

Results of the 2022 Graduate Studentship Competition

The [WCHRI Graduate Studentship Program](#) offers competitively funded trainee support to students engaged in a full-time, thesis-based graduate level program of study at the University of Alberta.

The award is valued at up to \$18,000 per year and may be held for up to two years. Incentive awards are offered to those who have been successful in obtaining both the WCHRI Graduate Studentship award and another qualifying studentship award.

A listing of the successful applicants is provided below. On behalf of WCHRI, Dr. Sandy Davidge, WCHRI executive director, and Dr. Todd Alexander, WCHRI associate director, Dr. Andrew Waskiewicz, chair, and Dr. Jane Yardley, co-chair of the Graduate Studentship Grant Advisory Committee, would like to congratulate the awardees and thank all of the applicants for the time and effort invested in their application.

WCHRI would like to acknowledge the ongoing commitment and generosity of the Stollery Children's Hospital Foundation (SCHF) and the Alberta Women's Hospital Foundation (AWHF) for their financial support of this grant program.

Listing of awardees

Applicant	Supervisor	Sponsor	Project title	WCHRI Funder
Adesunkanmi, Maryam	Ospina, Maria	Medicine & Dentistry-Obstetrics & Gynecology	Metis women's mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic in Alberta	AWHF
Anwar, Saeed	Yokota, Toshifumi	Medicine & Dentistry-Medical Genetics	Using DNA-like molecules to treat a common form of muscular dystrophy	SCHF
Arjomand Fard, Nazanin	Wine, Eytan	Medicine & Dentistry-Pediatrics	The possible role of microbes in normal gut sections in children with Ulcerative Colitis	SCHF
Bashar, Sabrin	Kozyrskyj, Anita	Medicine & Dentistry-Pediatrics	The impact of hospital length-of-stay and antibiotic exposure on infant gut microbiota composition and risk of allergic diseases	SCHF
Dorfman, Tamara	Scott, Shannon	Nursing	Improving the mental, emotional, and social outcomes for children born with an abnormal heart and their families through the sharing of information with caregivers that is easily understandable and useable	SCHF
Goodkey, Kara	Voronova, Anastassia	Medicine & Dentistry-Medical Genetics	Contribution of abnormal oligodendrocyte development to neurodevelopmental KBG syndrome	SCHF

Jin, Jonathan	Wei, Yifeng	Medicine & Dentistry-Psychiatry	Improving wellness in child sexual abuse survivors and their families	SCHF
Khan, Lamia	Osman, Mohammed	Medicine & Dentistry-Medicine	In scleroderma broken DNA causes inflammation and abnormal skin thickening through a novel mechanism	AWHF
Ma, Zhiyao	Adesida, Adetola	Medicine & Dentistry-Surgery	Sex matters in knee osteoarthritis	AWHF
MacNeil, Megan	Storey, Kate E	Public Health, School of	A comprehensive school health approach to sleep in children: Understanding priorities and translation to home	SCHF
Olukotun, Mary	Salami, Bukola	Nursing	Navigating access to healthcare and support services for Black preterm infants in Alberta	SCHF
Persad, Kaya	Lopaschuk, Gary D.	Medicine & Dentistry-Pediatrics	Cardiac ketone metabolism in newborns with congenital heart defects	SCHF
Puinean, Giulia	Tremblay, Melissa	Education-Educational Psychology	Enhancing mental health services for teen mothers	AWHF/ SCHF
Tan, Rebecca	Alexander, R Todd	Medicine & Dentistry-Pediatrics	Making an animal model of childhood low blood calcium levels to test new treatments	SCHF
Yang, Rachel	Lee, Cheng-Han	Medicine & Dentistry-Laboratory Medicine & Pathology	Finding new target and developing new therapy for ovarian cancer	AWHF
Zandi, Zahra	Bhavsar, Amit	Medicine & Dentistry-Medical Microbiology & Immunology	Investigating new mechanisms to prevent permanent hearing loss in childhood cancer patients induced by chemotherapeutic agent cisplatin	SCHF

Feedback will be provided July 8, 2022. Refer to the [program guidelines](#) for additional competition results information and awardee requirements.

Application statistics

Total eligible applications: 45

Total applications awarded: 16

Funding rate = 36%

WCHRI Program Leverage

Of the 16 WCHRI Graduate studentship awardees offered funding through this program, 4 have funding from alternative funding sources (overall program leverage of 25%). Students who are awarded alternative funding receive incentive funding from WCHRI. Leveraging allows WCHRI to fund more students that we would otherwise be unable to fund given budget constraints.

Application statistics by faculty and department (funded/applied)

Agriculture, Life & Environmental Sciences-Agricultural, Food & Nutritional Science: 0/1
Education-Educational Psychology: 1/1
Engineering-Electrical & Computer Engineering: 0/1
Engineering-Mechanical Engineering: 0/1
Medicine & Dentistry-Anesthesiology & Pain Medicine: 0/1
Medicine & Dentistry-Biochemistry: 0/2
Medicine & Dentistry-Cell Biology: 0/1
Medicine & Dentistry-Laboratory Medicine & Pathology: 1/1
Medicine & Dentistry-Medical Genetics: 2/3
Medicine & Dentistry-Medical Microbiology & Immunology: 1/2
Medicine & Dentistry-Medicine: 1/1
Medicine & Dentistry-Obstetrics & Gynecology: 1/3
Medicine & Dentistry-Pediatrics: 4/7
Medicine & Dentistry-Oncology: 0/1
Medicine & Dentistry-Physiology: 0/3
Medicine & Dentistry-Psychiatry: 1/2
Medicine & Dentistry-Surgery: 1/2
Nursing: 2/4
Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences: 0/2
Rehabilitation Medicine-Communication Sciences and Disorders: 0/2
School of Public Health: 1/3
Science-Psychology: 0/1