ACHRI Membership Guidelines

Overview

ACHRI invites applications for membership from researchers in the child health and wellness disciplines. ACHRI members are recognized as Child Health & Wellness Researchers.

Those interested in applying for membership with ACHRI are required to complete the ACHRI membership application form and submit it along with their most recent CV to ACHRI, as indicated on the application form.

Applications requesting a dual membership (i.e., those seeking membership in ACHRI, while holding a full member status in another institute in the Cumming School of Medicine (CSM)) will be reviewed in accordance with the CSM Policy on Dual Institute Membership (please refer to Addendum A). Approvals from the appropriate department head and director of the other institute will be requested upon initial approval of the ACHRI membership application.

All membership applications undergo a review by ACHRI Program Directors and ACHRI Leadership. Review outcomes are communicated directly to the applicant.

All ACHRI members undergo an annual review in order to maintain their membership status. This includes review of research productivity (publications and funding), training and/or supervisory activities, and other successes and impacts. This information is required for ACHRI reports to stakeholders, information on member success, as well as to reveal any barriers affecting research.

While decisions regarding appropriate membership status will be made in accordance with the guidelines outlined in this document, ACHRI reserves the right to assess each membership application on a case-by-case basis to help guide the decision.

Departing members are requested to notify ACHRI of their pending departure.
ACHRI Membership Guidelines

1. Child Health & Wellness Researcher

a) Eligibility:

- Hold an MD, PhD, or equivalent
- Hold an academic appointment at the University of Calgary or a clinical research appointment at Alberta Health Services
- Conduct basic, clinical, population health or health services research relevant to child health and wellness with consistent research productivity
- Hold peer reviewed research funding as a principal investigator. This criterion may be waived by ACHRI Directors and Program Directors for researchers who are key members of a child-health focused research team, but who may not hold funding as a designated principal investigator.

b) Responsibilities and Expectations:

- As a member of a relevant ACHRI program, conduct research (basic, clinical, population or health services) that falls within the mandate of ACHRI and the priorities of the relevant program
- Maintain operational grant support at the provincial or federal level
- Publish in peer reviewed academic journals
- Supervise trainees in various categories (e.g., undergraduate, graduate, postdoctoral fellows, clinical fellows)
- Participate in ACHRI research and educational committees
- Participate in ACHRI College of Reviewers for internal peer review of funding applications for academics and trainees, as well as applications for competitive awards of the ACHRI Strategic Training and Education Program (ACHRI STEP)
- Participate in the mandatory annual member review.
- Acknowledge ACHRI affiliation and support (if applicable) on any published articles, abstracts or presentation materials (ACHRI logo should be displayed as appropriate)
- Work with the ACHRI communications team on developing media availabilities, addressing media requests, and facilitating communication of research progress and outcomes to internal and external audiences, as appropriate

c) Benefits:

- Access to ACHRI resources and support services
- Access to competitive matching and bridge funding, internal funding awards
- Access to trainee funding through the ACHRI STEP
- Receive regular updates from ACHRI regarding funding opportunities, research-related activities and opportunities, events, workshops, and other relevant information
- Invitations to ACHRI events, symposia, and member meetings
2. Child Health & Wellness Researcher, New Investigator

a) Eligibility:

- Hold an MD, PhD, or equivalent
- Early in their research career – i.e., within five years of first academic appointment
- Hold an academic appointment at the University of Calgary or a clinical research appointment at Alberta Health Services
- Conduct basic, clinical, population health or health services research relevant to child health and wellness with consistent research productivity (i.e., publications and peer-reviewed grant support)

b) Responsibilities and Expectations:

- The same responsibilities and expectations Child Health Scientist apply to Child Health Scientist New Investigator members, with the following exception: New investigator members have five years to achieve their expected productivity as follows:
  - i) obtain and maintain operational grant support at the provincial or federal level
  - ii) publish in peer reviewed academic journals.

New investigators undergo a detailed membership/performance review at the two-year and a five-year mark after initial appointment of ACHRI membership, and yearly afterward.

c) Benefits:

- The same benefits as Child Health & Wellness Researchers apply.
Policy Statement on Institute Membership

February 2004

1. Institute membership is the individual choice of faculty members - nobody MUST be a member but opting out has a significant opportunity cost.
2. It is agreed that all faculty members who meet minimal requirements should be encouraged to join an Institute: the tents are large but membership is not guaranteed.
3. Institute membership does not imply that an individual will be part of a specific Institute program: programs and priorities are set by the Institutes.
4. An individual can only be a primary member of one Institute. This restriction is primarily for space planning. It is possible to be a secondary member of several Institutes.
5. The same rules will apply to members from the Alberta Health Services who are not faculty members (if such exist) and to members from other faculties or universities.

Policy Statement on Dual Institute Membership

January 2009

While this option is available, it often presents both practical and strategic challenges, and so we tend to discourage it (full membership in one Institute, associate membership in one or more others, is the usual model).

If you believe that dual full membership is important to you, the approval procedure is as follows:

1. Written agreement of the two Institute Directors. This should include a clear assignment of responsibility for research space.
2. Written support of the Department Head that dual membership is in the interests of the faculty.
3. A request for dual full membership - with the above documentation and a brief justification - should be sent to the Senior Associate Dean Research for approval. It is preferred that this be provided electronically.