

This funding initiative is supported by the BC Children's Hospital Foundation.

The BC Children's Hospital Research Institute (BCCHR) **Rising Scholars Undergraduate Summer Studentship** is dedicated to creating more inclusive opportunities in child health research. This program provides funding and hands-on research experience to undergraduate students from equity-denied communities, within BC or the Yukon, who may not otherwise have the means or access to participate in summer research placements.

Program Overview: This 9-week summer studentship aims to support the next generation of researchers who are passionate about making an impact in the field of child health. This program includes:

- **Funding:** A salary stipend as well as support for travel and living expenses in Vancouver, BC from Monday, May 31, 2027 to Friday, July 30, 2027
- **Research Experience:** Direct involvement in an assigned research project focused on advancing child health research
- **Professional Development:** Access to skill-building workshops, networking, special events and other resources aimed at building research and leadership skills
- **Mentorship:** Guidance from world-class researchers in the field of child health

No previous research experience is required, and all necessary training will be provided. Students will also have access to mental health and wellness supports, as well as opportunities to connect with and build a sense of community with fellow students.

Eligibility Criteria: To be eligible to apply for funding you must:

- Self-identify as a member of an equity-denied community that have faced collective barriers in accessing opportunities and resources
- Demonstrate the necessity for need-based funding to access the training and resources necessary to achieve your educational goals
- Be a registered resident of BC or the Yukon who—when not attending university—resides within BC or the Yukon but outside the Greater Vancouver/Fraser Valley region during summer months (*International students are not eligible to apply*)
- Be a current undergraduate student at a post-secondary institution at the time of application (*Grade 12 students beginning post-secondary school in Fall 2027 are not eligible*)
- Be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident with a valid Social Insurance Number (SIN) issued from Service Canada and eligible to work in Canada. (*I.e., your SIN does not start with a 9*)
- Be available to live in Vancouver and work 30 hours a week for 9-weeks from May 31, 2027 to July 30, 2027
- Show an interest in pursuing a career related to child health research

Applicants may apply to EITHER the [BCCHR Summer Studentship](#) OR the Rising Scholars Undergraduate Summer Studentship. Those who apply for the Rising Scholars Undergraduate Summer Studentship may not also submit an application for the [BCCHR Summer Studentship](#).

*Students **are not** eligible for funding if they have previously received and accepted a BC Children's Hospital Summer Studentship either as an Undergraduate Student or a Medical Student.

*Supervisors **may not** receive funding for a BCCHR Summer Studentship and a BCCHR Rising Scholars Summer Studentship during the same fiscal year.

Funding: Four (4) Rising Scholars Undergraduate Summer Studentships will be available from Monday, May 31, 2027 to Friday, July 30, 2027. Award funding includes:

- **Student Stipend** – \$6,000 to be paid via UBC payroll every 2-weeks for 9-weeks of work at 30 hours/week
- **Travel Allowance** – Funding to travel from your current BC or Yukon residence to Vancouver (i.e., plane ticket, gas allowance, ferry, etc.) The travel allowance is \$1,200 however, this will be assessed on a case-by-case basis
- **Housing** – 9-weeks of summer residency at UBC in a private room in shared housing
Please note, BCCHR is approximately a 45–60 minute bus ride from residency at UBC, daily commuting by public transit or other means will be required (which will be covered by the student stipend)

Assessment & Selection Process: All eligible applications will be reviewed by a committee of BCCHR community members. Committee members represent diverse backgrounds, with intentional representation from equity-denied and under-represented groups. Committee members have lived experience, cultural awareness, and a shared dedication to creating more accessible and inclusive opportunities in academia for the next generation of health scientists.

Funding will be awarded to four (4) top-ranking applicants. *Priority will be given to students from rural or remote BC communities and to those who self-identify as First Nations, Inuit, or Métis.*

Criteria for Evaluation: Eligible applications will be evaluated based on the below criteria.

- **Interest in Child Health Research:** Demonstrated passion and motivation to contribute meaningfully to child health
- **Training Benefits:** Potential to gain new research skills and knowledge; clear connection to future academic and career goals
- **Lived Experience:** Thoughtful reflection on personal background, lived experiences, and any barriers faced accessing summer research placements.

Academic merit is not considered as part of the evaluation process.

Submitting Your Application: Applications must be submitted online at <https://bcchr.slideroom.com>. A complete application includes:

Applicant Information	Name, pronouns (optional), email, address of BC or Yukon residence, university, academic program, and year of study.
Personal Statement <i>Up to 5000 Characters</i>	Describe the following, (1) which equity-denied group you self-identify with, (2) what experiences have shaped who you are today and how these have influenced your academic goals (this can include personal, academic, community, or lived experiences that reflect your values, interests, or commitment to learning), and (3) barriers you face accessing the training and resources necessary to achieve your educational goals.
Research Interests <i>Up to 2500 Characters</i>	Describe what interests you most about working in child health research?
Training Expectations <i>Up to 2500 Characters</i>	How do you think this studentship opportunity will contribute to your long-term personal, academic and/or career goals?
Accommodations	Are there any supports and/or accommodations that would help you succeed during the studentship?
Preferred Project Placement	Refer to Appendix #1 for details on research project placements. <i>Please note that placement on a specific project is not guaranteed.</i>
Attachments	Resume or CCV (any format)
	Reference Letter #1: A letter of reference from an individual in an academic or educational setting who can speak to your character, motivation, and potential to benefit from this research opportunity. This may include—but isn’t limited to—a professor, program advisor, teaching assistant, high school teacher, coach, or team leader. <i>The reference should be no longer than one page. The applicant may email this to resinfo@bcchr.ca or upload it as part of their application.</i>
	Reference Letter #2: A letter of reference from someone who can provide an assessment of your character, motivation, and potential to benefit from this research opportunity. If you do not identify as First Nations, Inuit, or Métis , your reference must not be someone with whom you have a personal relationship (e.g., a family member, close friend, partner, etc.). IF you identify as First Nations, Inuit, or Métis , your reference may come from someone in your community who can provide your character reference regardless of their relationship to you (e.g., a family member, Elder, etc.). <i>The reference should be no longer than one page. The applicant may email this to resinfo@bcchr.ca or upload it as part of their application.</i>

Application Deadline: Monday, November 30, 2026 before 11:59pm. Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted.

All applicants will be contacted by Friday, February 19, 2027.

For any additional questions or concerns contact resinfo@bcchr.ca.

Please note, under the BC Ministry of Justice's [Criminal Record Review Act \(CRRRA\)](#), all individuals affiliated with BC Children's Hospital must complete a criminal record check for relevant or specified offences prior to being hired. Applicants identified as posing a danger to children in any capacity through this check will be ineligible for a Rising Scholars Undergraduate Summer Studentship.

Additional Details:

Stipend: BCCHR Rising Scholars Undergraduate Summer Studentship funding is fixed and covers 30 hours per week for the 9-week funded period.

The student and supervisor are responsible for determining how the required 30 hours per week are scheduled throughout the 9-week funded period, for a total of 270 hours. The weekly hours may be distributed as mutually agreed upon by the student and supervisor (e.g., 6 hours per day, 5 days per week).

The research project must be completed within the 9-week funded period, and the student must complete the full 270 hours during this period. Additional hours may not be worked and the placement may not be extended beyond the funded period.

External Awards & Studentships

Award recipients are NOT eligible to hold both a BC Children's Hospital Rising Scholars Summer Studentship Award and a (non-BC Children's Hospital) external funding award **during the same funding period**.

Receiving top-up funding from a BCCHR Investigator-held grant or award is not considered an external funding award. No restrictions are placed on this.

Applicants may accept an additional funding award if the external funding award conditions allow for it, and the funding periods are not concurrent (i.e., BC Children's Hospital Rising Scholars Undergraduate Summer Studentship Award is held for 9-weeks between May 31 and July 30, external funding award is held between August 2 to August 27).

Research Project Placements:

Rising Scholars Undergraduate Summer Studentship recipients will be placed on a pre-determined research project taking place during June and July. Applicants will be assigned based on research interests expressed in the application.

Please note that placement on a specific project is not guaranteed.