



AWARDS – INSTRUCTIONS AND FAQ

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Full-time graduate students who are registered in any of the graduate programs overseen by the Faculty of Medicine or full-time graduate students whose main supervisor has a primary appointment with the UBC Faculty of Medicine are eligible to apply for the Graduate Student Awards. All applicants must be in good academic standing with the University and must be making satisfactory progress towards their degree as defined by the UBC [Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies](#).

- For Master's student: the applicant must have started the program within the last 18 months at the time of the application (excluding any extended leave time),
- For Doctoral students: the applicant must have started the program within the last 42 months at the time of the application (excluding any extended leave time).
- For MD/Ph.D. students: The applicant must have started in year 1 of the MD/PhD program within the last 42 months at the time of application (excluding any months on extended leave)

Start date of the program for Ph.D. students:

- If you have completed all Masters' requirements before enrolling in your doctoral program, then the start date of your Ph.D. program is the actual start date of the doctoral program.
- If you have transferred from a Master's program to your Ph.D. program without completing all of the requirements of the Master's degree, then the start date of your Ph.D. program is the start date of the Master's program at UBC.
- If you have enrolled directly after completing an undergraduate degree without any Masters' training", the start date of your Ph.D. program is the actual start date of the doctoral program.

If you are a graduate student who is currently hold a funding of more than \$25,000 (at the time of application) from internal or external sources (for e.g. Federal scholarships/fellowships, Clinician investigator awards, Fulbright scholarship, salary awards, research training awards from domestic or international organizations etc.), please check with us at med.gradpostdoc@ubc.ca before applying for awards. **This does not make a student ineligible to apply** but a preference will be given to a competitive ranking student holding total funding less than \$25,000 at the time of application.

No student shall receive the same award more than twice during their graduate studies at UBC. Priority will be given to students who have not received an internal FoM award previously.



SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

The application is to be submitted online through a portal under the application procedure section at <http://grad-postdoc.med.ubc.ca/graduate-student-awards/>.

A large portion of the application is to be entered into an Application Form (templates of which are also located at the above URL) that is to be signed and dated by the applicant and the applicant's supervisor, and then uploaded into the online application.

NB: Only those applicants who have had their Declaration of Intent approved may apply for the **Harry and Florence Dennison Fellowship in Medical Research** and **Mary Adele Norman Postgraduate Award in Medical Research**. No other Graduate Student Award requires a Declaration of Intent.

Transcripts

- Electronic copies of transcripts must be shared with the GPE Office via OneDrive or through email at med.gradpostdoc@ubc.ca by your graduate program coordinator.
- In case, the applicant is submitting transcripts by themselves, each page has to be initialed by the candidate's supervisor. Please cc your supervisor when emailing the transcripts.

Sponsors Letters

Sponsors can send their letters in the prescribed format electronically to med.gradpostdoc@ubc.ca from the sponsor's institutional/professional email address. Electronic signatures are accepted. Letters should be saved with the following naming format:

Student Last Name, Student First Name – GSA LOS – Sponsor Last Name, First name

To facilitate a blind review process, please ask your sponsors to not use your name, gender-specific pronouns, or similar identifying characteristics in their letters. They should refer to you as "The Trainee" as needed. The document name will be anonymized by our office once it is received.

Awards and Scholarships

List your undergraduate and graduate awards or scholarships received or currently holding, starting with your most recent award. You may include declined awards.

Research Experience

List your research or research-related experiences, starting with your most recent experience. Please include your position, site, and dates the position was held. Indicate your role/ responsibilities very briefly under each position listed.



Research Project

Provide a summary of your research project or proposed research project in plain language. Your outline should be readable by someone with no specialized knowledge in the particular field of research.

Publications

List your publications and other contributions, beginning with your most recent publication. Use the following order and include percentage contribution also against each listed entry.

1. Peer reviewed publications
 - a. Peer reviewed Journal articles
 - b. Conference proceedings (Talks, Posters)
2. Non-peer reviewed publications
 - a. Journal articles
 - b. Conference proceedings
 - c. Other (Chapters, books, magazine)
3. Patents/copyrights etc.

In order to maintain blind reviews, replace all instances of your name with “The Trainee.”

Use the following format:

- Full authorship as it appears/will appear in the original publication
- Year
- Title
- Publication name and volume
- First and last page numbers

a. Articles published or accepted in refereed journals
Li, H., **The Trainee**, and Kay, M. (1994) Protein-structure in cell membranes. Journal of Biological Chemistry. 269: 1120-1124 (PhD work).

Notes:

- Publications submitted, accepted or in press: Indicate the date of submission/acceptance and the number of pages submitted. Contributions not yet submitted should not be listed.
- For publications with long author lists, you may shorten the list as long as you continue to indicate the placement of your name in the list. Example: First Author Name, Second Author



Name, **The Trainee**, (8 more authors). Or, First Author Name (10 more authors), The Trainee, Twelfth Author Name, Thirteenth Author Name.

- Posters: Indicate the presenting author with an asterisk (*). Example: The Trainee*
- Conferences: Indicate whether institutional, regional, provincial, national or international. Make a distinction between oral and poster presentations.
- In all cases, indicate whether the publication resulted from work done in the process of completing your undergraduate, master's or doctoral degree, or from other relevant work experience.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Who is eligible to apply for the Graduate Student Awards?

Please see overall eligibility criteria section of this document and individual award descriptions against each listed award on the website to check your eligibility before submitting your application. There are no citizenship or residency requirements for these awards.

2. How many awards can I apply for?

You can apply for multiple awards if you meet the listed criteria under eligibility and award description. Please ensure that your research project summary in the main application form clearly demonstrates that your research meets the award description. For example, if you are applying for Team KOA award that supports research and training in pediatric cancer, but your research summary in the application form only include cancer research with no linkage to pediatric cancer, you will not be considered for this award. One student can win one award only.

3. How do I submit my application?

Download and complete the application form, save it as "*Last Name, First Name DOI - Student Number*" or "*Last Name, First Name GSA - Student Number*" before uploading the PDF version on the online portal. Both the application forms and online application can be accessed through <https://grad-postdoc.med.ubc.ca/faculty-of-medicine-graduate-student-awards/>.

Note: Only those applicants who have had their Declaration of Intent approved may apply for the *Harry and Florence Dennison Fellowship in Medical Research* and *Mary Adele Norman Postgraduate Award in Medical Research*. No other Graduate Student Award requires a Declaration of Intent.

4. How do I submit my transcripts?

Unofficial transcripts and copies of transcripts are accepted but must be initialed by your current supervisor or emailed directly by your graduate program coordinator to med.gradpostdoc@ubc.ca.



If your graduate program coordinator is submitting a copy of your transcript on your behalf, this copy does not need to be initialed. If you are providing your own copy, please have your current supervisor initial the copy and cc them when emailing the copy to us.

If you have submitted your transcripts this year for any other awards (i.e. Watters Fellowship) to us, you can write to us at med.gradpostdoc@ubc.ca to use your latest transcript package for graduate student awards. Please ensure your latest transcripts were submitted and there were no updates since the last time you provided the documents to us.

5. How can my sponsors submit their letters of support?

Sponsors can send their letters electronically as a PDF to med.gradpostdoc@ubc.ca from the sponsor's institutional/professional email address. Please use the provided sponsor assessment form as a letter of support.

6. What should sponsors include in their letters of support?

Sponsors are requested to comment on the candidate's research potential and achievements, interpersonal skills, academic abilities, and greatest strengths and weaknesses.

For students applying for the Richard A. Robertson Memorial Service Award in Medicine, the sponsors should also comment on the student's leadership experience and potential, as well as the student's extracurricular and community service activities.

To facilitate a blind review process, please ask your sponsors to not use your name, gender-specific pronouns, or similar identifying characteristics in their letters. They should refer to you as "The Trainee" as needed.

7. What counts as Research or Research-related experience?

This may include positions as a graduate student, laboratory volunteer, directed-studies student, co-op student, research assistant, associate or technician, teaching assistant, or any research-related volunteer positions that you feel are relevant to this application. For each position, you should list the position title, location, dates of the experience, and briefly explain your role in this research experience.

8. Does the one-page limit for the Research Project summary include references?

Since this is a lay summary, references are not required. In case you would like to include, you may list them on a separate page.



9. I applied for the Roman M. Babicki Fellowship in Medical Research, Elizabeth C. Watters Research Fellowship and/or the Laurel L. Watters Research Fellowship. Can I re-use the letters of support submitted for those competitions?

Yes, if you submitted a complete application for either of the above competitions this year then you do not have to re-submit your letters of support. You may choose to replace one or both letters of support with new ones. Please email us at med.gradpostdoc@ubc.ca to inform us that you are choosing this option.

10. Are there any special instructions for the Richard A. Robertson Memorial Service Award?

For students applying for the Richard A. Robertson Memorial Service Award in Medicine, you must fill the supplementary section provided in the application form. Your application will not be considered if this section remains unfilled.

Please note that at least one of your sponsors should comment on your leadership experience and potential, as well as your extracurricular and community service activities.

11. How are award recipients selected?

An adjudication committee comprised of UBC Faculty of Medicine faculty members will score candidates based on their academic record, research experience (commensurate with the stage of study), research project, and the quality and substance of the letters of support from the sponsors. The amount of funding currently held by the candidate is also taken into consideration.

12. Can I have feedback from the committee about my application?

Unfortunately, feedback is not provided at this time. In view of a large number of applications, committee members are not asked to provide written comments on individual applications, and a record is not kept regarding the strengths or weaknesses of individual applications.

13. How will I receive the award payment?

Award payments are processed through Workday. Normally, awards are paid out using the following payment schedule:

- a. Under \$1,000 - paid out entirely in one term
- b. \$1,000 - \$5,999 - paid out in two terms (equal instalments)
- c. \$6,000 or greater - paid out over the three terms of the year (equal instalments)