



Education Fund – 2019/2020 PhD/Fellowship Awards Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1. *Who is eligible for these awards?*
 - a. Trainees enrolled, full time as of Sept 1, 2019 or before, in a doctoral degree program, or postdoctoral research fellowship program, irrespective of whether the previous doctorate degree was an MD or PhD.
 - b. Trainees involved in cardiovascular research focusing on some aspect of [heart failure](#). This may be broadly interpreted and may include diverse fields of science, medicine, nursing, engineering, public health, etc.
 - c. The proposed project involves collaboration with at least 2 of 3 of the Centre's [partner organizations](#): Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids), University Health Network (UHN), University of Toronto (UofT) - typically campus-based departments.
 - d. Trainees with a supervisor who holds one of the following: a) a full time appointment at SickKids; b) a full time appointment at UHN; c) a primary (typically campus-based) appointment at UofT; or d) a full time appointment at a UofT affiliated academic health sciences centre (TAHSN), hospital or research centre.
2. *Is a full-time appointment at a TAHSN hospital considered a primary UofT appointment?* No
3. *How is collaboration defined?*

A key objective of the Ted Rogers Centre is for its three founding partners to collaborate with each other on their research projects, to leverage each partner's knowledge and expertise. Projects will be assessed as to the strength of collaboration among the Centre's partners involved in the project. As noted projects are to involve collaboration between at least 2 of 3 partner institutions (SickKids, UHN, UofT). UofT in this instance refers to investigators with a primary (typically campus-based) appointment at UofT.

If a trainee's Supervisor holds a full-time appointment at a UofT affiliated centre, the project would require collaborators from 2 or more TRCHR partners (ie SickKids, UHN or UofT – typically campus based departments) to meet the collaboration objective as noted in 1c above.
4. *What about trainees with post MD research training, ie not post PhD, but post MD – are they eligible?*

Yes, these trainees are eligible, see 1a above.

5. *I received an Education Fund award in a prior cycle, I applied for a renewal the next year but was not successful. Am I eligible to apply?*
Yes, you are eligible to apply again for a second term, using the Term 2/Renewal application form.
6. *Do I need to include my supervisor's CV?*
Yes, please include your supervisor's CIHR Common academic CV (last 5 years only) with your application.
7. *Are reference letters required?*
No
8. *Who are academic transcripts to be sent to?*
Please submit your academic transcripts with your application. These do not need to be sent directly by the granting institution.
9. *I received CIHR funding of \$17,500 for the school year (2019-2020), would I be eligible?*
Depending on the terms and amounts of your award(s), you may be eligible for a supplement or top up from the Centre.
10. *I received another award of \$50,000/year, am I eligible for this award?*
No. The Centre would welcome your participation in its activities and learning opportunities, however, the size of your current award would preclude you from receiving a top up.
11. *My supervisor has a full time / primary appointment with one of the Centre's partner institutes, and my project is cardiac/heart failure focused, but my supervisor's research is not cardiac/heart failure focused, am I eligible?*
Yes. Your supervisor does not need to be a cardiac researcher. As long as your work is aligned with the Centre's [Mission and Objectives](#) and conforms with 1b and 1c above, your project is eligible.
12. *I am a physician at a Toronto teaching hospital, currently doing my PhD outside of Canada, am I eligible?*
Yes, however, these applications will be reviewed on a case by case basis. Please be aware that the Centre has a cardiovascular focus, specifically related to heart failure. Also the Centre involves three partner organizations (see 1c above). Research studies are to involve collaboration among these organizations.
13. *How many trainees per supervisor?*
Up to one trainee per supervisor per level (eg a supervisor may have one trainee at the PhD level and up to 1 trainee at the PDF level) across all applicants (ie new applicants and those being renewed). A supervisor cannot have more than 1 trainee per level (eg a supervisor can have up to 1 trainee with a PhD award and up to 1 trainee with a PDF award). A supervisor may be named as a collaborator on more than one application, however, they can only serve as supervisor for up to 1 PhD trainee and up to 1 PDF trainee.

14. *Am I eligible for funding for the 5th year of my PhD?*

Yes

15. *Are there any opportunities for new/early career investigators, either salary awards or research grants?*

The Education Fund provides trainee awards.

16. *How many awards are being provided per level?*

The number of awards will depend on the quality of the applications received at each level.

In the 2018/2019 competition, 5 Doctoral awards and 8 Postdoctoral Fellowship awards were provided. Please note that many of these trainees are eligible to apply for a second year of funding as part of this year's competition.