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NEW FOR 2027

Please note the following changes to the 2027 Summer Studentship program. We strongly encourage students and supervisors to review the entire application guidelines carefully to ensure they continue to meet the eligibility requirements.

1. Supervisor Wage Top-Up

The BCCHR Summer Studentship does not cover the student's full wages. Supervisors are responsible for providing the additional funding, a wage top-up, needed to cover the student's full wage. The wage top-up is required to ensure the student can be appointed to an appropriate staff or temporary position in accordance with university's policies.

Estimated Wage Top-Up

Funding Period	Hours	BCCHR Studentship Funding	Estimated Wage Top-Up* Cost to the BCCHR Supervisor	Estimated Student Wages Before Deductions
8 weeks	30 hrs/week	\$4,000	\$1,343.60	\$5,343.60
10 weeks	30 hrs/week	\$5,000	\$1,679.60	\$6,679.60
12 weeks	30 hrs/week	\$6,000	\$2,015.40	\$8,015.40

*The amounts above are the minimum calculated amount required for the supervisor wage top-up. These amounts are estimates and may change depending on the student's appointment. Please check with your Department's HR Team for the final amount.

2. Investigator Eligibility

To be eligible to receive a summer studentship, the supervising BCCHR Investigator:

- Must hold a faculty appointment at an institution that has an affiliation agreement with BCCHR. *As of August, 2026, the University of British Columbia (UBC) is the only institution currently affiliated with BCCHR.*
- Must be able to appoint the student through an institution that has an affiliation agreement with BCCHR. *As of August, 2026, the University of British Columbia (UBC) is the only institution currently affiliated with BCCHR.*

PROGRAM SUMMARY

Award Description	Summer Studentship Awards at BC Children's Hospital are intended to support highly qualified undergraduate and medical students interested in completing a research project in any health-related research area that has direct relevance to improving the health of children.
Deadline	Friday, January 22, 2027
Award Term	May to August 2027
Application Form	https://bcchr.slideroom.com/
Questions	resinfo@bcchr.ca

ELIGIBILITY

Student eligibility:

To be eligible for a BC Children's Hospital Summer Studentship, you must:

- Be a current undergraduate or medical student enrolled at a university.
- Be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident, or foreign national. International students are welcome to apply. However, if awarded, they must hold a valid [work/student permit](#) and obtain a [Social Insurance Number](#) from Service Canada.
- Returning in the Fall to continue your current academic program. *Undergraduate students graduating in Spring/Summer 2027 and students who have not yet started medical school are not eligible.*
- Have not have previously received and accepted a BC Children's Hospital Summer Studentship or Rising Scholars Summer Studentship. *Students who declined a previous award may re-apply and be considered for funding, provided they meet all other eligibility requirements. While there is no limit to the number of applications submitted, a student may only receive either a BC Children's Hospital Summer Studentship once (either as an Undergraduate Student or a Medical Student) or BCCHR Rising Scholars Summer Studentship once.*
- Be the only student applying with the proposed BCCHR Investigator. A BCCHR Investigator may be listed as the supervisor on only one application for the 2027 BC Children's Hospital Summer Studentship, as either a supervisor for a Summer Student or a Rising Scholar.
- Have a schedule that allows for active participation in the [Summer Student Research Program, Wednesday, June 2, 2027 to Thursday, July 22, 2027](#). *Award recipients must complete a minimum of 8 hours of education program activities by 11:59 pm on Friday, July 23, 2027. At least 4 hours must be completed by Wednesday, June 30, 2027. Studentships may be withdrawn if the recipient does not fulfill this participation requirement.*

Supervisor eligibility:

To be eligible to supervise a 2027 BC Children's Hospital Summer Studentship, you must:

- Be a BCCHR Investigator (PI) (see [definition](#)) at BC Children's Hospital whose area of investigation has [direct relevance to improving the health of children](#).
- Holds a faculty appointment at an institution that has an affiliation agreement with BCCHR and can process the studentship through the same institution. *As of August, 2026, the University of British Columbia (UBC) is the only institution currently affiliated with BCCHR.*
- Have sufficient funding to provide a wage top-up for the student's appointment | [Details](#)
- Can provide the required space, supplies, and resources needed for the student to complete the proposed project. **No research allowance is provided with this award.**
- Be listed as a supervisor on only one summer studentship application for 2027.
- Not be receiving funding for a Rising Scholars Summer Studentships. Supervisors **may not** receive funding for a BCCHR Summer Studentship and a Rising Scholars Summer Studentship during the same fiscal year.
- Have a project timeline that allows the student to participate in the [Summer Student Research Program, Wednesday, June 2, 2027 to Thursday, July 22, 2027](#). Award recipients must complete a minimum of 8 hours of education program activities by 11:59 pm on Friday, July 23, 2027. At least 4 hours must be completed by Wednesday, June 30, 2027. Studentships may be withdrawn if the recipient does not fulfill this participation requirement.

BCCHR Affiliate and Emeritus/Emerita Investigators are not eligible for a summer studentship.

Project eligibility:

Applications will be accepted for projects that meet the following requirements:

- Have [direct relevance to improving the health of children](#).
- Are conducted in person and involve active engagement in research on the BC Children's Hospital and BC Women's Hospital + Health Centre campus; or
- Can be completed remotely within Canada. *Students must be based in Canada and have a valid Social Insurance Number (SIN) issued by Service Canada. Due to government funding requirements, students must live and work within Canada for the duration of the studentship.*

WAGE TOP-UPS

BC Children's Hospital Summer Studentship Awards are funded by BC Children's Hospital Foundation.

The BCCHR Summer Studentship does not cover the student's full wages. Supervisors are responsible for providing the additional funding, a wage top-up, needed to cover the student's full wage. The wage top-up is required to ensure the student can be appointed to an appropriate staff or temporary position in accordance with university's policies.

The supervisor wage top-up must come from Investigator-held operating funds, and the full amount required must be available before the student's start date. **If the supervisor cannot provide the required wage top-up, the BCCHR studentship funding will be withdrawn.**

Estimated Wage Top-Up -

Funding Period	Hours	BCCHR Studentship Funding	Estimated Wage Top-Up* Cost to the BCCHR Supervisor	Estimated Student Wages Before Deductions
8 weeks	30 hrs/week	\$4,000	\$1,343.60	\$5,343.60
10 weeks	30 hrs/week	\$5,000	\$1,679.60	\$6,679.60
12 weeks	30 hrs/week	\$6,000	\$2,015.40	\$8,015.40

** The amounts above are the minimum calculated wage top-up amounts for the supervisor. These are estimates and may change depending on the student's appointment. Please check with your Department's HR Team for the final amount.*

Notes:

- **Appointments:** The Summer Studentship funding is fixed and covers 30 hours per week for the funded period of 8, 10, or 12 weeks. The BCCHR Studentship funding and supervisor wage top-up must together ensure that the student appointed a staff or temporary position at the supervisor's home institution.
- **Required Hours:** Students are expected to work 30 hours per week for the full funded period. Students must be paid for 30 hours per week. The required hours cannot be reduced to avoid or decrease the supervisor wage top-up. **If the supervisor cannot provide the required wage top-up, the BCCHR studentship funding will be withdrawn.**
- **Scheduling:** The student and supervisor are responsible for determining how the required 30 hours per week will be scheduled throughout the funded period (8, 10, or 12 weeks). The weekly hours may be arranged by mutual agreement between the student and supervisor. For example, students may work 6 hours per day, 5 days per week.
- **Extenuating Circumstances:** If the student is unable to work 30 hours per weeks consecutively for the number of weeks funded due to extenuating circumstances, the appointment end date may be extended, provided the student completes the equivalent of 30 hours per week for the total number of funded weeks and meets the required participation in the Summer Student Research Program. (i.e., 8 weeks = 240 hours; 10 weeks = 300 hours; 12 weeks = 360 hours)

- **Additional Hours, Extended Placements, or Higher Wages:** In addition to the total student wages, provided by the BCCHR Studentship and supervisor top-up for 30 hours per week during the funded period, supervisors may choose to:
 - Have the student work (paid work) additional hours per week;
 - Extend the student's placement beyond the funding period; or
 - Pay the student a higher rate than B.C. minimum wage for hours worked.

BCCHR will not provide additional funding for these options. The supervisor is responsible for all additional wages and must ensure that the student is appointed to an appropriate staff or temporary position in accordance with university's policies.

- **Student Appointments:** Students must be hired through the supervisor's university department. It is the responsibility of the supervisor and their university department to process the student's appointment. For non-UBC students, the UBC HR Associate will be able to advise regarding the process for hiring non-UBC students (i.e. other university exceptions). Once awarded, a new UBC Worktag will be activated under the supervisor (i.e., BCCHR Principal Investigator).
- **Payroll:** Award recipients are paid through **university payroll**. Please allow **4–6 weeks** for payroll processing AFTER students are notified of their award and payroll documents are submitted by the supervisors/university department. *Students who begin their placement in early May may experience a delay in receiving their first payment.*
- **Vacation and Sick days:** Vacation and sick-day entitlements are determined by the student's appointment and applicable university policies. Supervisors and students should confirm the applicable provisions with their Department's HR Team.

EXTERNAL FUNDING

External Awards & Studentships

Award recipients are NOT eligible to hold both a BC Children's Hospital 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 Summer Studentship Award is held for 8 weeks between May 17 and July 9, external funding award is held between July 12 to August 30).

Matched Funds

An applicant who receives external funding requiring matched funds may use a Summer Studentship Award as the match.

Earnings from Other Sources

A BC Children's Hospital Summer Studentship is provided as a fixed award amount. Students may receive additional income from other sources during the award period; however, they may not hold an external award or another studentship concurrently with the BC Children's Hospital Summer Studentship.

This includes, but isn't limited to, any second job outside research, a work-learn position, co-op placement, etc. **as long as it doesn't interfere with the time required for the research project** outlined in the Summer Studentship application. The actual number of working hours/days is to be determined by the BCCHR Investigator supervising the student project.

SUMMER STUDENT RESEARCH PROGRAM

In addition to their research placement, summer studentship recipients are required to complete a minimum of 8 hours of Summer Student Research Program by 11:59 pm on Friday, July 23, 2027 | [Draft schedule](#)

What does this look like?

- Eligible activities include all workshops, seminars, networking events, and other sessions listed on the program calendar.
- Each eligible activity is worth 1 hour towards the 8-hour attendance requirement.
- Program hours may be earned by attending eligible activities in-person, virtually, or by viewing session recordings at a later date (if available). Students must watch at least 80% of the recorded session in order to have it count.
- Attendance is recorded for all eligible program activities. Students can monitor their completed hours online to ensure they are on track to meet the program requirements.

Program Milestone: To encourage consistent engagement, students are expected to complete at least 4 of the required 8 hours by June 30, 2027.

Only students who have completed at least 8 hours of program activities by 11:59 pm on Friday, July 23, 2027 will be eligible to:

- Present their research at Poster Day.
- Receive a program certificate.

Students who do not receive a BC Children's Hospital Summer Studentship may submit a separate application to participate in the [Summer Student Research Program](#). Only award recipients are automatically enrolled in this program.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Application Questions

APPLICANT INFORMATION

- Name & Email
- Academic Status
- University, Academic Program, Year of Study & Expected Graduation Date
- Project Title
- Supervisor: Name & Email

STUDENTSHIP LOGISTICS

- Project Location: Remote/In-Person
- Stipend (8, 10 or 12 Weeks) & Start Date
- Automatic Summer Program Enrollment (Yes/No)

RESEARCH PROJECT

Question	Character Limit
Project Relevance: Describe how the proposed research has direct relevance to improving the health of children. <i>Applications that do not adequately demonstrate the project relevance to improving the health of children will be ineligible for funding.</i>	1,500
List all the agencies/organizations to which you have received an award or recognition.	N/A
Research Project: Provide a scientific summary suitable for a researcher outside your field. The summary should include: • Background information and rationale • Research question or hypothesis • Specific aim(s) of the project and relevant methodology • Feasibility (e.g. timeline, available resources, expertise) • Significance of the work, including potential contributions to the field or broader impact • How Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) considerations have been integrated into the project design or implementation. This includes awareness and understanding of EDI principles, actions taken to advance EDI and reflections/growth	6,000
Bibliography: Provide the bibliographic details for all citations listed in your research project description.	3,000
Training Expectations: Describe the student's specific role(s) in the research project including the specific tasks to be performed and instruction/mentorship to be provided.	3,000

Application Package

A complete application package consists of the following:

1. **Application Form:** Submitted online at <https://bcchr.slideroom.com/>

2. **Academic Transcript:**

Undergraduate Students: 1 st Year	• High school transcript • Transcripts for all post-secondary studies
Undergraduate Students: All Other Years	• Transcripts for all post-secondary studies
Medical Students	• Transcripts from all post-secondary studies. <i>This includes your current transcript for medical school regardless of available course grades. This is used as official confirmation of current academic standing.</i>

UBC's Research Project Information Form (RPIF) is **not required** when submitting a BC Children's Hospital Summer Studentship application. **If funded, the supervisor will be required to submit an RPIF in order to set up the award.**

Your Academic Transcript

Transcripts can be either official or unofficial versions. *For transcripts from institutions outside Canada, a certified English translation and a clear explanation of the grading system must also be included.*

- Official transcripts include:
 - Digital copies issued by the university. These can be issued directly to you and included in the application package or issued to the BC Children's Hospital Research Services Team at resinfo@bcchr.ca.
 - Paper copies issued to you by the university. These may be opened, scanned (front and back), and uploaded as a PDF with your application. If the scanned copy contains "unauthorized" or "unofficial" watermarks, it will still be accepted as long as the content is clear and legible.
- Unofficial transcripts include: Downloads or screenshots from your online student account or portal. Ensure the document is clear and legible, and includes your complete academic history, as reviewers will assess your application based on the information provided.

If marks are not complete, please submit the most up-to-date marks at the time of the application deadline.

SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION

Applications must be submitted using the online program SlideRoom.

1. Prepare your attachments and answers to your application questions
2. Go to <https://bcchr.slideroom.com/>
3. Select the applicable award from the list of available programs
4. Click 'Apply Now' and create an account or login to begin the application. *Your changes can be saved at any point in the application process. You can return and edit the application anytime up until the application deadline date.*
5. Follow the online prompts to answer the questions and submit your attachments.
6. Click 'Submit' to send the final application to the Research Services Team before 11:59pm on the deadline date: **Friday, January 22, 2027.**

The application can be submitted by the BCCHR Investigator, Research Team or the applicant.

For questions, contact resinfo@bcchr.ca or refer to the following: [Starting Your SlideRoom Application](#) | [Completing Your SlideRoom Application](#).

DEADLINES & RESULTS

Deadline

The closing date for submitting a COMPLETE application package online (<https://bcchr.slideroom.com>) is **Friday, January 22, 2027.**

Competition Results

Results of the Summer Studentship Awards will be sent to the applicant and primary supervisor by **Spring**.

REVIEW PROCESS

All eligible applications are individually reviewed by members of the BCCHR research community. This multi-disciplinary group includes representation from each of the Research Themes that cover a broad range of areas in basic and clinical research. Applicants are assigned a final rank and funding is allocated to top-ranked applicants.

Applications will be evaluated based on the academic merit of the student, the scientific merit of the research project, and the potential benefit the student will obtain from the experience. For more information see [Appendix #1 – Scoring Criteria](#).

BC Children's Hospital Summer Studentship Award funding is limited. Applicants are encouraged to apply for additional relevant summer student awards from other organizations to increase their chance of success.

BCCHR PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

A BCCHR Principal Investigator is defined as an individual who is registered as an “BCCHR Investigator” with the BCCHR Membership Program managed by Research Services. **Please note, students supervised by Affiliate Investigators, Investigator Emeritus/a or Research Community Members ARE NOT eligible for funding.** If you are uncertain about your supervisor’s membership category, please contact resinfo@bcchr.ca.

An applicant must be primarily supervised by a BCCHR Investigator who:

- Has a track record in health-oriented research related to improving the health of children.
- Has sufficient resources to support the applicant in the execution of the proposed research project.
- Recognizes BCCHR as their primary research institute on all funding applications.

It is the applicant’s responsibility to ensure that their supervisor is aware of BC Children’s Hospital’s expectations. By submitting the application, the primary supervisor confirms that:

- The applicant has, or will have, appropriate space and resources available to do their research.
- The information on the application is complete and accurate to the best of their knowledge.
- They will provide direct supervision.
- They will meet all reporting requirements of BC Children’s Hospital as relevant to the studentship.
- The applicant’s research abides by all ethical policies of the university/institution.

APPENDIX #1 – SCORING CRITERIA

Scoring Criteria

Category	Score	Description
Academic Achievement	0-5	0-1 Poor record of grades
		2-3 Average record of grade
		4-5 Outstanding record of grades
Scholarly Achievement	0-1	Record of awards and recognition
Research Project	0-3	Quality and feasibility of proposed research project in terms of scientific merit and timeline
Benefit to the Student	0-2	Opportunity to gain new skills, knowledge and understanding of the research process
Discretionary Point	0-1	Discretionary point
Total	12	<i>Applications with scores of 6 or less are ineligible for funding</i>

Application Statistics

The statistics below are meant as a guide to help with the application process. The total number of applications received, merits of applicants, and available funding varies yearly.

All applicants are encouraged to apply for external funding. Top-ranked BCCHR applicants are frequently awarded, but some accept external funding instead. This allows funding to be awarded to the next-highest-ranked student.

	2026		
	Applications	Funded Applications	
		# Funded	Scoring Range
Applications from:			
Undergraduate – 1 st Year	14	6	7 – 11 <i>1 top-ranked applicants declined BCCHR funding</i>
Undergraduate – 2 nd Year	15	6	
Undergraduate – 3 rd Year	20	12	
Undergraduate – 4 th Year*	10	6	
Medical Students	9	5	
Total	68	35	

	2025		
	Applications	Funded Applications	
		# Funded	Scoring Range
Applications from:			
Undergraduate – 1 st Year	16	6	7 – 11 <i>5 top-ranked applicants declined BCCHR funding</i>
Undergraduate – 2 nd Year	17	5	
Undergraduate – 3 rd Year	24	10	
Undergraduate – 4 th Year*	16	3	
Medical Students	21	10	
Total	94	34	

*This is applicable to 4th year students returning in the Fall to continue their current academic program. Undergraduate students graduating in Spring/Summer are ineligible to apply for the studentship.

Funded students study at a wide variety of national/internal universities. Common programs of study include but are not limited to:

Health/Life Sciences
Chemistry/Biochemistry
Microbiology
Biomedical Engineering

Science/
Integrated Sciences
Molecular Biology
Medicine/
MD Undergraduate

Bioengineering
Psychology
Kinesiology
Physics
Immunology

Food/Nutrition
Engineering
Neuroscience
Pharmacology

APPENDIX #2 – PROJECT RELEVANCE

Funding for BC Children’s Hospital Research Institute Studentships & Fellowships is provided by the *BC Children’s Hospital Foundation*. To be eligible to receive funding, the application must demonstrate the research area has **direct relevance to improving the health of children (individuals 0–18 years of age)**.

Applicants will have the opportunity to prove they meet the criteria on the application form (Page 4 – Project Relevance). **Applications that do not adequately demonstrate the project relevance to improving the health of children will NOT be assessed by the Research Awards Committee and will be INELIGIBLE for funding.** All decisions on criteria eligibility will be made by BCCHR Leadership and considered final.

The applicant must demonstrate that the proposed project meets at least one of the following criteria. The project must:

- Strive to improve treatments or find cures for a childhood disease or disorder
- Study the developmental origins of childhood health and disease
- Advance knowledge of child health and development
- Help to inform policy and practices that impacts children
- Work to develop breakthrough technologies that will improve the well-being of children
- Improve health outcomes for children
- Enable children to live a healthier life
- Include children as part of the study sample/population

Relevant project examples

Below is a list of research projects that typically meet the funding criteria. If you are unsure if your research project has direct relevance to improving the health of children, please contact resinfo@bcchr.ca for more information.

- Research projects that adequately demonstrate improving the mental health or wellbeing of children.
- Research projects that address gaps in healthcare access/clinical knowledge, injury prevention or social structures that directly impact children.
- Research projects on maternal or fetal health that adequately address how early development plays a critical role in the health of children later in life.
- Research projects on reproductive health that adequately address the origins of childhood health and disease.
- Global health research projects that work to improve children’s health world-wide with potential implications for local children.
- Research projects that adequately demonstrate how genetic, biological, social, and environmental factors are determinants of child health before birth and in childhood.

Projects that will NOT be considered

Research projects focused on

- Adult health disorders or disease (i.e., Parkinson's, Alzheimer's disease, Huntington's disease, ovarian cancer, breast cancer, etc.)
- Women's health issues (i.e., contraception, pregnancy management, abortion, endometriosis, etc.)
- Adult substance abuse problems
- Social effects of disease on families that do not adequately address the child's health outcomes

that do not adequately address

- the social effects of the disorder or disease on children 0–18 OR
- how uncovering mechanisms of the disease or a deeper understanding of the disease may lead to developing new testing/diagnose for childhood diseases or disorders in the future

- Research projects focused on environmental concerns that do not adequately address the relevant impacts on health outcomes for children.
- Research projects focused on an adult community/adult data set that do not adequately address the relevant impacts on health outcomes for children.
- Research projects focused on reproductive health that do not adequately address developmental origins or the relevant impacts on health outcomes for children.