

HASLAM CLINICAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP IN CHILD BRAIN HEALTH

Award Guide

The University of Calgary strives to create and maintain a positive and productive learning and working environment in which there is respect for the dignity of all persons, and fair and equitable treatment of individuals in our diverse community. As part of the UCalgary community, ACHRI believes that diversity in our team is a strength. ACHRI commits to considering qualified applicants from members of any and all equity seeking groups, including women, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, and persons who are members of a visible minority group in Canada.

Purpose of Award

This award has been made possible through the Dr. Robert Haslam Chair Endowment. This Fellowship was created to advance research, create new knowledge, and inspire future leaders in child brain health.

Eligibility Criteria

Candidates are eligible to apply for the Haslam Clinical Research Fellowship if:

- they are being recruited for, or are currently in, a post-graduate clinical research training position at the University of Calgary with a primary supervisor who is a member of ACHRI, and
- their research project and career goals are focused on achieving excellence in child brain health research.

Candidates for the Haslam Clinical Research Fellowship may be medical residents or fellows as well as postdoctoral fellows conducting research in child brain health. Areas of study must be within the child health and wellness context and may include, but not limited to the following:

- Child neurology;
- Child psychiatry, psychology, or mental health;
- Neurodevelopment including education
- Neonatal / Perinatal neurology;
- Neurocritical care
- Neuro-oncology
- Neurogenetics, neurometabolics
- Neuroimaging or other applied neurotechnologies

The Haslam Clinical Research Fellowship funds may not be used to fund training of individuals at another institution outside of the Alberta Children's Hospital (ACH), University of Calgary and allied facilities. However, applicants from other jurisdictions, including from out of province and international are encouraged to apply.

MD-trained candidates applying for the Haslam Clinical Research Fellowship must be eligible to be

registered with the Postgraduate Medical Education (PGME) office at the University of Calgary.

In case of clinical postdoctoral scholar applicants, to qualify for the Haslam Clinical Research Fellowship award, an applicant must conform to the definition of a postdoctoral scholar as defined by the UCalgary Postdoc Office: this typically means that the candidate must have been awarded a PhD or equivalent within the five years immediately preceding the appointment, or ten years from the completion of an MD, DDS, DVM or equivalent (aside from time taken for leaves or other circumstances). Please note that ACHRI requests a written confirmation from the UCalgary postdoc office that all the eligibility requirements have been met by the awardee and his/her supervisor prior to release of funds.

A minimum of 75% research time is expected for this fellowship.

Current holders of internal and external fellowship awards such as CIHR, NSERC and other agencies, are eligible to apply for the Haslam Clinical Research Fellowship only if funding from these agencies will be ending within 12 months from the application deadline.

Only one fellowship application will be accepted from a single supervisor in a given competition.

Successful applicants/awardees must register with ACHRI as trainees and produce evidence of completion of a relevant degree prior to the start date of the fellowship.

Financial Support

The award amount will be commensurate with the training level/ category and the year of training, as per the current ACHRI/ UCalgary stipend standards. Remuneration for eligible residents/ clinical research fellows will be based on the appropriate PGY level, in accordance with the current PARA agreement. Remuneration for research fellows who do not fall under PARA will be at \$50,000 per year.

The Haslam Clinical Research Fellowship award may be used for salary support only, and may not be used for travel, relocation or other purposes.

Health benefits are not provided as part of the award. Health benefits of postdoctoral scholars registered with the UCalgary Postdoc Office must be covered by their supervisor. Clinical research fellows are not eligible for health benefits through UCalgary.

Holders of the Haslam Clinical Research Fellowship are expected to apply for internal and external awards or grants for which they are eligible, including those from provincial and national agencies. Renewal for the second year of the Haslam Clinical Research Fellowship funding is contingent upon satisfactory progress of the trainee, completion of a trainee progress report (approved by the supervisor), participation in the ACHRI training activities and events, and effort to secure external fellowship support. We also ask awardees to kindly notify us of any awards they may receive through either external or internal agencies or programs during the term of their Haslam Clinical Research Fellowship.

If the awarded trainee is successful in obtaining a major fellowship award (e.g., Alberta Innovates, Tri-Council), in which remuneration exceeds the Haslam Clinical Research Fellowship amount, the trainee is expected to decline the Haslam Clinical Research Fellowship award in favor of the other award(s). In this case, the freed-up research fellowship funds will be used to fund another eligible candidate. If the external award amount is lower than the Haslam Fellowship award amount, applicants are expected to accept the external award and request a top-up from ACHRI to match the Haslam Clinical Research Fellowship

remuneration. Success in obtaining an external award will not result in reduction of stipend level – it will be maintained for the duration of eligibility for the Haslam Clinical Fellowship.

Term of Support

The term of fellowship support is maximum two years (24 months). Renewal for the second year is contingent upon satisfactory progress of the trainee demonstrating concrete evidence of high productivity as well as participation in ACHRI/CHW training activities and events, and evidence that an external training award application has been submitted.

Application Deadline

Applications are due by **5 pm local time on May 1 of each year, for a term commencing as early as July 1 of the same year, but no later than July 1 of the following year.** Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.

When the application deadline falls on a statutory holiday or weekend, applications are due on the next working day.

Application Instructions: New Applicants

Applicants must submit:

- Completed Application form, available on the ACHRI website;
- Two letters of reference submitted by the referees via email. One of the letters must be from the proposed supervisor. If there are co-supervisors, a joint letter should be submitted, and the second letter should come from another referee.

Application packages and reference letters must be submitted electronically to the ACHRI STEP office at achri.training@ucalgary.ca.

It is the responsibility of the applicant and her/his/their supervisor to ensure all application documents are complete and submitted on time. Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted. If the application is deemed non-compliant (e.g., does not follow application instructions as stated; supporting documents exceed page limit, etc.), reviewers have the right to reject the application.

Application Instructions: Renewing Applicants

In order to renew the Haslam Clinical Research Fellowship funding for a second year, applicants must submit:

- Progress Report, available on the [ACHRI website](#), completed by the trainee;
- Letter of support written by the supervisor.

Renewal packages and reference letters must be submitted electronically to the ACHRI STEP office at achri.training@ucalgary.ca a minimum of one month prior to the end date of the funding period.

It is the responsibility of the applicant and their supervisor to ensure all application documents are complete and submitted on time. Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted. If the application is deemed non-compliant (e.g., does not follow application instructions as stated; supporting documents exceed page limit, etc.), reviewers have the right to reject the application.

Adjudication Process and Evaluation Criteria

Eligible applications will be reviewed by the ACHRI Training Review Committee, selected from the ACHRI College of Reviewers, in conjunction with the ACHRI Training and Education Committee and the Haslam Chair. Applications will be adjudicated based on the following criteria:

1. novelty and impact of the proposed work to advance child brain health research;
2. clarity of the research proposal and the applicant's role in the project;
3. training environment (e.g., proposed supervisor's publications, grant support, experience in trainee supervision, excellence in mentorship);
4. candidate's demonstrated commitment to research and scholarship evidenced through their publications and/or other research outputs, letters of reference and time commitment to the research project.

Please note that the Review Committee is a multi-disciplinary group of reviewers, who may not have the in-depth knowledge in all the projects submitted. Applicants must ensure that their project proposals can be understood by a non-specialist reviewer.

Terms of the Award

The Haslam Clinical Research Fellowship will be administered under the terms and conditions of ACHRI STEP/ACHRI Research Training Program, which include the following requirements:

- awardee will be expected to devote a minimum of 75% of their time to the research program;
- continued application for external funding support: with a goal of increasing training capacity in the child health and wellness domain, we require all our awardees to explore opportunities for external awards, so that if successful, training funds can be released for supporting additional trainees. We also ask you to kindly notify us of any awards you may receive through either external or internal agencies or programs during the term of your fellowship;
- participation of the awardee in training activities (i.e., courses, workshops, professional development opportunities) organized by ACHRI and/or ACHRI's partner programs;
- participation and presentation by the awardee at the ACHRI Annual Research Retreat (or another similar event);
- timely submission of trainee and supervisor final report, and other documentation, as required;
- recipient will recognize the Haslam Clinical Research Fellowship in Child Brain Health in any publication, research report, policy brief, promotional material, public event, news release or other work arising from this support.

With any questions, please contact the ACHRI STEP office at:

Email: achri.training@ucalgary.ca

Telephone: 403.220.8158