



## **Biostatistics and Methodological Innovation Graduate/Post Graduate Award Guidelines**

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We seek to build capacity in biostatistics within Canada through advanced and practical training of graduate and postgraduate students. This will occur in an interdisciplinary environment, with biostatisticians and researchers working together on applied problems. The need for experienced biostatisticians is high in all areas of health care research and there are few biostatisticians within Canada with the necessary practical experience and the ability to work with clinical investigators. We will introduce new graduates/graduate students to the rewards and challenges of health care research, through practical training obtained by working on real problems that are encountered in ongoing trials. To accomplish these goals, CANNeCTIN has two types of awards available:

### **1. CANNeCTIN Awards: Biostatistics Doctoral students**

This award will provide the graduate student direct training in biostatistics as applied to health care research. Each student will be associated with one research site (McGill, McMaster, Ottawa, or Waterloo) but will visit at least one other participating site to engage in close collaboration with other researchers to acquire further knowledge and training. The student will have a primary supervisor at their “home” institution however they will receive input from all the members of the biostatistics working group (collective mentoring). This student will be required to participate in regular video-conference lectures, presenting progress on biostatistics problems/issues being studied.

The successful applicant will be enrolled in a Biostatistics/Statistics PhD program at one of the following universities: McGill University, McMaster University, University of Ottawa, or University of Waterloo. Preference will be given to students who will be able to benefit immediately from this scholarship. He or she must intend to seek a career in biostatistics as

applied to health care research in Canada. The applicant must contact a professor in their department who is willing to act as their primary supervisor.

This award of \$25,000 (CDN) per year will be held for 12 months. This amount may be spread out over a longer period of time with consent of the primary supervisor.

## **2. CANNeCTIN Awards: Biostatistics Post-Doctoral Fellowship**

This award will provide post-doctoral training in biostatistics as applied to health care research. The fellow will be expected to develop skills in communication with researchers, study design for health care studies, and issues in applied Biostatistics. He or she will be associated with one research site (McGill, McMaster, Ottawa, or Waterloo) but will visit at least one other participating site to engage in close collaboration with other researchers to acquire further knowledge and training. The fellow will have a primary supervisor at their “home” institution however they will receive input from all the members of the biostatistics working group (collective mentoring). The post-doctoral fellow will be expected to participate in regular video-conference lectures, and be the primary presenter for at least one session.

The applicant must have been awarded a PhD or equivalent normally within 5 years immediately preceding his or her appointment to this fellowship. He or she must intend to seek a career in biostatistics as applied to health care research in Canada. The applicant must contact a professor one of the participating department who is willing to act as their primary supervisor.

This fellowship is awarded for one year and has a salary of \$45,000 (CDN). This amount may be spread out over a longer period of time with consent of the primary supervisor.

**Application checklist:** Applicants will be submitted jointly by applicant and primary supervisor and should contain a full Curriculum Vita, training plan for the duration of the fellowship including plans to visit particular research institutions, letter of nomination by primary supervisor with a review of the applicant’s communication skills, and support letter from former research supervisor. Applications will be evaluated twice a year in September and January.

**Candidate Selection:** The Biostatistics CANNeCTIN Awards Committee will meet twice per year to review applications and conduct telephone interview with the applicants for these awards. These meetings should occur in May and September for the selection of candidates to begin terms in September or January, respectively. One member from each of the four universities that participated in the CANNeCTIN grant will be present for each meeting, including: McGill University, McMaster University, University of Ottawa, or University of Waterloo.

**Notification of Awards:** The successful candidate will be notified in writing, based on the recommendations of the Awards Committee. This letter will contain the starting date, length of appointment and conditions of the award. The successful candidate must sign an agreement on the terms and conditions of this award. Notification letters will be sent out in June or October.

**Interested applicants should email [connectin@phri.ca](mailto:connectin@phri.ca) for more information.**