



Michael Smith
**Health
Research BC**

2024 Research Trainee Program

EVALUATION CRITERIA

DEADLINES

Letter of intent: December 12, 2023, 4:30 p.m. PT

Full application: February 23, 2024, 4:30 p.m. PT

Applicant Expertise and Experience	Weighting – 30%
<p>Assessment Criteria</p> <p>Please assess the applicant’s expertise and experience based on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualifications of the applicant, including research training and experience, and clinical training and experience, with consideration of how the proposed research area and methods build on the applicant’s experience and training. • Research quality, expertise, and leadership of the applicant as demonstrated by research and professional contributions, including awards and other forms of professional recognition.* • Evidence of the applicant’s ability to implement pathway to impact** (Knowledge Translation) strategies and activities, as appropriate to their area of research.* <p>*research quality, leadership, and knowledge translation (KT) skills should be weighed with consideration of the applicant’s career stage, health profession (if applicable), and research area.</p> <p>** Health Research BC requires applicants to undertake activities to improve the use of health research evidence in practice, policy, and further research. These important enabling activities are the “pathway to impact” for health research. Health Research BC uses the term “knowledge translation (KT)” to describe these activities which include synthesis of research evidence, exchange of knowledge between researchers and research users, targeted dissemination, and implementation of research evidence. Applicants are encouraged to engage research users throughout the research process. For more information, please refer to Section 10 of the Research Trainee Program Guidelines.</p>	
Assessment Descriptor	Score
<p>Outstanding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed research builds on and synergizes with the applicant’s research training and experience. The research training and clinical training (where applicable), complement the proposed research area and methods. • The applicant has a well-established record of high quality research outputs, and professional contributions for their career stage/ The applicant has demonstrated leadership in their field and amongst their peers. • The applicant demonstrates expertise with pathway to impact (KT) strategies and activities, as appropriate to their area of research. 	<p>4.5 – 4.9 may be funded</p>
<p>Excellent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed research builds on the applicant’s research training and experience. The research training, and clinical training (where applicable), are aligned with the proposed research area and methods. • The applicant has a record of quality research outputs and professional contributions for their career stage. The applicant demonstrates some leadership in their field and amongst their peers. • The applicant demonstrates a good understanding of pathway to impact (KT) strategies and activities, as appropriate to their area of research. 	<p>4.0 – 4.4 may be funded</p>

<p>Very Good</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The applicant's research training and experience provides the necessary expertise to complete the proposed research with some minor potential knowledge gaps. The research training, and clinical training (where applicable), are adequately aligned with the proposed research area and methods. • The applicant has some record of quality research outputs and professional contributions for their career stage. The applicant has demonstrated limited leadership in their field or amongst their peers. • The applicant demonstrates some understanding of pathway to impact (KT) strategies and activities, as appropriate to their area of research. 	<p>3.5 – 3.9 may be funded (above 3.8)</p>
<p>Fair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The applicant's research training and experience provides some of the expertise needed to complete the proposed research; however, there are multiple potential knowledge gaps. The research training, and clinical training (where applicable), are only partially aligned with the proposed research area and methods. • The applicant has a limited record of research outputs and professional contributions and/or the quality of the outputs and contributions is modest. There is little or no evidence that the applicant demonstrates leadership in their field or amongst their peers. • The applicant demonstrates limited understanding of pathway to impact (KT) strategies and activities, considering their area of research. 	<p>3.0 – 3.4 not fundable</p>
<p>Less than Adequate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The applicant's research training and experience do not provide adequate expertise to complete the proposed research. The research training, and clinical training (where applicable), are not aligned with the proposed research area and methods. • The applicant has a limited record of research outputs and professional contributions and/or the quality of the outputs/contributions is poor. There is no evidence that the applicant demonstrates leadership in their field or amongst their peers. • The applicant demonstrates poor understanding of pathway to impact (KT) strategies and activities, considering their area of research. 	<p>0 – 2.9 not fundable</p>

Research Project	Weighting – 50%
<p>Assessment Criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completeness of the background/literature review and relevance to the research question(s), research design, and methods. • Clarity and originality* of the research question(s) and potential of the research to address important knowledge gaps. • Clarity of rationale for the research design and methods. • Appropriateness and feasibility of the research design and methods. • Appropriateness and feasibility of the project timeline. • Adequacy of the identification of risks and plans for management of potential difficulties that may be encountered during the term of the research. • Appropriateness and adequacy of the pathway to impact (KT) activities. <p>*Originality refers to research that will generate new knowledge that may be vital to the progress of a field. Originality does not necessarily require innovation in research methods or approaches. Reference: https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/39914.html</p>	
Assessment Descriptor	Score
<p>Outstanding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The background/literature review is complete and relevant to the research question(s), research design, and methods. • The research project contains clear research question(s), is original, and will address important knowledge gaps. • The research design and methods are clearly described, feasible, and appropriate to address the research question(s). • The timeline is appropriate and feasible. • The research project identifies risks that may be encountered during the term of the research and how to manage/mitigate these risks. • The pathway to impact (KT) activities are clearly described and appropriate. 	<p style="text-align: center;">4.5 – 4.9 may be funded</p>
<p>Excellent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The background and literature review is sufficient and provides adequate context on the research question(s), research design, and methods. • The research project contains clear research question(s). The research is very likely to be original, and very likely to address important knowledge gaps. • The research design and methods are clearly described, feasible, and appropriate to address the research question(s), with only a few minor details lacking. 	<p style="text-align: center;">4.0 – 4.4 may be funded</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The timeline is appropriate and feasible. • The research project identifies risks that may be encountered during the term of the research and how to manage/mitigate these risks. • The pathway to impact (KT) activities are clearly described and appropriate. 	
<p>Very Good</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The background/literature review may lack some details, but the information is sufficient to support the research question(s), research design, and methods. • The research project contains clear research question(s) and has the potential to be original. It is likely that the research will address knowledge gaps. • The research design and methods are feasible, and appropriate to address the research question(s), with only some details lacking. • The timeline is appropriate and feasible but may be missing some details. • The research project identifies all major risks likely to be encountered during the term of the research and how to manage/mitigate these risks. Some minor risks and mitigation approaches may be missing. • The pathway to impact (KT) activities are largely appropriate but may lack some details. 	<p>3.5 – 3.9 may be funded (above 3.8)</p>
<p>Fair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The background/literature review does not provide adequate information to support on the research question(s), research design, and methods. • The research question(s) are unclear and/or they require major revision. It is unclear whether the research will be original and/or whether the research will address knowledge gaps. • The research design and methods have major flaws and/or is not appropriate to address the research question(s). • The timeline is of questionable feasibility and/or lacks key details. • The research project fails to identify important risks that are likely to be encountered during the term of the research propose actions to manage/mitigate these risks. • The pathway to impact (KT) activities are poorly described and/or inappropriate. 	<p>3.0 – 3.4 not fundable</p>

<p>Less than Adequate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The background/literature review does not provide adequate information to support the research question(s), research design, and methods. • The research project does not contain clear research question(s), the research is not original, and/or the research does not address knowledge gaps. • The research design and methods are poorly described, not feasible, or not appropriate to address the research question(s). • The timeline is inappropriate or not feasible. • The research project is missing information on risk assessment and mitigation. • The pathway to impact (KT) activities are missing, poorly described and/or inappropriate. 	<p>0 – 2.9 not fundable</p>
<p>Environment and Support</p>	<p>Weighting – 20%</p>
<p>Assessment Criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The alignment of the proposed research and pathway to impact (KT) activities with the expertise of the applicant, supervisor, co-supervisor, and collaborators. • Adequacy of sources of funding to complete the proposed research project and KT activities. • A confirmation of protected research time and access to the personnel, facilities, and infrastructure necessary to complete the proposed research and KT activities, including support from collaborators, where appropriate. • The quality and suitability of the mentorship and training plan to support the applicant on their career path. <p>Notes:</p> <p>Collaborators and mentors can be from within or external to the applicant's host institution.</p> <p><i>Reminder:</i> Health Research BC encourages supervisors and co-supervisors to use the Supervisor/Co-Supervisor Forms to describe any concrete practices or resources they will provide to support accessibility, diversity and inclusion in their work environment and in mentoring, training and professional development.</p>	
<p>Assessment Descriptor</p>	<p>Score</p>
<p>Outstanding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed research and pathway to impact (KT) activities align well with the expertise of the applicant and supervisor(s), with letters of collaboration from collaborators who are needed to fill gaps in expertise. • There is evidence of adequate sources of funding to complete the proposed research project and KT activities. 	<p>4.5 – 4.9 may be fundable</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is confirmation of protected research time, and evidence that the applicant will have access to the personnel, facilities, and infrastructure necessary to complete the proposed research. There is evidence of support from collaborators, where needed to complete the research project and KT activities. • The mentorship and training plan is comprehensive and suitable to support the applicant on their career path. 	
<p>Excellent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed research and pathway to impact (KT) activities align with the expertise of the applicant and supervisor(s), with letters of collaboration from collaborators who are needed to fill all but the most minor gaps in expertise. • There is evidence of adequate sources of funding to complete the proposed research project and KT activities. • There is confirmation of protected research time and evidence that the applicant will have access to the personnel, facilities, and infrastructure necessary to complete the proposed research and KT activities, with only minor potential gaps. There is evidence of support from collaborators, where needed, to complete the research project and KT activities. • The mentorship and training plan is thorough and suitable to support the applicant on their career path. 	<p>4.0 – 4.4 may be fundable</p>
<p>Very Good</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed research and pathway to impact (KT) activities align with the expertise of the applicant and supervisor(s), with minor gaps in expertise, and insufficient collaboration to fill these gaps. • There is evidence of adequate sources of funding to complete the proposed research project and KT activities, with only minor details lacking. • There is confirmation of protected research time and evidence that the applicant will have access to the personnel, facilities, and infrastructure necessary to complete the proposed research and KT activities, with only minor potential gaps. Evidence of support from necessary collaborators is not provided. • The mentorship and training plan is adequate and suitable to support the applicant on their career path. 	<p>3.5 – 3.9 may be fundable (above 3.8)</p>
<p>Fair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed research and pathway to impact (KT) activities have some alignment with the expertise of the applicant and supervisor(s), with major gaps in expertise and insufficient collaboration to fill these gaps. • The application lacks key details on the source of funding for the research and KT activities, or there are concerns that the funding is inadequate. 	<p>3.0 – 3.4 not fundable</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are concerns that the applicant will not have sufficient protected research time or that the applicant will not have access to the personnel, facilities, and infrastructure necessary to complete the proposed research and KT activities. Evidence of support from necessary collaborators is not provided. • The mentorship and training plan is limited or not designed to support the applicant on their career path. 	
<p>Less than Adequate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed research and pathway to impact (KT) activities have poor alignment with the expertise of the applicant and supervisor(s), with considerable gaps in expertise. • The application does not provide sources of funding, or the funding is inadequate to support the proposed research and KT activities. • The applicant will not have sufficient protected research time or will not have access to the personnel, facilities, and infrastructure necessary to complete the proposed research and KT activities. Evidence of support from necessary collaborators is not provided. • The mentorship and training plan is inadequate or not suitable to support the applicant on their career path. 	<p>0 – 2.9 not fundable</p>