

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA KILLAM ACCELERATOR RESEARCH AWARD

3 April 2019

Terms of reference and application process

The Killam Accelerator Research Award was established in November 2018 - funded from the generous Izaak Walton and Dorothy Killam bequest - to address the needs of an under-served group of researchers that merits targeted investment. The award is granted on a competitive basis to early career faculty members who are within six (6) years of having taken up their first tenure track appointment, and who would normally just have received tenure and been promoted to the rank of Associate Professor. The Killam Accelerator Research Award is for a three-year term based on the outstanding promise shown by the faculty member in their research output and the impact of their scholarly activity.

Beginning in 2019, two new Killam Accelerator Research Awards will be awarded annually, and the maximum number of Killam Accelerator Research Awards at any one time in the institution shall not exceed six. The awards are funded from the Killam General Endowment and have a value of \$75,000 per year. These funds may be used for any justifiable research-related expenses (eg, salary/benefits for research personnel, research travel, direct research expenses (eg, lab expenses), small equipment, dissemination of research results, etc). End date extensions will not be approved; any unspent funds at the end of the award must be returned to source.

The duties of Killam Accelerator Research Award recipients are no different from those that they regularly perform as faculty members.

Eligibility

Nominees must be within six (6) years of having taken up their first tenure track appointment, and would normally have just received tenure and been promoted to the rank of Associate Professor. Nominees must have established a strong research record and demonstrate outstanding promise as a researcher.

The Office of the Vice-President (Research) will consider extending the eligibility period for individuals whose academic careers have been interrupted (eg, parental or maternity leave, etc) on a case-by-case basis.

Two principal criteria for nominee assessment are:

1. Quality of the individual's research; **and**
2. Impact of their research on the advancement of the discipline; both to date and its future potential.

Selection process

The award is adjudicated by a committee chaired by the Vice-President (Research). The committee includes the Associate Vice-Presidents (Research) and six members from the University's research community who are suitably representative of the diversity that exists across the academy.

Application process

Each Faculty may nominate one candidate per competition, and may use whatever procedures it deems appropriate to select its nominee.

Please prepare the dossier for the Killam Accelerator Research Award nomination as follows:

1. The following information must be submitted as part of the nomination:
 - Statement describing procedures followed in generating the nomination.
 - Statement why nominee qualifies for the award, emphasizing their contributions to and impact on the discipline. Please include a paragraph on the nominee's contributions to equity, diversity, and inclusion.
 - Summary, for a multidisciplinary audience, of nominee's three most important publications, creative works and/or scholarly contributions. In the summary, include complete citation of the publication, creative work and/or scholarly contribution, and nominee's role. Please limit each summary to a maximum of one page. **DO NOT include copies of the publications, creative works and/or scholarly contributions with the nomination package.**
 - Current curriculum vitae listing publication authorship, creative works and/or scholarly contributions as the authorship appears in print (ie, for multiple-author publications, nominee's name shall appear in the correct sequence).
 - Brief one page statement by the nominee describing the significance and potential impact of his/her scholarly work and immediate research plans.
 - Reference letters from two external assessors addressing nominee's suitability in terms of award criteria.
 - Letter of recommendation from the Dean.

2. Reference letters from two external assessors in the nominee's field. **Assessors should be outside experts with no close collegial or trainee link to the nominee.** Letters should address the nominee's suitability in terms of the Award's criteria.

A short biography of each external assessor for the selection committee's information must be included with the nomination.

Letters of reference will be received by the University of Alberta in confidence. Except under limited and specific circumstances, the University will maintain the reference letters in confidence.

3. Teaching shall not constitute part of the evaluation except for graduate teaching and supervision relevant to the nominee's research.

4. The dossier contents must be arranged in the following order:

- Statement of procedures followed in making the nomination.
- Statement of why nominee qualifies for the award.
- Letter of support from the Dean.
- List of three most significant publications/creative works or equivalent (for fine arts) with a brief summary of their importance.
- Brief statement by the nominee describing the significance and potential impact of his/her scholarly work and immediate research plans.
- Two letters from external assessors addressing nominee's suitability in terms of award criteria with a short biography of each external assessor.
- Copy of nominee's current curriculum vitae.

Deadline and submission

The deadline for receiving nominations is **4:00 pm, Friday 7 June 2019**. Please submit the nomination electronically in PDF format to Leslie Parsad (parsad@ualberta.ca) with a copy to Katharine Moore (katharine.moore@ualberta.ca).

It is anticipated that the first two Killam Research Accelerator Awards at the University of Alberta will be awarded effective 1 July 2019.

Records from this competition will be managed in accordance with the Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.