Information Session Webinar

2024 Scholar &
2024 Health Professional-Investigator Competitions

Andrew Biagtan | Research Competitions Coordinator (Scholar)
Shannon Wagener | Research Competitions Coordinator (HP-I)

November 1, 2023
Webinar agenda

1. About Michael Smith Health Research BC
2. Scholar and HP-I program overview
3. Insights from Scholar & HP-I award recipients
4. Organizations with Scholar & HP-I award holders
5. Award amount and duration
6. Eligibility requirements and updates for 2024
7. Changes for 2024
8. Pathway to Impact (KT)
9. Partnership opportunities
10. Review process & evaluation criteria
11. Tips for developing your application
12. Health Research BC ApplyNet
13. Application process flow
14. Contact information
15. Q & A session
Overview of the Scholar and Health Professional-Investigator programs
An early career researcher within 6 years of their first appointment

A Scholar award provides:
- $90,000 per year for up to 5 years
- 75% of time protected for research

Scholar awards enable researchers to:
- Start + develop new programs of research in BC
- Attract additional funding
- Train new researchers + hire full-time staff
- Create knowledge to inform practice, policy + further research

Benefits to BC:
- Develops BC talent
- Generates new discoveries + evidence to improve health care
- Builds health research capacity
HEALTH PROFESSIONAL-INVESTIGATOR (HP-I) PROGRAM

A health professional looking to conduct and apply relevant research

An HP-I award provides:
- Up to $90,000 per year for five years
- 50% of time protected for research

HP-I awards enable researchers to:
- Dedicate time to research while continuing clinical practice
- Link their practical knowledge with important research questions
- Advance their research careers
- Create knowledge to inform practice, policy + further research

Benefits to BC:
- Builds health research capacity
- Connects evidence + patient care
- Improves patient outcomes
Insights from a Scholar award recipient

Dr. Thu Thuy Dang

2020 Scholar Award Recipient
Assistant Professor
Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, Chemistry
University of British Columbia – Okanagan

Project Title: Plant based anticancer drugs - from discovery to final products
Insights from an HP-I award recipient

Dr. Nichole Fairbrother
2021 HP-I Award Recipient

Registered Psychologist
Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Family Practice, UBC
Director, Perinatal Anxiety Research Lab

Project Title: Perinatal Anxiety Screening Study
Organizations with Scholar and HP-I award holders

- BC Cancer (Vancouver, Victoria, BCCRI)
- BC Centre for Disease Control
- BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS
- BC Centre for Improved Cardiovascular Health (ICVHealth)
- BC Centre on Substance Use
- BC Children’s Hospital and Sunny Hill Health Centre for Children
- BC Children’s Hospital Research Institute
- BC Women’s Hospital & Health Centre
- Canada’s Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre
- Centre for Chronic Disease Prevention and Management
- Centre for Gender & Sexual Health Equity
- Centre for Health Evaluation & Outcome Sciences (CHEOS)
- Centre for Heart Lung Innovation
- Centre for Hip Health and Mobility (CHHM)
- Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health
- Foundry
- Fraser Health Authority
- GF Strong Rehabilitation Centre
- International Collaboration on Repair Discoveries (ICORD)
- Island Health
- Life Sciences Institute
- Providence Health Care
- Providence Research
- Provincial Health Services Authority
- Royal Roads University
- Simon Fraser University (Burnaby and Vancouver)
- St. Paul's Hospital
- Trinity Western University
- University of British Columbia (Okanagan, Vancouver, UBC Biomedical Research Centre, UBC Centre for Disease Control)
- University of Northern British Columbia
- University of the Fraser Valley
- University of Victoria
- Vancouver Coastal Health (VCHRI)
- Vancouver General Hospital
- Vancouver Island University
- Vancouver Prostate Centre
- Women’s Health Research Institute
Award amount & duration

Applicant

$90,000 per year

5 years

Research Themes

Biomedical
Clinical
Health Services
Population Health
Scholar & HP-I program eligibility & updates
# Eligibility requirements - Scholar

## Eligibility Requirements

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<th>Requirement</th>
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<tr>
<td>Must have a <strong>PhD</strong> or equivalent.</td>
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<td>Commit to a minimum of <strong>75 percent time</strong> conducting research.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Currently hold an <strong>appointment</strong> or have a commitment of an appointment to begin by the award start date of <strong>July 1, 2024</strong> at a BC institution that holds a memorandum of understanding with Health Research BC as a host institution.</td>
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<td>Be <strong>within six years from the start of their first university appointment</strong> (at an assistant professor level, or equivalent) <strong>OR be within six years of obtaining a PhD</strong> as of the award start date, <strong>July 1, 2024</strong>, whichever comes last</td>
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<td>Research must display clear link to human health research</td>
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# Eligibility requirements – HP-I

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<tr>
<td>Hold a <strong>valid license to practice in BC</strong> and be a member in good standing of the appropriate regulatory college <strong>OR</strong> be a <strong>board-certified/board-eligible health professional</strong> and a member in good standing of the appropriate provincial/national certification body (<strong>BC Health Regulators</strong>).</td>
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<tr>
<td>For allied health professionals, must have a <strong>bachelor’s degree</strong> or higher; for physicians, must have a <strong>medical doctorate</strong> or equivalent.</td>
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<td>Be a clinician, health practitioner, and/or health care provider whose role requires <strong>clinical decision-making</strong>.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commit to a minimum of <strong>50 percent time</strong> conducting research (min. 20 hours/week).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Currently hold an <strong>appointment</strong> or have a commitment of an appointment to begin by the award start date of <strong>July 1, 2024</strong> at a BC institution that holds a memorandum of understanding with Health Research BC as a host institution.</td>
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Changes for 2024 Scholar and 2024 HP-I competitions

- Alignment of Scholar and HP-I competition timelines
- Covid-19 impacts are now incorporated into the Career Timeline section
- Space to detail your Pathway to Impact (Knowledge Translation) and engagement of research users, including people with lived/living experience
- New for HP-I:
  - Dedicated space to describe how you will meaningfully and appropriately account for EDI
  - Reference letters are no longer accepted
Is Scholar or HP-I right for you?

**Scholar**
- PhD (or equivalent)
- Career is research focused
- Commit to min. 75% research time
- Within first 6 years of first academic appointment (assistant professor or equivalent)

**Health Professional Investigator**
- Health professional licensed to practice in BC
- Works in BC health system in a role involving clinical decision-making
- Commit to min. 50% research time
- Must have research appointment at BC host institution
Pathway to Impact (Knowledge Translation)
Knowledge Translation (KT) at Health Research BC

The broad range of activities and initiatives used to improve the use of health research evidence in health planning, practice, policy, and further health research.

• It’s more than dissemination

• A “Pathway to Impact” for health research evidence

• Includes KT Practice and KT Research
Why is Knowledge Translation Important?

• In 2009, Chalmers and Glasziou estimated that globally \(\sim 85\%\) of biomedical research investment is wasted\(^1\)

• MacLeod \textit{et al.} estimated that across \textit{all} health research this amounted to \(\sim \text{US}\$200B\) of wasted funding in 2010\(^2\)

\(^1\)Chalmers & Glasziou. \textit{Avoidable waste in the production and reporting of research evidence.} The Lancet (2009) 374;9683:86-89

The Impact of Research Waste

- 30% of patients do not get treatments of proven effectiveness
- 25% of patients get care that is not needed or potentially harmful
- Up to 75% of patients do not get enough information to make decisions
- Most programs to address gaps in patient care are not:
  - evidence-based
  - being implemented as intended
  - being evaluated rigorously
  - being sustained.


Pathway to Impact

**KT Practice:** the use of KT models, frameworks, and/or theories

- **Synthesis:** The contextualization and integration of research findings of individual research studies within the larger body of knowledge on the topic.
- **Dissemination:** The active, purposive distribution of research findings tailored to the unique needs of appropriate audiences with the intent to spread information.
- **Exchange:** The giving and receiving of knowledge between researchers and research users throughout the research cycle resulting in mutual learning.
- **Implementation:** The use of strategies to adopt and integrate evidence-based interventions and to change practice within specific settings.

KT activities are dynamic and interrelated; they can occur at multiple points in the research cycle.

**KT Science/Research:** the study of KT practices

- **Science of Knowledge Synthesis:** The scientific study of the methods used to synthesize individual research findings within the larger body of knowledge on the topic.
- **Science of Knowledge Dissemination:** The scientific study of processes and variables that determine and/or influence the spread of knowledge to various stakeholders.
- **Science of Exchanging Knowledge:** The scientific study of the methods used to exchange knowledge between researchers and research users that results in mutual learning.
- **Implementation Science:** The scientific study of methods that promote the systematic uptake of research findings and other evidence-based practices in clinical, organizational or policy contexts.

KT practice and research are interrelated; they can inform the work of the other and take place within the same research study.
KT Practice and KT Research

• KT Practice activities are the steps in your “pathway to impact”
  ▪ What steps do you need to take?
  ▪ Talk with other researchers to see what KT activities they’ve used

• KT Practice activities are evidence-based
  ▪ Look at KT models, frameworks, and theories to inform your KT plan development

• KT Practice is not the same as KT Research
  ▪ But KT Research proposals should include KT Practice activities

• KT Practice activities should be included in all pillars (i.e., biomedical, clinical, population health, health system), as appropriate to the type of research, expected findings, and research users
  ▪ e.g., KT in bench research will look different than for population health research, and that’s okay!
End-of-Grant (Project) KT

The research team develops and implements a plan for making potential research users aware of the knowledge that is gained from a project.

- Dissemination, +/- implementation
- Researcher-driven
- Typically, not planned early
Integrated KT (iKT) & Patient-oriented Research

Research users are engaged as equal partners alongside research team.

- Involved with most, if not the entire, research process
- Team-driven
- Pre-planned prior to undertaking research
Participant Involvement in Research

Inform

Researchers provide information and services to Knowledge Users

Consult

Knowledge Users provide information and feedback to Researchers

Involve

Researchers invite Knowledge Users to participate on specific issues

Collaborate

Researchers and Knowledge Users collaborate on each aspect of the project from development to completion

Shared Leadership

Researchers and Knowledge Users form strong partnerships, share decision-making, and co-create knowledge through a project

Balaz & Morello-Frosch. *The three R’s: How community based participatory research strengthens the rigor, relevance and reach of science.* Environmental Justice, (2013) 6:1

Types of Research Users

• Patients
• The "public" / specific community representatives
• Clinicians / health care practitioners
• Health care administrators
• Government employees / public policy makers or analysts / educators
• Representatives from non-government organizations / advocacy groups
• Research funders
• Industry
• Other researchers
About KT Pathways

KT Pathways is an assessment tool for anyone who creates, uses or communicates research evidence. It is designed to help you assess your current knowledge translation (KT) skill level and to provide a framework for learning to support the use of research in practice, policy and further research.
Pathway to Impact Resources

Resource Library
Search through staff-developed and recommended external resources in our collection.

healthresearchbc.ca/resource-library/
Pathway to Impact Resources

In addition to the resources below, Health Research BC’s Knowledge Translation, Patient-Oriented Research & Implementation Science Resources guide provides examples by research theme of KT and Patient-Oriented Research as well as implementation science activities and resources to support development and implementation of your pathway to impact activities.

Knowledge Translation

- Health Research BC Knowledge Translation
- REACH BC
- Moving into action: We know what practices we want to change, now what? An implementation guide for health care practitioners

Engaging with People with lived/living experience Partners and Patient Oriented Research

- BC SUPPORT Unit Information for Researchers
- CIHR Patient Engagement Training course
- A Journey Through Public & Patient Engagement in Health Research: A Road Map
- BC SUPPORT Unit: How patient oriented is your research?
- Workbook to guide the development of a patient engagement in research (PEIR) plan
Partnership opportunities
Partnership opportunities

Health Research BC partners with leading organizations to grow BC’s health research talent.

Process:
Applicants interested in being funded through a partnered award are encouraged to Complete the Potential Co-Funding Partners tab in their Full Application in ApplyNet.

Additional partners will sometimes come on board during or after the full application phase and are therefore listed only on our website. If you’d like to be considered for an award co-funded by any of these additional partners, please let us know by emailing partnerships@healthresearchbc.ca.

Health Research BC uses the details captured in your full application and keywords provided by partners to identify applications that may be relevant to and align with partners’ area of interest.
More information about partners interested in co-funding the 2024 competition will be available in the full application form and at [https://healthresearchbc.ca/funding/partnered-awards/](https://healthresearchbc.ca/funding/partnered-awards/).
Mitacs Accelerate partnership

• Optional expedited application process for Mitacs Accelerate funding for Scholar and HP-I applicants.
• Mitacs Accelerate funding supports experiential training internships for Master’s, PhD students, and post-doctoral fellows who are supporting your research.
• Applicants indicate interest at letter of intent.
• Separate application form outside of ApplyNet system. Form to be uploaded to Full Application.
• Contact a Mitacs business development representative for more information and to obtain an Accelerate Proposal application.
Review process & evaluation criteria
Evaluation criteria

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<tr>
<th>Criterion</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
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<tr>
<td>Applicant expertise and experience</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research program</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Environment and support</td>
<td>20%</td>
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Applicant Expertise and Experience
- Career timeline
- Most significant contributions
- Health Research BC Full CCV
- Publication list

Research Program
- Research program upload
- Response to previous reviews (if applicable)
- Pathway to impact/KT
- EDI considerations

Environment and Support
- Research support statement
- Budget statement
- Department Head and/or Dean Forms in which reviewers look for clear commitment and support by applicant’s host institution.
- Letter(s) of collaboration (optional)
Peer review

**Scholar:**
Separate peer review pools for junior faculty:
- Within **three years** of first appointment
- Between **4-6 years** from first appointment

**Health Professional-Investigator:**
Separate peer review pools for:
- **Physician** applicants
- **Allied Health** applicants

**Both programs:**
Peer review panels by theme

Biomedical | Clinical | Health Services | Population Health
Writing and submitting your application
Tips for developing your application

• Seek support from your organization’s grant facilitation office for development, editing, and revision of your application.
• Have your application critically reviewed by colleagues.
• Review the competition’s evaluation criteria and make sure they are addressed in your application.
• Pay attention to grantsmanship — cohesive flow of information allows reviewers to read the application without having to flip back and forth between pages.
• If an optional question doesn’t apply to you, you do not need to fill it out.
• Format the research proposal to be easy to read. Use headings to show a logical progression and break up the text into paragraphs. Don't be afraid of white space.
Tips for developing your application

• Reviewers do not have the time to look up information on your behalf — if it is important, **make it explicit** in the application.

• If you have **pilot data**, mention it.

• You will have 8 additional pages for your appendices, which may include references, tables, charts, figures, and photographs. However, if the data is important to your research proposal, please include it within the **Research Proposal document**.

• If you were not able to capture important information about your activities and contributions in the CCV, you can add it to the **Most Significant Contributions** section.

• **Reach out to your Department Head** very early in the process to discuss your appointment and the resources and support available to you.
Applications are submitted through our online grants management system, ApplyNet, [https://healthresearchbc.smartsimple.ca/](https://healthresearchbc.smartsimple.ca/)
From the home page, click **Apply**.

The next page will display a list of competitions available for application.

Click **View Details** to see competition information and to launch an eligibility quiz. A successful completion of the quiz will open the Letter of Intent.
2024 Scholar & HP-I competition launch: Week of October 23, 2023

LOI Deadline: November 21, 2023, 4:30 pm PT

Deadline to submit Department Head and/or Dean tasks: January 15, 2024

Full Application deadline: January 22, 2024 4:30 pm PT

Host institution deadline to submit to Health Research BC: January 29, 2024 4:30 pm

* Third Parties: Department Head and/or Dean
Contact Info

For questions regarding the application and submission process, please contact:

**Scholar Competition:**

Andrew Biagtan  
Coordinator, Research Competitions  
604.714.6602  
scholar@healthresearchbc.ca

**HP-I Competition:**

Shannon Wagener  
Coordinator, Research Competitions  
604.714.2779  
hpi@healthresearchbc.ca

For technical support with ApplyNet, please contact:

Health Research BC Help Desk  
604.714.6609 | 1.866.673.4722  
helpdesk@healthresearchbc.ca
### Stages in Competition Cycle

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<th>Stages in Competition Cycle</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Letter of Intent Deadline</td>
<td>November 21, 2023 4:30 p.m. PT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Full Application Deadline</td>
<td>January 22, 2024 4:30 p.m. PT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Host Institution Deadline</td>
<td>January 29, 2024 4:30 p.m. PT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peer Review Panel Meetings</td>
<td>April-May 2024</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anticipated Start of Funding</td>
<td>July 1, 2024</td>
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