



2016 ALBERTA SPOR GRADUATE STUDENTSHIP IN PATIENT-ORIENTED RESEARCH

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Alberta Innovates – Health Solutions (AIHS) is hosting the competition and review process for the Alberta SPOR Graduate Studentship in Patient-Oriented Research on behalf of the Alberta SPOR SUPPORT Unit (AbSPORU).

The deadline date for receipt of all Alberta SPOR Graduate Studentship applications is **October 3, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.** Applications will be accepted if sent by overnight courier on the deadline day.

Information collection, use, and disclosure of information on the attached personal data pages will be for the AbSPORU/AIHS use only. AbSPORU has representatives of University of Alberta, University of Calgary, Athabasca University, University of Lethbridge, Alberta Health Services, Alberta Health, and AIHS.

PLEASE NOTE: It is the **applicant's** responsibility to ensure that the application is **complete** and received in the AIHS office by the deadline date. No supplemental information may be provided after the deadline date. Incomplete applications (**including those lacking any of the required signatures**) will not be considered. Information received after the deadline date will also not be considered. AIHS will accept electronic, facsimile or original signatures. Signatures may be submitted on multiple pages.

Applicants are asked to use the space provided on the form for each item of information. Additional pages should be attached only where it has been indicated that extra pages are allowed. **Failure to comply with the above instructions may deem a proposal as ineligible.**

ELIGIBILITY – Applicants to the Alberta SPOR Graduate Studentship competition must reside in Alberta and be enrolled in, or accepted to, a graduate program at an Alberta university undertaking health-related research training leading to a thesis-based graduate degree. Applicants may be entering their first year of graduate studies in either September 2016 or January 2017. Please note, as the Alberta SPOR Graduate Studentship is jointly funded by AIHS and CIHR, successful candidates cannot also hold an AIHS or CIHR award.

TRANSCRIPTS - Transcripts of all university-level courses must be submitted. Transcripts must be up-to-date and official, or certified true copies of the official. Copies may be certified by the proposed supervisor, department head, or a notary public. **Uncertified photocopies and the "InfoNet" proof of registration will not be accepted.** Foreign transcripts must be accompanied by a certified English translation and a formal explanation of the grading system.

LETTER(S) OF REFERENCE – Applicants require one letter of reference from their supervisor that should include information regarding the eligibility of the proposed research project. Up to one additional letter of support from a patient, stakeholder or community partner may also be included, as appropriate.

The letter(s) of reference is submitted in a confidential manner to AIHS solely for the purpose of supporting the application for a competitive award. Therefore, they must be received by AIHS in **sealed and signed envelopes**. Please note that AIHS requires an **original, signed copy** of each letter of reference.

APPLICANT'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Contributions described in this section may include academic, non-academic and research achievements. These contributions should describe the applicant's role in the research activities; the relevance of the research conducted and the significance of the journals to the field (e.g. intended target audiences). Other research contributions including patents, and publications (research or technical reports, policy papers; clinical guidelines, etc.) may be included. You may also provide background information on major scholarships or awards you have received or currently hold and their significance.

Accomplishments may include both academic and non-academic achievements and relevant contributions, including, but not limited to:

- Leadership roles;
- Committee membership;

- Supervisory experience (training of students);
- Development of graduate seminar programs;
- Involvement in public, private or not-for profit sector activities;
- Presentations as a guest speaker (public or invited lectures);
- Knowledge translation activities (including technology transfer or commercialization).

PUBLICATION LIST: Please include published or in-press research contributions **only**. **In-press publications** are those publications that have been made available online by the publisher and are citable using DOI, and which will be assigned a publication date and issue. Published or in-press publications do **NOT** include articles that are: in preparation, submitted, under revision, resubmitted, forthcoming, accepted with revisions or accepted without a DOI. Publications are to be listed following the format and category guidelines listed below. **Failure to comply with the application instructions may deem a proposal as ineligible.**

Format:

- Full authorship order as it appears in the original publication (**applicant's name in bold**);
- Year;
- Title;
- Publication name and volume*;
- First and last page numbers*;
- Role in publication (Limit of **2 sentences**)

* *Publication volume and page numbers: for in-press publications, please include DOI instead.*

Categories:

- **Published or in-press peer reviewed primary research articles**
(Knowledge dissemination of experimental results)
- **Published or in-press peer-reviewed review articles**
(Analysis or discussion of research previously published by others)
- **Published or in-press books, monographs, book chapters or contributions to a collective work**
- **Oral presentations**
(Presentations as an invited guest speaker or contributed talks, excludes poster presentations)
- **Abstracts**
(Published or non-published abstracts from participation in peer activities such as, but not limited to, poster presentations at conferences and workshops, etc.)
- **Patents**
(Please specify if the patent was granted or is pending. The primary inventor name should appear first followed by the co-inventors, if any)
- **Reports**
(Research reports or reports produced for the government)

For example, if you have the following research contributions:

- 1 *published research article* as second author (to be listed)
- 1 **review article** *accepted with minor revisions* for publication as first author (do **NOT** list)
- 2 **poster presentations** as first author, including 1 published abstract (to be listed)
- 1 **patent** as co-inventor (to be listed)

Based on the example provided, the publication list could be as follows:

(The article accepted for publication with minor revisions should **NOT** be listed)

Published or in-press peer reviewed primary research articles

Author1. **Author2**. Author3. Year. Title. Publication name and volume. First and last page numbers. Role in publication (2 sentences maximum).

Abstracts

Author1. Author2. Year. Title. Name and or title of Conference. Place of Conference.
Role in publication (2 sentences maximum)

Author1. Author 2. Author3. Year. Title. Publication name. Supplemental Information (Name and Title of Conference). First and last page numbers.

Patents

Inventor1. **Co-inventor.** Year issued or filled. Title. Country Patent number or Country application number.
Date filled. Date issued or Patent pending.
Role in publication (2 sentences maximum).

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES: Provide a biographical sketch for the primary research supervisor and co-supervisor (if applicable) listed in Section 3 – Training Environment, using the Biographical Sketch Information Form. A **maximum of four pages** (excluding the Biographical Sketch Information Form) may be submitted for each. Please provide additional information according to all headings, A through E.

PROPOSED RESEARCH PROJECT: Ensure that the hypothesis/research question, objectives, methodological approach and expected outcomes are described in sufficient detail for the reviewers to be able to assess the feasibility and overall merit of the proposed research in terms of its suitability as a training opportunity. The background information should provide the rationale and help to position the proposed research in the context of the current state of the field and the significance of the work being proposed. Applicants are expected to write the research proposal independently. The proposal should be written in general scientific language that is understandable by a broad audience. Only references related to the project description are to be listed on a separate page.

PATIENT-ORIENTED RESEARCH: Ensure that the principles of Patient-Oriented Research (POR) are demonstrated in sufficient detail for the reviewers to assess the applicant's understanding of POR and how POR is embodied in the proposed research project. The benefit of the proposed research study to patients must be clearly articulated. If the applicant has secured partnerships with patients, stakeholders, or community members this must be included, indicating how these partners are involved and how these partnerships will help make the project successful. If the applicant intends to obtain patient, stakeholder, or community partnerships, the strategy to obtain these partnerships must be feasible and sufficiently detailed. More detailed information on POR can be found within the Program Guide.

KT STREAM: For students applying to the knowledge translation (KT) stream, please demonstrate how your project aligns with CIHR's definition of KT (see the Program Guide), as well as a) whether and how you have involved Knowledge Users (i.e., individual(s) or group(s) that are "likely to be able to use the knowledge generated through research to make informed decisions about health policies, programs and/or practices" (CIHR)) or b) how your project will contribute to the advancement of methods in KT." Applicants applying to the KT stream of the 2016 Alberta SPOR Graduate Studentship must indicate on the application the preference to apply to the KT stream. Applicants who do not select the KT stream in the application, but whose projects are commensurate with the topic area, may be designated to the stream during the Relevance Review Process by the selection committee. Applications that are not successful in the KT stream but obtain scores in the fundable range, according to the peer review committee, will be included in the general open competition.

Information on the outcome of the application will be mailed to the applicant and supervisor. The names of the successful applicants will be posted on the website.

PLEASE SUBMIT ONE HARD COPY OF THE ORIGINAL APPLICATION TO:

Alberta SPOR Graduate Studentship Competition
Alberta Innovates - Health Solutions
1500, 10104 103 Avenue NW
EDMONTON, AB T5J 4A7