



## SCHOLARSHIP PURPOSE

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Two scholarships of up to \$10,000 are offered by the Pulmonary Hypertension Association of Canada (PHA Canada) to promote and support pulmonary hypertension (PH) research in Canada. PHA Canada's Research Scholarships provide a financial stipend to outstanding trainees in support of their research into pulmonary hypertension.

### General Principles

The scholarship funds must provide for the salary/stipend of a research trainee (a student, resident, or fellow) who is actively pursuing research concerning pulmonary hypertension. Scholarship funds are not intended to support either direct research costs (materials, equipment, etc.) or indirect/overhead costs (facilities/utilities, administration fees, insurance, communication devices, etc.).

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

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The candidate must:

- Be enrolled in undergraduate, graduate, or post-graduate/post-doctoral studies in a relevant field (health sciences, medicine, psychology, nursing, etc.) at an educational or healthcare institution in Canada;
- Be currently registered and in good standing in their program of study;
- Identify a mentor and/or laboratory with appropriate research expertise;
- Must not already have a large funding source, such as CIHR or another major institution, corresponding to >\$10,000 CDN; and
- Have demonstrated academic excellence and show promise of outstanding achievement in research training.

The proposed project:

- Must meaningfully contribute to one or more of the following areas:
  - a. Epidemiology of PH in Canada
  - b. Clinical aspects of PH
  - c. Mechanisms of PH
  - d. Treatment of PH
  - e. Social and/or economic implications of PH
- May or may not involve human subjects

## OTHER SOURCES OF INCOME (OTHER AWARDS)

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PHA Canada aims to provide salary/stipend support to research trainees most in need. If applications tie for the top score by reviewers, preference will be given to applicants who will not receive other scholarships or awards providing salary/stipend support for the duration of their research project.



## APPLICATION PROCESS

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Applications must be received by PHA Canada no later than **11:59 pm on October 7, 2024**. Application forms are available for download at [phacanada.ca/ScholarshipApplication](https://phacanada.ca/ScholarshipApplication).

Only complete applications will be considered, consisting of:

- **A completed application form**
- A summary of the proposed research project to be undertaken (maximum 2 pages).
- An academic resume summarizing scholastic achievements, scholarships, or salary awards received or anticipated (including any potentially overlapping awards), and any previous academic work relevant to the aims of this award (maximum 2 pages).
- A letter from a proposed supervisor confirming: (1) adequate research infrastructure and funding support for the trainee to be able to complete the proposed project; and (2) the lack of adequate external or institutional salary support for the trainee.
- The supervisor's brief four-page CV, indicating their relevant and appropriate expertise to oversee the proposed project.
- Two letters of reference from academic and/or professional referees familiar with the applicant's scholastic/academic work. The proposed supervisor may only provide a letter of reference if they have previously supervised the applicant.
- Official academic transcripts for all college/university courses attended by the applicant.

All applications received will be acknowledged prior to being forwarded for adjudication.

## ADJUDICATION

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The adjudication process is overseen by the Canadian PH Medical Committee's (CPHMC) research subcommittee. A review panel consisting of qualified members of the research field scores the applications based on the excellence of the candidate, as well as the relevance and quality of the proposed research project. The recommendation of the research sub-committee is then forwarded to PHA Canada's Board of Directors for final ratification.

The research sub-committee will recommend the successful candidate using the following criteria:

- Alignment of the proposed research with the scholarship's purpose and PHA Canada's mission;
- Relevant academic, professional, and volunteer achievements; and
- Likelihood of benefitting or building capacity for pulmonary hypertension research in Canada.

## NOTIFICATION

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Successful candidates will receive a formal Notice of Scholarship by November 29, 2024.



## ACCEPTANCE OR REFUSAL

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Successful candidates must notify PHA Canada of their decision by returning an Acceptance or Refusal of Scholarship Form to PHA Canada by the deadline indicated in their Notice of Scholarship.

- Any scholarship offer not accepted by the deadline indicated in the Notice of Scholarship will be considered refused and the offer thereby withdrawn by PHA Canada.
- Notification of acceptance or refusal will only be accepted in writing through receipt of a completed Acceptance or Refusal of Scholarship Form.

## PAYMENTS

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Payments will be made to the scholarship recipient in two equal installments. The first installment will be issued upon acceptance of the scholarship; the second installment will be issued upon receipt of a progress report after the first six months of the project.

- PHA Canada is unable to dispense advice on income tax matters to scholarship recipients. Recipients are encouraged to seek independent advice from the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) or from a qualified income tax specialist.

## PROGRESS REPORTS

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Scholarship recipients will be required to provide two brief progress reports during the first year of their project: at six months and at one year. Upon completion of the project, the recipient will then submit a final report to PHA Canada.

- All reports should be written in plain language that can be easily shared and understood by the broader PH community.
- In lieu of a written progress report, recipients may be requested to present an update at a PHA Canada PH Medical Think Tank or Community Conference.

## TERMINATION OF SCHOLARSHIP

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The scholarship recipient must be registered and in good standing in their program of study throughout the duration of their research project. If a scholarship recipient's registration status changes (i.e. termination of studies) before the completion of the project, the total value of the scholarship will be prorated based upon the project's proposed timeline. For example, if a scholarship recipient terminates their studies nine months into a 12-month project, then they will only be entitled to receive 75% of the total value of the scholarship.

Changes to a proposed research project or extensions to projected timelines will be considered on a case-by-case basis. All eligibility requirements will continue to apply to any requested changes.



## **KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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The scholarship recipient will be expected to share their completed research with the PH community, for example through plain language articles or presentations. PHA Canada will work with scholarship recipients to identify opportunities for knowledge translation through our regular publications and community events. Any expenses related to knowledge translation activities (such as attending conferences) are the sole responsibility of the recipient.

Notwithstanding the author's rights to publication and relevant embargoes, PHA Canada shall be granted the right to report any findings/implications of the research project to its community members and constituents in any of its printed and electronic publications. The author must acknowledge the funding support provided by PHA Canada at the time of any presentation or publication of the research.

## **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY/PATENTS**

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PHA Canada does not retain or claim any ownership of, or exploitation or proprietary rights to, intellectual property, copyright, or inventions developed/resulting from the research supported by this scholarship.

The scholarship recipient should be familiar with the ownership and intellectual property policies of the institution supervising their research project.