

Respiratory Health Strategic Clinical Network™

Summer Studentship Award 2019

1. Purpose:

The Respiratory Health Strategic Clinical Network™ (RHSCN) Scientific Office of Alberta Health Services (AHS) supports and provides training and mentorship opportunities to increase capacity in respiratory research across Alberta. One of the most efficient ways to increase research capacity is to engage undergraduate students from a variety of health-related disciplines in research projects at early stages in their academic training. The RHSCN Summer Studentship Program is designed to provide funding support to undergraduate students to participate and develop research skills applied to the area of respiratory health relevant to the RHSCN strategic goals. This capacity building initiative will also support trainees towards the generation of evidence to drive decision-making, ongoing health care system improvement and sustainability. This business case is aligned with the strategic directions of the RHSCN Scientific Office of: 1) Advancing knowledge, 2) Research capacity building and training, and 3) Engaging and build partnerships for research and innovation.

The objectives of the RHSCN Summer Studentship Award are to:

1. Create collaborative learning opportunities for undergraduate students across Alberta around respiratory health research topics of relevance to the RHSCN.
2. Build student capacity in designing/conducting/leading small research projects in respiratory health.
3. Contribute to the generation of new knowledge that advances key topics relevant to respiratory health, AHS and the RHSCN.

Two RHSCN Summer Studentship Awards will be offered, providing a stipend \$1,500/month per applicant for a maximum of 4 months during the summer (**\$6,000.00 total maximum per applicant**). Matching funding is encouraged; however, additional funding will not be provided in excess of \$6,000/summer for a 4-month period. The total funding support for this award is **\$12,000.00** (up to **two** awards).

2. Student/Trainee Eligibility:

Primary applicant/student: Eligible undergraduate students must be enrolled as full- or part-time students in an accredited education program in a health-related discipline (e.g., science, nursing, medicine, kinesiology, psychology, respiratory therapy, rehabilitation, etc.) during the period of the award. Students need not be enrolled in an Alberta institution to be eligible; however, the summer research activities must be completed in Alberta.

Partner applicant/supervisor/mentor: Students must have a dedicated supervisor/mentor during the summer period. Supervisors/mentors are any academic/researcher from an Alberta

educational institution with a clear demonstration of a rich environment for student training and links with the RHSCN.

3. Evaluation Criteria:

A panel of researchers from the RHSCN (members of the Scientific Advisory Committee), and other SCNs (ASDs) will review all applications based upon pre-defined quality assessment criteria. The composition of the panel should reflect the inclusion of a diverse group of engaged academics and researchers across the **four pillars** of health research as applied to pediatric and adult respiratory health. Applications will be reviewed according to the following criteria (Appendix 1):

- The scientific quality of the research project.
- Appropriateness and relevance to scope of RHSCN.
- The training environment in which the student will carry out their research project
- The student's academic record
- Special accomplishments or attributes relevant to the competition.

4. Application Deadline and Notification of Award

Application deadline is March 15, 2019. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered. Notification of award will be sent to all students and their supervisors by April 15, 2019.

5. Required documents:

1. Application Form
2. Applicant's CV (4-page maximum)
3. Supervisor's CV (4-page maximum)
4. Official Transcripts (all years of completed Undergraduate work)
5. One letter of reference (may be from the supervisor)
6. Supervisor's letter of support

6. Reporting Requirements:

- RHSCN Summer Studentship Award recipients are required to submit a final report 30 days after completion of the award. This report will include a description of the research activities performed, summary of the findings, and planned dissemination activities (e.g. presentations, manuscripts etc.), if applicable.
- Reports will be shared with AHS (Research Priorities and Implementation office). The report should also inform how the results of the Summer Studentship research work inform future grants and research projects of value to the RHSCN.
- RHSCN Summer Studentship Award recipients will be invited to present the results of their summer project to the RHSCN Core Committee. This will provide an opportunity for dissemination of findings and identify potential future work around the RHSCN strategic goals and other programs of funding.

7. Other Terms of Reference:

- Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.
- All publications, including public messages, arising from the RHSCN Summer Studentship Award must acknowledge the support of Alberta Health Services and the RHSCN.
- Successful students cannot accept more than one summer studentship regardless of the funding source.
- Funds received cannot be used to pay university overhead costs.

RHSCN Summer Studentship Award Evaluation Form

Referee's Name

Date

Applicant's Number and Last Name

Conflicts

Referees were asked to identify any conflicts of interest prior to formal evaluation.

Assessment Criteria

In your assessment of each studentship application, please consider the following:

1. The quality of the research proposal and relevance to scope of RHSCN.
2. Distinctive contribution to, and likely impact on respiratory care.
3. The quality of the research environment, supervisory arrangements and the likely quality of training programme(s) and preparation for academic research.
4. Student academic record.

Scoring the application

Please provide an overall score (1-6) based on the criteria overleaf. You may use the descriptions within the relevant band to select a score from a drop down list that reflects your overall appraisal. A **Total Score** (max. of 24) is obtained by adding all the numbers in the **Subscore** column.

Two reviewers have been allocated to each application. If there is any discrepancy in any of the four categories of assessment, a third adjudicator will be involved.

Feedback

Please provide comments on each studentship application as this helps the RHSCN research office to provide feedback to applicants if requested.

Confidentiality

Applications are sent in confidence and you should destroy any files or printouts after use.

Anonymity

Given the small size of the Respiratory health care community, your scoring will be anonymous.

		Outstanding	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Modest	Not fundable
	Subscore	6	5	4	3	2	1
Quality and relevance to scope of RHSCN		Exceptional scientific quality of the research proposal	Excellent scientific quality of the research proposal.	Very good scientific quality of the research proposal.	Good scientific quality of the research proposal.	Modest scientific quality of the research proposal.	Poor/flawed/duplicative, serious scientific or ethical concerns in the research proposal.
Productivity /Impact		Addresses very important questions which will advance knowledge and have a significant impact on Respiratory care in the province	Addresses important questions likely to advance knowledge and have a high impact on Respiratory care in the province.	Good prospects for having an impact on Respiratory care in the province.	Reasonably important but unlikely to have a high impact on Respiratory care in the province.	Fairly low expectation of success and impact on Respiratory care in the province.	Not worthwhile. This also includes research which may be scientifically excellent, but is not considered directly relevant to Respiratory care in the province.
Training Environment		Will be undertaken at an outstanding academic environment for training and career development. Exceptional supervisor track record	Will be undertaken at an excellent academic environment for training and career development. Excellent supervisor track record.	Will be undertaken at a very good academic environment for training and career development. Very good supervisor track record.	Will be undertaken at a good academic environment for training and career development. Good supervisor track record.	Some concerns about institution for academic environment for training and career development, or about supervisor track record.	Serious concerns regarding training and/or supervisor track record.
Academic Record of Applicant		Several publications and/or studentships awarded. Outstanding participation in relevant academic activities.	Several publications and/or studentships awarded. Excellent performance in relevant academic activities.	One publication and/or prize/scholarship awarded. Good performance in relevant academic activities.	Involvement in relevant academic activities.	Evidence of participation in relevant academic activities.	No relevant involvement in academic activities
Total Score							

Reviewer Comments:

RHSCN Summer Studentship Award 2019 Application Form

Applicant Information				
First Name	Initial	Last Name		
Research Project Title				
Address			E-mail	
City	Province	Postal Code	Phone (Home)	Phone (Cell)
Institution (presently registered)			Degree Program/Discipline	
Year of Study (current)	Start Date (dd/mm/year)	End Date (dd/mm/year)	GPA	
Supervisor Information				
Name	Email		Telephone	Fax
Institution	Program (Faculty/Department/Division; Faculty)			
Address	City		Province	Postal Code
Location of Summer Respiratory Health Research (if different)				
Supervisor's Name	Email		Telephone	Fax
Institution		Location of research space		
Program (Department/Division)				
Address	City		Province	Postal Code

Project Information

The Project description included in this application was written by whom? *(Please indicate which most applies)*

- Student led Supervisor Led Combination of Student and Supervisor
- Other: _____

Briefly describe the research project and how it addresses a question of importance in respiratory research. *(750 words or less)*

Describe the project's application to the RHSCN mandate. *(200 words or less)* and can be translated in changing the health outcomes for respiratory patients.

Describe the student's role in the research project. *(200 words or less)*

Describe how this project complements your long-term career plans? *(200 words or less)*

Describe the training environment to be provided by the supervisor and host institution. (200 words or less)

RHSCN Summer Studentship Award Checklist:

- Application Form
- Applicant CV (4-page maximum)
- Supervisor's CV (4-page maximum)
- Official Transcripts (all years of completed Undergraduate work)
- One letter of reference (may be from the supervisor)
- Supervisor's letter of support

Ethics

The project requires:

- HREB approval obtained HREB submission pending N/A (lit reviews)
- Other: _____

Summer Studentship Timelines

School year end date:	Summer Studentship Start Date of the	Summer Studentship End Date	Time dedicated to Summer Studentship
dd/mm/2019	dd/mm/2019	dd/mm/2019	__ __ Hours/week

Proposed timelines of the Summer Research Project

Submission information

Completed applications must be sent electronically in PDF format to Heather Sharpe at heather.sharpe@albertahealthservices.ca no later than **March 15, 2019**

Successful applicants will be notified no later than by April 15, 2019.

For more information contact:

Heather Sharpe, RN, PhD
Assistant Scientific Director
Respiratory Health Strategic Clinical Network
Email: heather.sharpe@albertahealthservices.ca
Phone: (403) 710-0316

Signatures

Student Applicant

Date

Supervisor

Date

For Internal Use Only

Date Received:

Application Complete:
 Yes No

Notes:

Please carefully read all instructions and include all necessary documents.

Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

It is the student's responsibility to ensure that the materials have been successfully submitted.