

CIHR Funding Opportunity

Description

Knowledge Translation is a dynamic and iterative process that includes the synthesis, dissemination, exchange and ethically-sound application of knowledge to improve the health of Canadians, provide more effective health services and products and strengthen the healthcare system. Commercialization and innovation refer to the component of knowledge translation that is focused on bringing new products, tools, or services to a state of use in the private, not-for-profit, or public sectors. It can extend beyond bringing IP to the marketplace for profit (e.g. cost savings in the health system, humanitarian licensing). CIHR is committed to facilitating the commercialization of health research in Canada in support of its overall mandate to excel, according to internationally accepted standards of scientific excellence, in the creation of new knowledge and its translation into improved health for Canadians, more effective health services and products and a strengthened Canadian health care system.

CIHR's Science to Business (S2B) program is designed to encourage individuals with PhDs in a health related field to pursue an MBA. It is anticipated that successful applicants to the program will go on to apply their management and scientific expertise by pursuing careers in fields that support commercialization and innovation in Canada such as management, regulatory affairs, finance, research, technology transfer, and public policy. The goal of this program is to develop a cadre of professionals knowledgeable in health research and management, and to foster an entrepreneurial culture within and around the research community.

CIHR's S2B award is administered separately from MBA admissions processes at business schools and applying for or receiving the S2B scholarship will not necessarily facilitate acceptance into an MBA program.

Funds Available

CIHR's contribution to the amount available for this initiative is subject to availability of funds voted annually to CIHR by parliamentary appropriations. Should CIHR funding levels be decreased by Parliament, CIHR reserves the right to defer or suspend payments to grants received as a result of this funding opportunity.

- The total amount available for this initiative is \$500,000.
- The maximum amount awarded for a single award is \$30,000 per annum for up to 2 years:
- Stipend:
 - \$30,000 per annum pro-rated monthly while registered in full-time classes;
 - \$15,000 per annum pro-rated monthly while registered in part-time classes.
- This award is non-renewable

Objectives

The specific objectives of this funding opportunity are to:

- Encourage and enable individuals who have obtained a recent health-related PhD to pursue an MBA;
- Develop a cadre of management-trained scientists;
- Train scientists to recognize and manage health research innovations;
- Build Canadian capacity in careers that support commercialization;
- Foster an entrepreneurial culture within and around the health research community in Canada;
- Promote economic development through health research in Canada;
- Support the application of health research results to improve the health of Canadians.

Eligibility

In order for your application to be accepted, the Nominated Principal Applicant must:

- Be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident;
- Be residing in Canada for the majority of the duration of their MBA;
- Have obtained a PhD in a health-related field within 7 years of the application deadline. Applicants who are expecting to receive a PhD after the application deadline may apply however the award will be contingent upon receipt of a confirmation of completion of all requirements of the PhD program. To be considered eligible, the applicant must provide a justification that the PhD topic of research was relevant to one or more of the CIHR areas.

Global Health Research and International Collaborations

As outlined in the CIHR Grants and Awards Guide Global Health Research Section and International Collaborations Section, applicants who are eligible for CIHR funding may apply to CIHR's funding opportunities for funds to support research to be carried out in, or in direct collaboration with researchers and/or decision-makers based in, other countries. CIHR contributes to, and supports international research projects and international collaborations to address a range of research areas, including but not limited to established priorities in global health research and contributes to the development of health-research capacity both internationally and at home.

Conditions of Funding

Successful applicants funded through this funding opportunity and any other persons working on the project must comply fully with the "policies and guidelines in the conduct of research". Policies and guidelines cover areas such as Applicant Responsibilities, Official languages policy, Access to Information and Privacy Acts, and Acknowledgement of CIHR's Support. Successful applicants will be informed of any special financial requirements prior to the release of funds or when they receive CIHR's Authorization for Funding (AFF) document.

In addition to CIHR standard guidelines and requirements, awardees the following requirements apply:

1. Students are required to be enrolled in an MBA program in Canada at a CIHR Eligible Institution. Executive MBA programs are not eligible for this award.
2. Students are required to accept the award within 2 months of the date of offer, and may commence on the first day of any month between August 1 following the date of offer and July 1 of the following year.
3. For applicants whose PhD was in progress at the time of submitting an application, this award will be contingent upon receipt of official notice from the Registrar's Office of the university where you completed your PhD, that you have completed all requirements for the degree.
4. Candidates who did not include an institutional signature in their S2B application because they were not accepted into a program at the time of submission, will be required to provide an institutional signature as a CIHR condition for payment on the offer of award.
5. Information applicants provide regarding program length, enrolment status (part- or full-time), and interim breaks (if applicable) will be used for budgeting purposes at the time of decision and it is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that this information is accurate. If amendments are required later based on information provided by the school, the funding amount may be reduced but not increased. S2B funding will not extend beyond 2 years.
6. Note that funding is based in part on the alignment of the chosen program to your career objectives and the objectives of the S2B program. Should you wish to change to a different eligible program after being awarded an S2B scholarship, you must contact CIHR to request the change. CIHR will consider budget implications as well as fit with the stated objectives when considering approval of such requests.

*CIHR does not provide funds directly to individuals but to the institution/organization with which the Nominated Principal Applicant is affiliated. If an applicant is targeting a Canadian MBA program that is not currently on the list of CIHR Eligible Institutions, the applicant is encouraged to approach the responsible official from that institution and suggest they contact the CIHR Finance Department for information on eligibility.

Evaluation Criteria

The following general criteria for evaluating training award applications will be used:

- Achievements and Activities of the Candidate
- Characteristics and Abilities of the Candidate

To support the strategic objectives of this funding opportunity, the following factors will be considered in addition to the standard set of evaluation criteria:

- Demonstrated entrepreneurial experience
- Demonstrated potential for advancing S2B objectives based on the alignment of the applicant's profile, the targeted MBA program and their career objectives
- Demonstrated PhD area of focus that would have qualified as eligible for CIHR funding

Contact Information

For questions on CIHR funding guidelines, how to apply, and the peer review process contact:

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