

Education Fund 2024

Application Deadline – Monday, April 1st, 2024

Background

The Ted Rogers Centre for Heart Research (TRCHR) is focused on transforming prevention and management of heart disease – in particular, heart failure. The TRCHR's mission includes children and adults, with an overarching goal of addressing heart failure across the entire lifespan. It blends basic, translational, and clinical research with a focus on supporting collaborative research projects with strong potential for impact. The Education Fund enables career development of the next generation of cardiovascular investigators.

Award

- Awards are provided at two levels and are renewable once:
 - **Doctoral (PhD) Award - \$20,000**
 - **Post-doctoral Researcher (PDR) Award - \$40,000**
- The funding period runs September 1, 2024 - August 31, 2025
- The number of awards funded is dependent on the quality of applications received during the cycle.
- Upon completion of the funding period, trainees are required to:
 - Submit an end of term report
 - Write a letter of thanks describing their research for the Rogers family
 - Complete an intake form to meet with the TRCHR's Translation & Commercialization Committee
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Eligibility

- The proposed project must:
 - Focus on an aspect of heart failure. This may be broadly interpreted and include fields of science, medicine, nursing, engineering, data science, public health, etc.
 - Involve collaboration among at least two of the TRCHR's three partner organizations (SickKids, University Health Network, University of Toronto)
 - Include a plan for/focus on translation or commercialization of the associated research
- Trainees must:
 - Be full-time doctoral or post-doctoral researchers
 - Reside in Canada at the time of receiving the award
 - Be supervised by a full-time faculty member or scientist of a partner institute: SickKids, UHN, U of T (including any other U of T-affiliated teaching hospitals). *Trainees with co-supervisors from different partner institutions and/or disciplines may be scored more favourably for the collaboration weighting as it demonstrates a greater degree of collaboration.*
 - **For PDR applicants only:** Applicants with a PhD are to be within 5 years of PhD completion. Exceptions to this may be possible for postdoctoral fellows with clinical training extending beyond 5 years post-MD.

- The Supervisor/PI may:
 - Have up to one trainee funded by this program *per level* (i.e. one PhD and one PDR) across new and renewed applicants
 - Be named as a collaborator on more than one application

Application Outline & Evaluation

SECTION	REQUIREMENTS	WEIGHTING
Applicants' Excellence	Applicant's current Curriculum Vitae & publication list	25%
Background and Rationale	Describe why this project is significant and innovative. (<200 words)	20%
Objectives and Research Plan	Describe the project deliverables and how they will be achieved with consideration to scientific rigour and feasibility. Touch on the outcomes you expect as a result of this project. (<800 words)	
Focus on Heart Failure & Organizational Alignment	Describe how this project addresses aspects of heart failure and how it aligns with the Centre's mission and objectives more broadly. (<200 words)	15%
Collaboration	Describe how your project benefits from collaboration between partners of the Ted Rogers Centre for Heart Research. (<200 words)	15%
Translation and/or Commercialization	Describe your plans/activities for translation/commercialization of the research findings (e.g., policy or systems change, clinical practice, IP). (<200 words)	15%
Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Patient Engagement Considerations	Describe how you will address some, if not all, of the following considerations within your proposal: 1) Sex and gender-based analysis and reporting; 2) Patient and community engagement; and/or 3) Inclusion, diversity, accessibility, and health equity. (<200 words)	5%
Supervisor's Excellence	Supervisor's CIHR Common academic CV (<u>last five years only</u>)	5%
Project Importance for Career Goals	Describe how your project is important in furthering your career goals. (<200 words)	n/a
Letters of Support – if applicable	Letters of support from co-supervisor(s) and collaborators providing substantive resources (i.e. patient records, technological support, animal models, etc.)	n/a

Award Renewal Process

- **PhD renewal applicants must:**
 - Complete an abbreviated application that will be assessed separately from new applications. Applicants will be assessed on the progress demonstrated during their first year of funding and their research goals for the following year.
 - Apply for *at least one* other peer-reviewed funding in the same cycle (e.g. OGS, CGS, other peer-reviewed institutional funding etc).
- **PDR renewal applicants must:**
 - Complete a full application with an additional question on progress demonstrated during their first year of funding. This will be scored alongside new applications.
- Grant renewals are not guaranteed.

Top-up Process for Award Recipients

- Applicants who have received multiple awards (e.g. scholarships, grants, etc.) are eligible for top-up funding.
- The top-up is dependent on the funding amount of the other awards.
- PhD awardees will be topped up to reach a total award amount of \$20,000, with a **minimum** top-up of \$5,000.
- PDR awardees will be topped up to reach a total award amount of \$40,000, with a **minimum** top-up of \$10,000.

Application Submission

The online application form can be accessed at <https://tedrogersresearch.grantplatform.com/>.

Submit your completed PhD/PDR application & associated documents by ***April 1st, 2024 at 5:00 pm EST***. Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted. A panel of Ted Rogers Centre for Heart Research investigators will review and adjudicate all applications.

Please direct any questions about the application to Purva Mehta (Coordinator, Planning & Operations) at purva.mehta@uhnresearch.ca.