

ACHRI TRAINEE CONFERENCE TRAVEL AWARDS

Award Guidelines

Updated March 2026

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. UCalgary has been named one of Canada's Best Diversity Employers five years in a row. 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

Travel awards are provided on a competitive basis to eligible trainees who are presenting their research at a conference or symposium. The aim of the award is to develop presentation or other advanced skills among trainees, enhance networking opportunities, as well as to disseminate and acquire new knowledge in child health research.

Value: \$500

Number of Awards: Variable (based on funding availability)

Eligibility Criteria:

To be considered for an ACHRI Trainee Travel award, the applicant must:

- have a primary supervisor who is a member of ACHRI,
- have a research project in maternal or child health and wellness
- present a poster or a podium presentation of their work at the conference to which they are travelling.

Eligibility for ACHRI conference travel awards is determined as follows:

- Master's students: one travel award over the course of their training period;
- PhD students: two travel awards over the course of their training period;
- Postdoctoral fellows: one travel award over the course of their training period.
- PGME and CCMG fellows: one travel award over the course of their training period.

Please note that undergraduate and medical students are not eligible for these awards.

Application Deadlines

- March 1 (for travel between March 1 and May 31)
- June 1 (for travel between June 1 and August 31)
- September 1 (for travel between September 1 and November 30)
- December 1 (for travel between December 1 and February 28)

Applications must be submitted prior to departure. Applications for travel that has already occurred will not be accepted.

Exact deadline dates are subject to change if the 1st of the month falls on a weekend. Applications will open a couple of weeks after the previous competition has closed. Please check the [ACHRI Trainee Funding Page](#) for accurate competition dates

Evaluation Criteria

Applications for travel awards will be adjudicated based on the following criteria:

- Research relevance to advancing maternal or child health and wellness
- Trainee presentation of their research. Podium presentations will be given priority; poster presentations are the minimum requirement.
- Priority will be given to Postdoctoral, PGME and CCMG Fellows, then PhD students, then Master's students.

Application Instructions

Applicants are required to complete an online ACHRI Trainee Conference Travel Award application form available on the [ACHRI Trainee Funding webpage](#).

Please note that the application form asks to upload the following supporting documentation:

- Copy of the abstract.
- Confirmation of abstract acceptance from the conference. If the applicant has not received confirmation of abstract acceptance at the time of application, they can still apply for a travel award; in this case, their award will be contingent on providing confirmation of abstract acceptance as soon as it is available.
- Trainee's updated curriculum vitae (including biographical information, education, research experience, publications and abstracts, awards, and honors).

Once the trainee submits the application form, an automated email will be sent to the applicant's supervisor requesting to approve their trainee's conference travel.

Additional Terms of Award

- If an applicant received one travel award during their Master's program and then subsequently transferred into a PhD program, they will be eligible for only one travel award during their PhD program.

- Trainees who currently hold a travel allowance (as part of their ACHRI or OCEC studentship or fellowship support) are not eligible for ACHRI trainee travel awards unless they have spent their travel allowance. Trainees cannot apply their ACHRI or OCEC travel allowance and an ACHRI travel award to the same conference.
- Funding is conditional on abstract acceptance for a poster or podium presentation.
- Applications for conference attendance without a presentation may be considered in disciplines or conferences where accepted presentation rates are demonstrably low. In such cases, applicants must provide: (1) proof of abstract submission, and (2) a written justification from their supervisor outlining the academic value of attending the conference without presenting.
- Trainees are encouraged to apply for other sources of travel support.
- Eligible expenses include conference registration fees, travel, accommodation, and meals (no alcohol). Meal per diems are only available for meals not provided by the conference.

Please contact the ACHRI Training team with any questions:

achri.training@ucalgary.ca.