



University of Toronto

Office of the Vice-President, Research

Call for Applications

Matching Grants for Post Doctoral Fellowships
Sponsored in part by the Ministry of Research and Innovation

Deadline: 15 April 2009

THE AWARD

In the 2006 Budget, the Province announced a new Post Doctoral Fellowship Program. The Ministry of Research and Innovation released further information on this new matching program, the purpose of which is to recruit and retain outstanding young scientists to spend two years as PDFs in Ontario research institutions and to support them through a provincial network.

A number of awards are allocated to each Ontario university. The allocation to the University of Toronto is 14 Fellowships. Each institution is responsible for selecting and appointing its PDFs through an annual competitive process that is consistent with MRI program guidelines (attached). At the UofT, the competition is an open call for applications in the following key priority sectors:

- environmental science and technologies
- health and related technologies
- digital media and information and communication technologies.

(The economic, social and cultural aspects of the above categories are eligible)

The PDF awards are two year awards valued at least \$50,000/annually, of which MRI will provide \$25,000. Eligible expenses are limited to salary, benefits and a research allowance of up to \$5,000/year. Matching funding can come from any source (excluding other provincial funding), including research grants. Matching funds must be secured at the time of the PDF application.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Individuals interested in applying for one of these Fellowships should submit the following documentation by no later than April 15th to the Institutional Initiatives Office, McMurrich Building, 3rd Floor, 12 Queen's Park Crescent West, attention Elaine Footman:

1. a curriculum vitae of the post doctoral fellow;
2. an Ontario PDF Application Form (attached), duly completed and signed;
3. a lay summary of no more than 500 words describing the research activity to be undertaken;
4. a letter from the proposed faculty supervisor in support of the candidate, detailing the source and secured status of the required matching funding.

All applications received by the deadline will be adjudicated by a committee established by the Vice-President, Research in accordance with the program guidelines. This is a highly competitive program with over 100 applications received last year for 15 awards. Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.

NOTIFICATION OF RESULTS

Applicants and their supervisors will be notified of the outcome of the competition in early June. Fellowships must begin on or before 31 December 2009.

QUESTIONS?

Please contact Elaine Footman (elaine.footman@utoronto.ca ; 946-0447) if you have any questions.

ONTARIO POST DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM (2009)

Application Form

Please submit this application form, together with your Curriculum Vitae, a support letter from the proposed faculty supervisor detailing the source and secured status of the required matching funding, and a lay summary of the proposed research project (no more than 500 words) to Elaine Footman in the Institutional Initiatives Office, McMurrich Building, 3rd floor, 12 Queen's Park Crescent West, no later than *April 15th, 2009*. Please read the program guidelines (schedule A, attached) carefully before proceeding with an application.

Post Doctoral Fellow Information

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____
E-mail Address: _____ Tel: _____
Department: _____ Faculty: _____
Address: _____

Supervisor Information

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____
E-mail Address: _____ Tel: _____
Department: _____ Faculty: _____
Address: _____

Start Date and Matching Funding

Proposed Start Date of the Fellowship: _____
(Must be before December 31st, 2009)

Amount of Matching Funding: _____ * Source: _____

- The first \$25,000, at least, must be secured/on hand at the time of this PDF Fellowship application.

Key Priority Area: _____

Signatures

This application is submitted in compliance with the Sponsor's conditions and published University policies and procedures. The research shall be performed and administered in accordance with the Sponsor's terms and conditions and the University's policies and procedures. All persons engaged on the project shall be fully informed of, and agree to be bound by, the award conditions.

Post Doctoral Fellow's Signature Date

Supervisor's Signature Date

The following signatures confirm that: a) the information contained in the application is accurate; b) that the department/centre/institute is willing to provide the necessary administrative and other support (including financial support and space as indicated in the application) should the application be successful.

Departmental Chair's Signature Date

Signature of Dean/Vice Dean Research Date

** Where applicable, please obtain hospital representative's signature:

Signature of Hospital Representative (Vice-President, Research) Date

** When PDF's research and supervision will be carried out at an affiliated hospital.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION – PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Overview

The Post Doctoral Fellowship Program (the “Program”) is designed to support research excellence in targeted economic sectors aligned with Ontario’s research and innovation agenda.

The Program assists in the support of a Post Doctoral Fellow (“PDF”) selected and appointed solely and independently by the Institution, to conduct research activities at the Institution’s premises as the PDF prepares for a full-time academic and/or research career.

1. Definition of Post Doctoral Fellow

The appointment of a PDF by the Institution involves substantially full-time research or scholarship but is not part of a clinical training program. More specifically,

- a. The appointment is never permanent.
- b. The appointee is someone who has recently been awarded a Ph.D. degree in any discipline or a health professional degree.
- c. A faculty member supervises the appointee.
- d. The appointee has the freedom to publish the results of his or her research or scholarship obtained during the period of the appointment.
- e. At the discretion of the institution, the appointee may undertake teaching duties.

2. Eligibility

To be considered eligible to apply to the Institution, as of the deadline date of the year in which they apply, PDF applicants must:

- a. Have completed or received a PhD degree in any discipline or a health professional degree (or equivalent) no more than two years before the intended application deadline; or
- b. Be expected to complete their PhD degree in any discipline or a health professional degree no later than six months after taking up the PDF.
- c. The health professional degree must be in a regulated health profession which requires at least a Bachelor's degree to be eligible for licensing by that regulated health profession.
- d. Date of degree completion is the date on which all requirements of the degree have been met.
- e. If an applicant has at least six months of full-time relevant work experience in industry or government after receiving the doctorate, the eligibility period is extended to three years.
- f. If an applicant has withdrawn from the workforce and active research for maternity or paternity leave or to raise a child for at least one year after receiving a doctorate, the eligibility period is extended to six years.
- g. Applicants must hold the PDF at the Ontario university through which they made their application.
- h. Applicants must be eligible to hold a PDF in Canada.

3. Competitive Selection Process

Selection and appointment of the PDF by the Institution will be based on a competitive process managed solely and independently by the Institution as part of its suite of scholarships, fellowships and student awards. Recruitment by the Institution may include advertisement or search through any appropriate competitive mechanism.

The Ministry welcomes applications from all disciplines, however it encourages applications that align with priority areas outlined in the Ontario Innovation Agenda: bio-economy and clean technologies, advanced health

technologies, pharmaceutical research and manufacturing, and digital media and information and communication technologies.

In addition, candidates should be evaluated based on the following:

- Their past research and leadership achievements
- The excellence and impact of the proposed research program
- Their ongoing/future research and leadership potential

4. Notification of Selection and Appointment

Successful PDF applicants will be notified directly by the Institution. The Institution will provide the successful applicant with a letter of offer stating the terms and conditions of the appointment of the PDF by the Institution, including that:

- the Institution, the PDF and the PDF's mentors agree to participate in a PDF network as may be requested and organized by Ontario from time to time
- the PDF must commit a minimum of 1% of their research activities to mentor youth on-campus and in their local community

The Institution's letter of offer to the PDF must acknowledge Ontario's contribution.

Successful applications must notify the Institution in writing that they accept or decline the appointment.

In accordance with the terms and conditions of the Agreement, the Institution must advise Ontario in writing of the selection process and appointment of each named PDF.

Ontario reserves the right to publish the names and other basic research information of successful PDFs appointed by the Institution.

The PDF must start on or before December 31, 2009.

5. Reporting to Ontario

The PDF must report to the Institution on their research activities as outlined in the Grant Agreement between the Institution and the Ministry.

6. Eligible Expenses

Eligible expenditures must be directly related to the Project and not of a nature which would have been incurred by the Institution in the normal course of business. All costs must not exceed fair market value (satisfactory evidence demonstrating this may be required). Eligible expenses are the following: Salary, benefits (eg. vacation, medical, dental, etc) and research allowance to Post-Doctoral Fellows. Benefits and research allowance (up to a maximum of \$5,000 per year). The portion of the matching funding allocated for benefits will be determined by the Institution.