

FAQ: Summer Studentship Application

There are three application pathways to apply for the [Summer Student Research Program \(SSRP\)](#):

- [Summer Studentship Application](#)
- [Rising Scholars Summer Studentship Application](#)
- [Education Program Application](#)

The information below applies to the [Summer Studentship Application](#).

Question	Answer
PROGRAM QUESTIONS	
Do I need to have a supervisor before I apply?	Yes. All applicants must secure a research supervisor before submitting their application. It is the student's responsibility to reach out to and confirm a supervisor. The supervisor needs to be a BCCHR Investigator at BC Children's Hospital whose area of investigation has direct relevance to improving the health of children and families. <i>Affiliate, Emeritus or Emerita Investigators are not eligible.</i>
What research project will I be working on?	The specific research project is determined collaboratively by you and your supervisor. Some research teams may offer a pre-defined project for summer students, while others may support you in developing your own student-led project.
To what extent will I be involved in the project design?	Your level of involvement will depend on your supervisor and research team. In previous years, students reported a range of experiences: • 58% – Provided some insight when finalizing the project • 31% – Had no input in designing the project • 11% – Had primary responsibility for designing the project
What will my work hours be?	Specific work hours vary for every research team and can be discussed with your research supervisor. Funded students typically work full-time hours.
Do supervisors expect students to have previous research experience?	No. When polled, previous summer students had already completed the following items prior to joining the program: • 33% – A previous summer research project (at BCCHR or somewhere else) • 71% – A statistic course or workshop • 70% – A research project • 57% – A written research proposal • 55% – A research methods course • 52% – A written article or paper on research • 35% – A presentation at a professional science conference
Can I re-apply?	Students are not eligible to apply for a Summer Studentship again if they have previously received and accepted a BC Children's Hospital Summer Studentship. Students who declined a previous award may re-apply and be considered for funding, provided they meet all other eligibility requirements. While there is no limit to the number of applications submitted, a student may only receive a BC Children's Hospital Summer Studentship once (either as an undergraduate student or a medical student). Students who previously participated in the summer program curriculum can apply again, but may find some of the content similar or repetitive.
How much does the program cost?	Registration for the Summer Student Research Program is FREE. The program does not have any application fees or costs associated with participation.
Are there attendance requirements for the summer program?	Yes. To be eligible to receive a certificate of program completion and/or present at SSRP Poster Day, registered participants must meet a requirement of attending at least 5 sessions in June and at least 5 sessions in July.

Will the summer program activities be hosted in-person or virtually?	The majority of the activities will be hosted in-person at BCCHR. While some sessions may be available virtually and/or recorded, this format cannot always be guaranteed.
Can I do a school course and/or work another job while participating in the summer program?	It's possible, but it will be the student's responsibility to ensure their schedule allows them to work on their research project and attend the summer program activities on top of other commitments.
FUNDING QUESTIONS	
What are my chances of receiving BCCHR funding?	Refer to the application guidelines for more information on the scoring criteria and funding stats.
When will I be notified if I am receiving BCCHR funding?	Applicants are typically notified about funding decisions by spring of next year.
Can I hold two Summer Studentship awards?	Applicants are NOT able to receive funding from another institution or university for the same type of training during the funding period (ie. the time period you are receiving funding from BCCHR), with the exception of external awards that require matched funds. A student who receives external funding that requires matched funds may use the Studentship as the match. These exceptions must be approved by the Research Education team. Applicants may hold a second job as long as it does not occur during the time you are required to work on your research project.
If I am graduating in May, am I eligible to apply for the Summer Studentship?	No. Students not returning to undergraduate or medical studies in the following fall/winter semester are not eligible to apply for funding.
Should I investigate alternative funding sources?	Yes! Applicants are encouraged to apply for all other relevant summer student awards and discuss alternative funding sources with their supervisor. Interested in the MITACS Accelerate Program? This program provides a \$7,500 matched stipend for short-term undergraduate students working on a hospital campus. Eligible faculty members can submit a research proposal supporting a new partnership with a potential student. If awarded, a matched \$7,500 stipend is provided with the student receiving \$15,000 for a 4+ month project. Previous applicants have received funding from (but not limited to): ● Associated Medical Services & Canadian Society for the History of Medicine (AMS & CHSM) ● BC Cancer Research ● BioTalent Canada Award ● Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada ● Canadian Arthritis Network ● Canadian Association of Gastroenterology/Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of Canada ● Canadian Foundation for Infectious Disease ● Canadian Hemophilia Society ● Canadian Liver Foundation ● Canadian Rheumatology Association ● Canadian Society for Mucopolysaccharide & Related Diseases ● Canadian Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology ● Canadian Institute of Health Research ○ Undergraduate Student Research Awards ○ Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis Studentship ● CanStroke Recovery Trials ● Cystic Fibrosis Association of Canada ● Epilepsy Canada ● Erasmus+ ● Eye Foundation of Canada ● Fullbright Canada Mitacs Globalink Program ● Joint Motion Program ● endMS Network ● Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada ● Parkinson's Disease Foundation ● Radiological Society of North America ● SIR Foundation

	● Society for Vascular Surgery ● Stem Cell Network ● TRaining A New generation of researchers in Gastroenterology and LivEr (TRIANGLE) program ● University of British Columbia ○ The Centre for Blood Research Undergraduate Summer Research Program ○ Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine Summer Student Fellowship ○ Faculty of Medicine Summer Student Research Awards ○ Pharmaceutical Sciences Summer Student Research Program
Who should complete and submit the application form?	The student and supervisor should work together to complete the application form. Either/or can submit the final application for review.
Are transcripts required to apply for funding?	Yes, transcripts for all post-secondary courses must be submitted. Copies of an original transcript should be scanned and sent electronically. Screen prints of student online accounts will not be accepted. If marks are not complete, please submit the most up-to-date marks. For foreign transcripts, a certified English translation and a clear explanation of the grading system must be included. ● Medical students: Transcripts for all post-secondary courses (including medical school transcripts) ● 1st Year Undergraduate students: Grade 12 transcript and transcripts for all post-secondary courses ● 2nd, 3rd & 4th Year Undergraduate students: Transcripts for all post-secondary courses
If I don't receive a BCCHR Summer Studentship, can I still join the summer program curriculum?	Yes. If you do not receive a BCCHR Summer Studentship, but have another funding source or plan to volunteer, you can still apply for the program curriculum by submitting the Summer Program Application. Spots are based on first-come, first-served. Applicants who successfully receive a BCCHR Summer Studentship will be automatically enrolled into the summer program, and do not need to submit another application.
APPLICATION QUESTIONS	
Who should complete and submit the application form?	The student and supervisor should work together on completing the application form. Either/or can submit the final application for review.
To apply for funding, are all transcripts required?	Yes, transcripts for all post-secondary courses must be submitted. Copies of an original transcript should be scanned and sent electronically. Screen prints of student online accounts will not be accepted. If marks are not complete, please submit the most up-to-date marks. For foreign transcripts, a certified English translation and a clear explanation of the grading system must be included. ● 1st Year Undergraduate students: Grade 12 transcript and transcripts for all post-secondary courses. ● 2nd, 3rd & 4th Year Undergraduate students: Transcripts for all post-secondary courses. ● Medical students: Transcripts for all post-secondary courses (including medical school transcripts)

Questions? resinfo@bcchr.ca