewers have to review many applications
- The reviewers will have lots of applications to compare to each other
- They will likely not be experts in your field and may have difficulty assessing the quality of your publications, importance of project, etc.

RSO Deadline: October 4, 2019

Alberta Innovates Deadline: October 11, 2019

*Departmental/faculty deadlines will differ, please
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requirements*

Contact

- Kathy Morrison
Kathy.Morrison@albertainnovates.ca
(780) 429-7655

AI website: <https://albertainnovates.ca/funding-health-innovations/training-and-early-career-development/>

- Your Research Facilitator, [Research Facilitators by Faculty](#)

RSO website: <https://www.ualberta.ca/research/services>