

Your Frequently Asked Questions: Mini Med School In-Person

Do you have additional questions? Check out the FAQ below or contact researchevents@phsa.ca.

- **What do we expect from a Mini Med School participant?**

We're excited to have you in our unique program that connects you with the amazing researchers and healthcare professionals at BC Children's Hospital!

You've been selected from over 1000 high school students across the province to participate. As a valued member of this program, we ask that you follow these guidelines:

- **Respect & Inclusivity** – All participants and our Mini Med School Faculty should be treated with kindness and respect, regardless of differences in opinions, background, or experiences
- **Engagement & Participation** – Come ready to learn! Ask questions, share your thoughts, and stay focused. Please avoid side conversations during the lectures that might distract you or your peers.
- **Punctuality & Attendance** – Be mindful of the schedule. Arrive on time and plan to stay for the entire session. If you can't make it to a session, please let us know by contacting researchevents@phsa.ca.
- **Technology Use** – Please use your devices responsibly. Silence your phones and refrain from using devices for non-related activities.
- **Professional Etiquette** – You'll have the chance to interact with a variety of healthcare leaders. It's important to be respectful and professional at all times.

Please note that not following these guidelines could result in your removal from the program.

- **Where and when is Mini Med School being held? How do I get there?**

Mini Med School is being held at BC Children's Hospital Research Institute on the following evenings:

- **[Session #1: Wednesday, October 22, 2025](#)**
Student Networking (*Optional*): 5:45 – 6:30 pm | Lecture: 6:30 – 8:00 pm
- **[Session #2: Wednesday, October 29, 2025](#)**
Student Networking (*Optional*): 6:00 – 6:30 pm | Lecture: 6:30 – 8:00 pm
- **[Session #3: Wednesday, November 5, 2025](#)**
Student Networking (*Optional*): 6:00 – 6:30 pm | Lecture: 6:30 – 8:00 pm
- **[Session #4: Wednesday, November 12, 2025](#)**
Student Networking (*Optional*): 6:00 – 6:30 pm | Lecture: 6:30 – 8:00 pm

The BC Children's Hospital Research Institute is located at 938 West 28th Avenue, Vancouver, BC. You can find directions for locating the institute [here](#).

Once inside the Research Institute building, our Mini Med School Team will help you sign-in and show you where you need to be.

- **What happens during Student Networking? When should I arrive each evening?**

Each evening, we'll begin with 30 minutes of student networking in the lobby before the lecture begins. This is a great chance to connect, explore, and learn outside the classroom setting. Here's what you can expect:

- **Let's Talk About Med School:** Stop by our table to chat with two current medical students or clinical residents. Each night will feature different individuals who have taken unique paths to medical school—come with your questions! A short bio and photo of each guest will be sent in the weekly newsletter before the session.
- **Meet BCCHR Researchers:** Researchers from the BC Children's Hospital Research Institute will host booths to share their work—and maybe even recruit you for upcoming research studies! Don't miss this chance to learn about real-world science happening right here in BC.
- **Connect with Fellow Mini Med School Students:** You'll be joining students from across the Lower Mainland. To help break the ice, we'll have a new networking game each week—with prizes up for grabs!

Participation in the 30-minute networking session is optional. If you'd prefer not to take part, you're welcome to arrive in time for the lecture, which begins promptly at 6:30 pm each evening.

- **What should you expect at Mini Med School?**



Similar to a post-secondary class, Mini Med School is lecture-based, with each session building on concepts introduced previously. With just four evenings to cover new scientific topics, participants should be prepared for a fast-paced learning experience. Please also be aware that sessions will take place in an auditorium and last approximately 90 minutes each. *There will be no tours of lab facilities or hospital areas during the program.*

- **How will you communicate with me over the next few weeks?**

Each week, you will receive a weekly newsletter with additional information on session topics, speaker details and important updates. ***Please be sure to check your email's junk folder if you don't see any emails in your inbox by October 21.***

All the information you will need to participate in Mini Med School will also be available on our Mini Med School Hub: <https://bcchr.ca/MMS2025>.

- **I'm driving, is parking free at the hospital?**

No, parking is not free at BC Children's Hospital. Parking meters accept change and credit cards only. They **do not** accept debit cards or pay by phone/app.

- **What happens if I'm sick one evening and cannot attend?**

Registered students are expected to attend at least 3 sessions, but we understand things can happen. If you can't attend a session, please contact researchevents@phsa.ca ASAP so we can mark you as excused for the session. You will be sent a link to the recorded content and will be expected to catch up. For grade 12 students, as long as you watch the full recorded content by their respective deadlines (listed below), this will not affect your attendance or application for the [Mini Med School Scholarship](#).

While we appreciate your excitement to attend Mini Med School, we ask that you not come in-person if you have any cold or flu-like symptoms. The safety of our participants and the BC Children's Hospital community is our first priority. We also need to be mindful that our Mini Med School Faculty includes healthcare professionals who work with very vulnerable populations.

If you're catching up virtually, you must watch the entire recording (full 90 minutes) in order to have it count towards attendance. The deadlines to watch the recordings by are listed below. Your attendance will not be reflected properly if you only watch part of the recording, or if you complete it after the respective deadline.

- Session #1: *Recording not available*
- Session #2: Watch the recording by Sunday, November 9
- Session #3: Watch the recording by Sunday, November 16
- Session #4: Watch the recording by Sunday, November 23

- **What should I wear to Mini Med School?**

Whatever you feel comfortable in, Mini Med School does not have a dress code.

- **What should I bring with me to Mini Med School?**

Nothing is required for Mini Med School. Some participants like to take notes and bring a notebook and pen. You're also welcome to bring a laptop, but you will not have access to a power source in the auditorium. A personal reusable water bottle is also recommended. Please note: any food or drinks other than water is not permitted in our auditorium, but you can eat/drink in the lobby.

- **Can parents, guardians, or friends attend the sessions?**

Due to limited space, only registered students are permitted to attend the sessions. Parents or guardians are welcome to wait in the main lobby during the event until the session concludes. Unfortunately, friends who are not registered cannot be admitted. If a personal support worker/aid will be attending with you, contact researchevents@phsa.ca.

- **Will I have a chance to ask the Mini Med School Faculty questions?**

Yes! We will have designated question periods each evening. Our Mini Med School Faculty will also be around after the presentations, so feel free to go up to the podium and introduce yourself and ask any questions you may have.

- **What accessibility options are available?**

We want Mini Med School to be as accessible as possible. If you have specific accessibility needs, please contact researchevents@phsa.ca so we can make the necessary arrangements.

Available Accessibility Supports:

- **Wheelchair Access** – Step-free entry is available from the parking lot to the lobby. Please note: only the first row of the auditorium is wheelchair accessible, the rest of the auditorium is tiered.
- **Assisted Listening Devices** – Devices are available for participants who are hard of hearing.
- **Lecture Materials in Advance** – Slides will be shared ahead of time where possible. Printed materials in accessible formats (e.g., large print) can be provided upon request. *The display screen in the auditorium is very large.*
- **Reserved Seating** – Front-row seating can be reserved for participants who require it.
- **Quiet Space** – The lobby is available throughout the lecture for anyone who may need a sensory break.
- **All-Gender & Accessible Washroom** – A single-stall inclusive washroom that meets accessibility standards is available onsite.

Live transcription is not available in the auditorium. This feature is only provided for students joining virtually.

- **Will I be required to wear a mask during the event?**

Masks will be available but optional to wear.

- **What type of pre-reading is required?**

Nothing! Our curriculum is designed to accommodate participants who have little or no existing knowledge on these topics. There is no homework or tests at the end of the day!

- **Will I be provided with a Certificate of Participation? How will that work?**

Participants can request an electronic certificate of participation if they watched at least 3 sessions in their entirety. More details on how to request one will be emailed after the program.

- **What should I do if I need to cancel my spot?**

If you need to cancel for any reason, please contact researchevents@phsa.ca ASAP. We do have an extensive waitlist for Mini Med School and limited seats available. If you let us know you cannot attend, we can make sure another student can participate.

- **What is the Mini Med School Scholarship?**

Funded by BC Children's Hospital Foundation, each [Mini Med School Scholarship](#) includes \$1,000 CAD to go towards tuition fees and an optional in-person career placement at BC Children's Hospital Research Institute for one week. You can learn more about applying for the scholarship [here](#).

- **Can Mini Med School be counted towards my work experience requirements?**

Mini Med School could be classified as an unpaid career-related work experience that includes career investigation. We encourage you to verify this with your school or career counsellor.

The Mini Med School team cannot sign any Work Education Agreements, Work Experience Placement Forms or any similar forms/contracts on the day-of. Forms can be sent to researchevents@phsa.ca for electronic signature before or after the event.

- **What is Mini Med School *not*?**

We are not a career fair. While our Mini Med School Faculty is always happy to answer questions about their career path and advice for future students, they can't answer questions regarding admission requirements for any university or medical program. These vary between schools, field of study and work levels.

- **What other opportunities exist for students interested in health sciences?**

You can learn more about opportunities for students in health sciences [here](#). To stay up-to-date with BC Children's Hospital Research Institute outreach programs, [subscribe to our newsletter](#).