

2024 CAMH Koerner Research Scholars: Research Studentship Program for Health Professional Trainees

Background

Koerner Research Scholars is dedicated towards providing health professional trainees with the opportunity to work with distinguished scientists to gain experience with sound research methodologies, and to experience excellent mentorship while exploring mental health research across a broad spectrum of scientific disciplines.

This program is open to all health professionals currently in a training program and at any stage of their chosen vocational program, including physicians, psychologists, nurses, occupational therapists, and social workers. In addition to completing the proposed research and engaging in mentorship opportunities within their supervisor's research group, trainees will be invited to attend research meetings and events.

Award Guidelines

Koerner Research Scholars is a competitive **Research Studentship Program** providing support for health professional trainees to complete a mental health research project at CAMH, under the supervision of an Associate Scientist, Staff Scientist, Senior Staff Scientist, Scientist, or Senior Scientist. The objective of this competition is to provide health professional trainees with exposure to the breadth of mental health care and research, including hands-on research experience, training and mentorship from CAMH scientists. The competition is open to both internal CAMH and external Scholars.

Koerner Research Scholars positions are full-time for a duration of 10 to 12 weeks. This Research Studentship Program provides 50% of funding for the position (up to \$5,000), to be matched (1:1) by the proposed supervisor, for total funding of up to \$10,000, conditional on availability of funds.

Selection will be based on project proposal strength and feasibility, mentorship environment, and applicant CV. The selection will be made by a subcommittee of CAMH Associate Scientist, Staff Scientist, Senior Staff Scientist, Scientist, or Senior Scientist., based on CIHR standards of excellence.

Eligibility Criteria

- Applicants must obtain sponsorship of a primary supervisor who holds a scientific appointment at CAMH as Associate Scientist, Staff Scientist, Senior Staff Scientist, Scientist, or Senior Scientist. Applicants are encouraged to reach out to potential CAMH supervisors. Information regarding CAMH scientists can be found at the [CAMH staff directory](#). Please contact internal.funding@camh.ca to clarify eligibility if your potential supervisor's scientific appointment type is not listed here.
- Applicants must be registered in a health professional program during the year they begin the award. For examples of health professions, please consult CIHR's list of [Eligible Health Professions](#).
- CAMH Employees are ineligible to receive remuneration from a training award and their employment role concurrently. Interested applicants who are currently employed by CAMH under a position other than a trainee must contact ResearchHR@camh.ca and internal.funding@camh.ca in advance of the deadline to confirm eligibility.
- Applicants are only eligible to hold the Koerner Research Scholar one time.
- Applicants must meet eligibility requirements for CAMH Research Trainees as set out in policy [AR 1.2, Research Trainees](#).
- Applicant's supervisor(s) must agree to provide the applicant with a minimum of 100%

protected time for research.

- The Koerner Research Scholars Award welcomes applications from First Nations, Métis and Inuit, racialized and 2SLGBTQ+ communities, women, people with disabilities (including people who have experienced mental health and substance use challenges), and those not listed who may contribute to the further diversification of ideas.

Conditions of Award

- Awards are limited to a 10- to 12-week period of support.
- Awards are to commence during the period of June 1, 2024 to February 28, 2025.
- Applicants must indicate the period that the position will be completed related to their individual academic calendar. In choosing to accept an award, an applicant will be required to provide the CAMH Research Operations, Services and Support Office with an annual update of their current clinical or academic positions/affiliations for a total of five years.

Application Instructions

1. Notice of Intent

Applicants must submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) online by **March 10, 2024 at 5:00pm** using the following form: <https://form.jotform.com/233244358013247>. The NOI must identify the supervisor(s), include a brief description of the proposed project (250 words), answer self-identification* and project representation questions, provide 3-5 project area and methodology keywords and a letter from your Supervisor agreeing to the \$5,000.00 match. The letter should include which research activity the funds will come from. Information from the NOI will assist the Grants & Awards team with matching applications to academic experts in the review process.

*Information collected will be confidential, cannot be accessed by reviewers, and will not be linked to personnel data. Data regarding the applicant pool will be reported only to the Koerner Research Scholars Award selection committee and a small number of ROSS staff members for the purposes of program administration, process improvement, and reporting requirements.

2. Research Assurances and Approvals Form (RAAF)

A RAAF must be submitted via the [eRA Portal](#) by **March 17, 2024 at 5:00pm**. For guidance on RAAF submission, please see the [Research Portal](#). If you do not have access to the eRA Portal, you will need to reach out to internal.funding@camh.ca for further instructions.

3. Application

Full applications must be submitted via email by **March 24, 2024 at 5:00pm** and should include the following:

a) General Information:

- **Applicant Name**
- **Signatures** – The application must be signed by the Applicant, digital signature is fine.

b) Project Information:

- **Project Title** – Limit of **640 characters, including spaces**.
- **Lay Title** – Limit of **200 characters, including spaces**. Provide a title for the project that is in a language clear to the general public
- **Lay Abstract** - Limit of **2000 characters, including spaces**. Describe the project in a way that

is accessible to a lay audience.

- **Research Project Summary - Limit of 4000 characters, including spaces, references included.** The research project summary should be written in general scientific language, and should include the specific hypothesis of the research and describe your role in the proposed project. Make sure that the summary provides a concise account of the subject matter, an overview of each part of the research plan, specific project aims and the methodology. Please use the following headings:
 - **Background** – summarize the state of knowledge relevant to the proposal.
 - **Hypotheses/research questions** – state these clearly and concisely.
 - **Methods** – give essential details of methods; describe the data to be collected and the method of data analysis proposed. Clearly define the population.
 - **Originality** – state how the project will advance knowledge if it is completed as planned and meaningfully extend the knowledge and/or skills of the applicant.
 - **Impact** – state how the project will advance knowledge if completed as planned.
 - **Role on proposed project** – address how the proposed research will support your training goals.

c) Research Supervisor Statement:

Limit of 1750 characters, including spaces. The description should be detailed and include information related to space, facilities and personnel support that will be available to carry out the proposed research; relevant grant support, research training opportunities, and other sources of income should be specified. This section should demonstrate the commitment of the proposed supervisor(s) to support the applicant's research development, and how the training goals or plan align with the trainee's career path. An in-depth description of the role and responsibilities of the applicant in the supervisor's research should be included.

4. Common CV

a) Applicant CV

Provide a **CIHR Academic CV**. Please consult CIHR's [instructions](#) for completing the Academic CV template via the [Canadian Common CV \(CCV\)](#) interface.

b) Supervisor CV

- Supervisor CVs should also be in the Canadian Common CV format using the CIHR [Academic](#) or [Biosketch](#) templates.
- Other CV templates will also be accepted, with a limit of 6 pages.

5. Academic Documentation

a) Proof of registration

A letter from the University registrar indicating that the applicant is registered in a Masters or PhD program or some equivalent proof of registration must be submitted as part of the application. If the applicant is not yet registered at the time of application, this letter is required prior to acceptance of the award.

6. Submitting the Application

Email internal.funding@camh.ca by **March 24, 2024 at 5:00pm** with the following:

- Subject: Applicant’s LASTNAME, FirstName – 2024 Koerner Research Scholar Application (e.g. DOE, John – 2024 Koerner Research Scholar Application)
- Attachment: One (1) pdf document named “Applicant’s LASTNAME, FirstName” (e.g. DOE,John). This will include all documents outlined above in the correct order (Application Form/Applicant CV/Supervisor CV/Proof of Registration).

Note: Supplemental material and material exceeding the specified length will not be considered in the review process. The reviewing committee consists of academic experts but not necessarily specialists in the applicant’s specific subject area.

DEADLINES AT A GLANCE
Notification: March 10, 2024
RAAF: March 17, 2024
Full Application: March 24, 2024
Notice of Award: April 2024