



BC's health research funding agency

2021 Research Trainee Competition Information Session Webinar

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Webinar Agenda

- Program Highlights
- Insights from a 2019 RT Award Recipient (Dr. Himanshu Kaul)
- Organizations with Research Trainee award recipients
- Knowledge Translation
- Eligibility Requirements
- Overview of Award
- Award Amount and Duration
- Partnership Opportunities
- Application Process Flow
- Changes for 2021
- Application Tips
- Evaluation
- Contact Information & Q and A session

MSFHR RESEARCH TRAINEE PROGRAM



Insights from a Research Trainee award recipient



Dr. Himanshu Kaul

2019 Research Trainee award

Postdoctoral Fellow

University of British Columbia
School of Biomedical Engineering

Supervisor: Dr. Peter Zandstra

Project Title: Generating tissue capable of forming blood-progenitor cells at clinical scales

My Profile

- **Computational Biomedical Engineer**
- **Postdoctoral Fellow**, School of Biomedical Engineering, UBC
- Research
 - Understand how complex tissues **emerge** from pluripotent stem cells and use that knowledge towards **cell therapy**
 - I developed a computational platform that **linked gene network-driven cell interactions to tissue patterns**
 - Allowed us to understand how regulatory networks can be **manipulated to yield specific cells/tissues**
- **Laboratory for Multiscale Emergent Bioengineering**
 - School of **Engineering** & Department of **Respiratory Sciences**, **University of Leicester**, UK

Approaching the Fellowship Application

- The **3 Ps** of the Fellowship Application
 - **Person** (You)
 - **Project** (Your Research)
 - **Place** (Your Research Environment)

Person (You)

- Why am I the **ideal person to deliver** proposed research
 - Past record / **successes**
 - **Uniqueness** as a researcher
- What is the **evidence** that I am on a path to **independence**
 - **Publication** record
 - Technical / Non-technical **Contributions**
 - **Supervisory** stints
 - National / Global **Reputation**
- How will this fellowship **help me**
 - Remember, you are **still** developing independence
 - **SWOT** to determine what you lack & **make the case** how this fellowship will help you acquire it

Project (Your Research)

- Why is the proposed research **important / exciting / challenging**
- Why do this **now**
- What is the evidence that the proposal is **feasible**
- **Consider**
 - **Hypothesis**-driven approach
 - **Pilot** data
 - **Novelty** (What is the gap you will bridge via this proposal)
 - **Significance** (What is the potential impact)
 - **Risks** and Mitigation
 - Be able to do a good **lay summary** (extremely important!!!)

Place (Your Research Environment)

- Will you be able to **succeed** in your chosen environment
- **Consider** access to:
 - Specialised **equipment**
 - Specialised **expertise / supervision**
 - **Mentorship**
 - **Complementary knowledge** to broaden your perspective / skills
 - Potential **collaborations**
 - Leadership and professional **development** infrastructure

Award Impact

- **Prestige** and **Recognition**
- Allowed me to **acquire experimental skills**
- Thorough **broadening** of my knowledge and skill-set
- **Mentorship** and **Project Management** skills
- Additional **funds**
 - Enabled me to **travel**
 - **Membership** of key scientific communities
 - One that recognised my work
- Prepared me for the **role** and **road** ahead
- Made me '**bankable**'

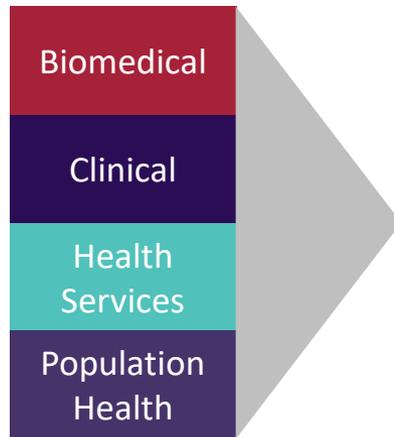
Organizations with Research Trainee Award Holders

The following organizations have had Research Trainee award holders in the past three years:

- BC Cancer
- BC Centre for Disease Control
- BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS
- BC Centre on Substance Use
- BC Children's Hospital Research Institute
- BC Women's Hospital + Health Centre
- Centre for Clinical Epidemiology and Evaluation
- Centre for Heart Lung Innovation
- International Collaboration on Repair Discoveries (iCORD)
- Michael Smith Laboratories
- Provincial Health Services Authority
- University of Northern British Columbia
- University of the Fraser Valley
- Simon Fraser University
- University of BC – Point Grey and Okanagan
- University of Victoria
- Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute
- Vancouver Prostate Centre

Overview of Award

Research Themes



Applicant

Each Trainee Award:

1 to 3 years

**Stipend:
\$45,000**

+

**Research
and Travel
Allowance
\$4,500**

Eligibility Requirements

- Canadian citizens, permanent residents, and foreign nationals are eligible.
- Hold a **PhD OR** be a **health professional (HP) in active clinical service**.
- Hold a **Postdoctoral fellowship** at a BC university or research institution by the award start date.
- Project in 1 of 4 research themes (Biomedical, Clinical, Health Services Research, Population Health), with clear link to human health.
- < 6 years from completion of PhD degree as of September 1, 2021 (<11 years for HP).
- 75% protected research time committed by supervisor (50% for HP).
- **Supervisor** with an academic appointment at a BC university.

Supervisor(s)

An applicant can have **up to two** supervisors with an academic appointment (assistant, associate, or full professor) at a BC university. The co-supervisor could also hold a position as an adjunct professor.

The primary supervisor agrees to:

- Supervise the applicant's research and provide the resources that are necessary for the successful completion of the research project including any KT activities.
- Administer the research and travel allowance of the award recipient.
- Respect the obligations described in the MSFHR Research Trainee competition guidelines and conditions of award.

New for 2021

- **COVID-19 impact statement:** All applicants will have the opportunity to describe the impact of the pandemic on their research activities as part of their application.
- **Eligibility window extension:** To account for COVID-19 research and training disruptions, we are automatically extending the eligibility window by one year.
- **Research Trainee award terms:** To provide greater funding stability for postdoctoral trainees, the Research Trainee award terms are no longer pro-rated and all applicants can request up to three years of support, regardless of when they completed their PhD.
- **Regional Diversity:** Process changes to identify and remove barriers to success for applicants from around the province, including revising peer review processes and evaluation criteria, and proactively identifying partnership opportunities for institutions outside the Lower Mainland.

Knowledge Translation

What is KT?

Knowledge translation (KT) activities aim to close the gap between research and implementation by improving the use of research evidence in practice, policy and further research.



KT in your MSFHR funding application

MSFHR requires applicants from all research pillars to include knowledge translation activities in their project proposal in one of two ways:



- 1. KT Practice:** As **components** of a research project (e.g research user engagement, research dissemination, and/or research uptake activities)
- 2. KT Science/Implementation Science:** As the **focus** of the project (KT science: exploring the theories, mechanisms, concepts, and/or methods by which evidence is used in health care practice and policy)

Why is KT important?

- 30% of patients do not get treatments of proven effectiveness
- 25% of patients get care that is not needed or potentially harmful
- Up to 75% of patients do not get enough information to make decisions
- Most programs to address gaps in patient care are not:
 - Evidence-based
 - Being implemented as intended
 - Being evaluated rigorously
 - Being sustained



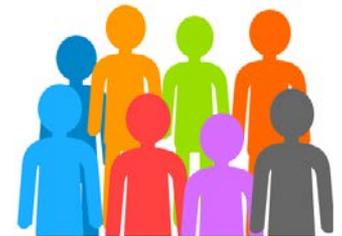
Kiesler DJ, Auerback SM. Optimal matches of patient preferences for information, decision-making and interpersonal behavior: evidence, models and interventions. *Patient Educ Couns* 2006;61:319-41.

Dawes, M., Sampson, U.: Knowledge management in clinical practice: A systematic review of information seeking behavior in physicians. *Int J Med Inform* 2003;71:9-15 .

McGlynn Elizabeth A, Asch Steven M, Adams John, Keeseey Joan, Hicks Jennifer, DeCristofaro Alison, Kerr Eve A. The quality of health care delivered to adults in the United States. *N Engl J Med*. 2003 Jun 26;348(26):2635–2645.

Engage with those who will use your research

- Biomedical → Clinical researchers, clinicians, industry, other biomedical researchers, public, etc
- Clinical → Health services researchers, patients, policy makers, clinicians, public, etc
- Health Services → Clinicians, health care administrators, decision makers, educator, communities, patients, etc
- Population Health → Policy makers, communities, health care professionals, educators, etc



Some KT Strategies

- Interactive small groups
- Educational outreach
- Mass media campaign
- Opinion leaders
- Performance feedback
- Peer reviewed publications
- Conference presentations
- Press release
- Webinar
- Reminders
- IT decision support
- Best practice guidelines
- Financial incentives
- Networks
- Patent license
- Arts-based KT
- Social media
- Patient advisory group

Want to know more?

Click on the *KT links* in the Guidelines



Visit www.ktpathways.ca

Partnership Opportunities



MSFHR partners with leading organizations to grow BC's health research capacity.

Process:

Applicants interested in being funded through a partnered award are encouraged to:

- a. Check the website regularly for partners** interested in co-funding competitions.
- b. Complete the Potential Co-Funding Partners tab in their Full Application in ApplyNet.**

If new partners come onboard during the full application phase, we will send out an email notification to applicants and ask you to **let us know you're interested** in being considered for a partnered award by emailing partners@msfhr.org.

*MSFHR uses the details captured in your full application and **keywords** provided by partners to identify applications that may be relevant to and align with partners' area of interest.*

Partnership Opportunities



More information about partnership opportunities will be available in the full application form and at msfhr.org/partners.

Evaluation Criteria

Applications to the respective themes will be assessed against the indicated criteria and weightings below. Evaluation criteria are the same for all four themes.

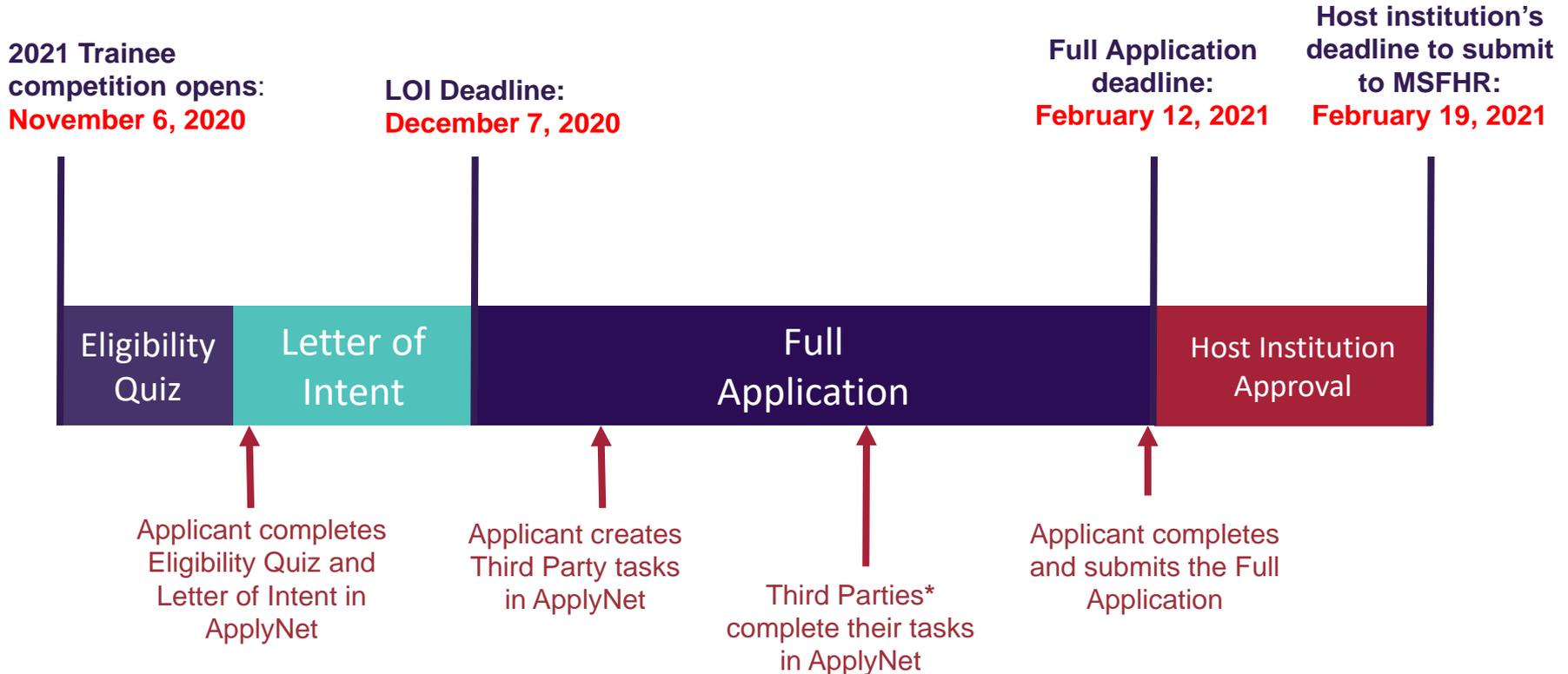
Criterion	PhD	HP
Track record	45	40
Research project	35	40
Environment and Support	20	20

Rating Scale

Descriptor	Range	Outcome
Outstanding	4.5 – 4.9	May be funded (min. score of 3.8)
Excellent	4.0 – 4.4	
Very good	3.5 – 3.9	
Adequate	3.0 – 3.4	Not fundable
Less than adequate	0 – 2.9	

To be **considered** for funding, the application must receive a minimum score of 3.8.

Application Process Flow



* **Third Parties:** Supervisor (and optional Co-Supervisor), 2 referees

Application Development Tips

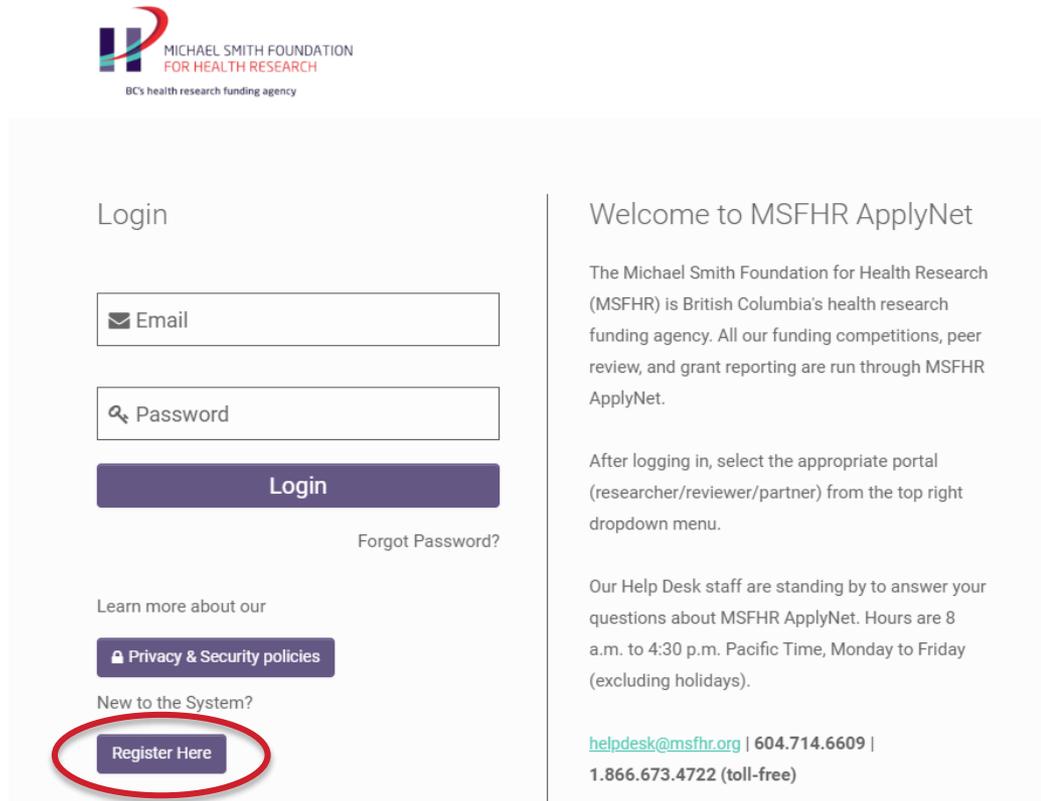
- Seek support from your organization's **grant facilitation office** for development, editing, and revision of your application.
- Have your application critically reviewed by **your supervisor**
- Review the competition's **evaluation criteria** and make sure they are addressed in your application.
- Pay attention to **grantsmanship** — cohesive flow of information allows reviewers to read the application without having to flip between pages.
- Format the application to be **easy to read**. Use **headings** to show a logical progression and break up the text into **paragraphs**. Don't be afraid of white space.
- Reviewers will deduct points if the applicant hasn't followed the instructions — font size, formatting, etc.

Application Development Tips

- Reviewers do not have the time to look up information on your behalf — if it is important, **make it explicit** in the application.
- If you have **pilot data**, mention it.
- You will have 5 additional pages for your appendices, which may include references, tables, charts, figures, and photographs, however if the data is important to your program of research, please include it within the main Program of Research document.
- We will post sample applications on our website that will show what information is required at the LOI and FA stage and in the third party forms.

MSFHR ApplyNet

Applications are submitted through our online grants management system, ApplyNet, msfhr.smartsimple.ca



The screenshot shows the MSFHR ApplyNet login interface. On the left, there is a 'Login' section with an 'Email' input field, a 'Password' input field, and a purple 'Login' button. Below the button is a link for 'Forgot Password?'. Underneath, there is a section 'Learn more about our' with a button for 'Privacy & Security policies'. At the bottom of this section is a link for 'New to the System?' with a button for 'Register Here' that is circled in red. On the right, there is a 'Welcome to MSFHR ApplyNet' section with a paragraph of text, a paragraph about selecting a portal, and a paragraph about the Help Desk. At the bottom right, there is contact information for the Help Desk.


MICHAEL SMITH FOUNDATION
FOR HEALTH RESEARCH
BC's health research funding agency

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[Register Here](#)

Welcome to MSFHR ApplyNet

The Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research (MSFHR) is British Columbia's health research funding agency. All our funding competitions, peer review, and grant reporting are run through MSFHR ApplyNet.

After logging in, select the appropriate portal (researcher/reviewer/partner) from the top right dropdown menu.

Our Help Desk staff are standing by to answer your questions about MSFHR ApplyNet. Hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Pacific Time, Monday to Friday (excluding holidays).

helpdesk@msfhr.org | 604.714.6609 |
1.866.673.4722 (toll-free)

From the home page, click **Apply**.



The next page will display a list of competitions available for application.

Open Competitions					+ □
Funding Cycle	Program Type	Award Type	Award Term	Deadline	
2020 Research Trainee	Research Trainee Program	Trainee Awards - Stipend and R&T Allowance	Up to Three Years	LOI Deadline: 11/29/2019 4:30 PM Full Application Deadline: 01/31/2020 4:30 PM	View Details
2020 Scholar Competition	Scholar Program	Career Awards	Five Years	LOI Deadline: 11/29/2019 4:30 PM Full Application Deadline: 02/07/2020 4:30 PM	View Details

Click **View Details** to see competition information and to launch an eligibility quiz. A successful completion of the quiz will open the Letter of Intent.

MSFHR ApplyNet

You can find tutorials and other resources at:

www.msfhr.org/funding/msfhr-applynet

For any questions about ApplyNet, please email us at:

helpdesk@msfhr.org

We welcome any feedback about the new system!

Contact Info

For questions regarding the application and submission process, please contact:

Yuliya Shapova
Coordinator, Research Competitions
traineeprogram@msfhr.org

For technical support with ApplyNet, please contact:

MSFHR Help Desk
604.714.6609
helpdesk@msfhr.org

Please note that MSFHR staff are currently working from home. For the quickest response, please reach out to us via email.

Questions?

Stages in Competition Cycle	Date
Letter of Intent Deadline	December 7, 2020 4:30 p.m. PT
Full Application Deadline	February 12, 2021 4:30 p.m. PT
Peer Review Panel Meetings	April – May 2021
Funding Announcement	July - August 2021
Trainee Award Start Date	September 1, 2021