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PROGRAM SUMMARY

Before applying for a BCCHR Summer Studentship, we recommend you:

1. **Review the application guidelines.** Ensure you meet the eligibility criteria and assess whether you are a competitive applicant.
2. **Consider your availability in June and July.** Award recipients are required to participate in the [Summer Student Research Program](#), attending a minimum of five sessions in June and five sessions in July. Studentships may be withdrawn if this participation requirement is not met.
3. **Identify a potential BCCHR Investigator to support your application.** *Each Investigator may support only one Summer Studentship application.*

New for 2026 - Students **are not** eligible for funding if they have previously received and accepted a BC Children's Hospital Summer Studentship either as an Undergraduate Student or a Medical Student.

Award Description	Summer Studentship Awards at BC Children's Hospital are intended to support highly qualified undergraduate and medical students interested in completing a research project in any health-related research area that has direct relevance to improving the health of children and their families.
Stipend	8 weeks - \$4,000 10 weeks - \$5,000 12 weeks - \$6,000
Deadline	Friday, December 12, 2025
Award Term	May to August 2026
Application Form	https://bcchr.slideroom.com/
Questions	resinfo@bcchr.ca

ELIGIBILITY

New for 2026 - Students **are not** eligible for funding 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).*

Applications will be accepted for projects that include:

- **Active in-person engagement** in research on the BC Children's Hospital and BC Women's Hospital + Health Centre campus **OR**
- **Can be completed remotely within Canada.** *Please note, the applicant must be **based in Canada** with a current Social Insurance Number from Service Canada. Due to governmental restrictions, students must be living/working within Canada to receive funding.*

To be eligible, the applicant **must meet** the following eligibility criteria:

- Is a current undergraduate or medical student registered at a recognized university.
- Is a Canadian citizen, permanent resident or foreign national. International applicants are welcome to apply. However, if awarded, they must hold a valid [work/student permit](#) and obtain a [Social Insurance Number](#) from Service Canada
- Is returning in the Fall to continue their current academic program. *Undergraduate students graduating this Spring/Summer are ineligible to apply for the studentship but may apply to be part of the [Summer Student Research Program](#) as an (non-BC Children's Hospital) externally funded participant.*
- Is primarily supervised by a BCCHR Investigator at BC Children's Hospital whose area of investigation has direct relevance to improving the health of children and families (see [definition](#)). *Affiliate Investigators are not eligible as per the BCCHR membership guidelines (see [definition](#)).*
- Has a proposed research project that has [direct relevance to improving the health of children and their families](#).
- Is the only student applying with the proposed BCCHR Investigator. A BCCHR Investigator may only be listed on **ONE** application submitted for a 2026 BC Children's Hospital Summer Studentship Award.
- Is only submitting **ONE** project application for the 2026 BC Children's Hospital Summer Studentship Awards. An applicant may only be listed on **ONE** project application submitted for a 2026 BC Children's Hospital Summer Studentship.

Applicants **are not** eligible for funding if they meet any of the following criteria:

- Are supervised by a BCCHR Affiliate Investigator (see [definition](#)).
- Are engaged in a research project that does NOT have [direct relevance to improving the health of children and their families](#).
- Have graduated and are NOT returning to school in the Fall to continue their current academic program.
- Have previously received and accepted a BC Children's Hospital Summer Studentship.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Application Questions

APPLICANT INFORMATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Name & Email Academic Status University, Academic Program, Year of Study & Expected Graduation Date Project Title Supervisor: Name & Email

STUDENTSHIP LOGISTICS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Location: Remote/In-Person Stipend (8, 10 or 12 Weeks) & Start Date Automatic Summer Program Enrollment (Yes/No)

RESEARCH PROJECT	
Question	Character Limit
Project Relevance: Describe how the proposed research has direct relevance to improving the health of children and their families. <i>Applications that do not adequately demonstrate the project relevance to improving the health of children and their families will be ineligible for funding.</i>	1,500
List all the agencies/organizations to which you have received an award or recognition.	N/A
Research Project: Provide a scientific summary suitable for a researcher outside your field. The summary should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Background information and rationale Research question or hypothesis Specific aim(s) of the project and relevant methodology Feasibility (e.g. timeline, available resources, expertise) Significance of the work, including potential contributions to the field or broader impact How Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) considerations have been integrated into the project design or implementation. This includes awareness and understanding of EDI principles, actions taken to advance EDI and reflections/growth 	6,000
Bibliography: Provide the bibliographic details for all citations listed in your research project description.	3,000
Training Expectations: Describe the student's specific role(s) in the research project including the specific tasks to be performed and instruction/mentorship to be provided.	3,000

Application Package

A complete application package consists of the following:

1. **Application Form:** Submitted online at <https://bcchr.slideroom.com/>

2. **Academic Transcript:**

Undergraduate Students: 1 st Year	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• High school transcript• Transcripts for all post-secondary studies
Undergraduate Students: All Other Years	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transcripts for all post-secondary studies
Medical Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transcripts from all post-secondary studies. <i>This includes your current transcript for medical school regardless of available course grades. This is used as official confirmation of current academic standing.</i>

UBC's Research Project Information Form (RPIF) is **not required** when submitting a BC Children's Hospital Summer Studentship application. If funded, the supervisor will be required to submit an RPIF in order to set up the award.

Your Academic Transcript

Transcripts can be either official or unofficial versions. *For transcripts from institutions outside Canada, a certified English translation and a clear explanation of the grading system must also be included.*

- Official transcripts include:
 - Digital copies issued by the university. These can be issued directly to you and included in the application package or issued to the BC Children's Hospital Research Services Team at resinfo@bcchr.ca.
 - Paper copies issued to you by the university. These may be opened, scanned (front and back), and uploaded as a PDF with your application. If the scanned copy contains "unauthorized" or "unofficial" watermarks, it will still be accepted as long as the content is clear and legible.
- Unofficial transcripts include: Downloads or screenshots from your online student account or portal. Ensure the document is clear and legible, and includes your complete academic history, as reviewers will assess your application based on the information provided.

If marks are not complete, please submit the most up-to-date marks at the time of the application deadline.

SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION

Applications must be submitted using the online program SlideRoom.

1. Prepare your attachments and answers to your application questions
2. Go to <https://bcchr.slideroom.com/>
3. Select the applicable award from the list of available programs
4. Click 'Apply Now' and create an account or login to begin the application. *Your changes can be saved at any point in the application process. You can return and edit the application anytime up until the application deadline date.*
5. Follow the online prompts to answer the questions and submit your attachments.
6. Click 'Submit' to send the final application to the Research Services Team before 11:59pm on the deadline date: **Friday, December 12, 2025.**

The application can be submitted by the BCCHR Investigator, Research Team or the applicant.

For questions, contact resinfo@bcchr.ca or refer to the following: [Starting Your SlideRoom Application](#) | [Completing Your SlideRoom Application](#).

REVIEW PROCESS

All eligible applications are individually reviewed by members of the BCCHR research community. This multi-disciplinary group includes representation from each of the Research Themes that cover a broad range of areas in basic and clinical research. Applicants are assigned a final rank and funding is allocated to top-ranked applicants.

Applications will be evaluated based on the academic merit of the student, the scientific merit of the research project, and the potential benefit the student will obtain from the experience. For more information see [Appendix #1 – Scoring Criteria](#).

BC Children's Hospital Summer Studentship Award funding is limited. Applicants are encouraged to apply for additional relevant summer student awards from other organizations to increase their chance of success.

SUMMER STUDENT RESEARCH PROGRAM

Applicants awarded a BC Children's Hospital Summer Studentship are required to participate in the [Summer Student Research Program](#), which runs from **Monday, June 1 to Friday, July 24, 2026.**

The program typically offers three sessions/activities per week, including workshops, seminars, and networking events, delivered both in-person and virtually.

Award recipients must attend a minimum of five sessions in June and five sessions in July. Studentships may be withdrawn if the recipient does not fulfill this participation requirement.

New for 2026 – Students who do not receive a BC Children’s Hospital Summer Studentship may submit a separate application to participate in the [Summer Student Research Program](#). Only award recipients are automatically enrolled in this program.

STIPEND

BC Children's Hospital Summer Studentship Awards are funded by BC Children's Hospital Foundation.

Funding support is available for an optional 8, 10 or 12-week period between May and August.

# of Weeks	Stipend
Less than 8 Weeks	\$0 - Funding for less than 8 weeks is not available.
8 Weeks	\$4,000
10 Weeks	\$5,000
12 Weeks	\$6,000

Stipend Notes

- The [Summer Student Research Program](#) is **Monday, June 1, 2026 to Friday, July 24, 2026**. The project start date and end date must allow for the award recipient to participate in the program. **Award recipients must attend a minimum of five sessions in June and five sessions in July. Studentships may be withdrawn if the recipient does not fulfill this participation requirement**
- Applicants are eligible to work longer than the award period, but additional funding will not be provided.
- Summer Studentship Awards are issued as a stipend to support research training at BC Children’s Hospital Research Institute. *It is not intended to be a regular salary or wage for hours worked.* Investigators are welcome to provide a top-up to the stipend, but it is not required.
- The BCCHR Investigator is expected to provide whatever space, supplies or resources the applicant requires to complete the project (in-person or remotely). **No research allowance is provided with this award.**
- Award recipients are paid via. Payroll. If awarded, a new UBC Worktag will be activated under the BCCHR Investigator. It will be the responsibility of the BCCHR Investigator and their respective UBC Department to submit the student appointment to UBC Payroll. Please note, finalizing payroll can take up to 4-6 weeks AFTER student notification. Applicants beginning early May will see a delay in payroll. *BCCHR Investigators affiliated with a university other than UBC can contact resinfo@bcchr.ca to discuss an alternative process.*

EXTERNAL FUNDING

External Awards & Studentships

Award recipients are NOT eligible to hold both a BC Children's Hospital Summer Studentship Award and a (non-BC Children's Hospital) external funding award **during the same funding period**.

Receiving top-up funding from a BCCHR Investigator-held grant or award is not considered an external funding award. No restrictions are placed on this.

Applicants may accept an additional funding award if the external funding award conditions allow for it, and the funding periods are not concurrent (i.e., BC Children's Hospital Summer Studentship Award is held for 8 weeks between May 18 and July 10, external funding award is held between July 13 to August 31).

Matched Funds

An applicant who receives external funding requiring matched funds may use a Summer Studentship Award as the match.

[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.

If successful, BCCHR Summer Studentship funding can be used as **part** of the matched stipend. Please note the maximum stipend for BCCHR Summer Students is \$6,000 for 12 weeks, and the MITACS Accelerate Program requires a \$7,500 match for a 4+ month project.

Earnings from Other Sources

A BC Children's Hospital Summer Studentship is not intended to be a regular salary or wage for hours worked. No restrictions are placed on earning from additional sources, other than an external award or other studentship during the same BCCHR Summer Studentship award period.

This includes, but isn't limited to, any second job outside research, a work-learn position, co-op placement, ect. **as long as it doesn't interfere with the time required for the research project** outlined in the Summer Studentship application. The actual number of working hours/days is to be determined by the BCCHR Investigator supervising the student project.

BCCHR PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

A BCCHR Principal Investigator is defined as an individual who is registered as an “BCCHR Investigator” with the BCCHR Membership Program managed by Research Services. **Please note, students supervised by Affiliate Investigators, Investigator Emeritus/a or Research Community Members ARE NOT eligible for funding.** If you are uncertain about your supervisor’s membership category, please contact resinfo@bcchr.ca.

An applicant must be primarily supervised by a BCCHR Investigator who:

- Has a track record in health-oriented research related to improving the health of children and their families.
- Has sufficient resources to support the applicant in the execution of the proposed research project.
- Recognizes BCCHR as their primary research institute on all funding applications.

It is the applicant’s responsibility to ensure that their supervisor is aware of BC Children’s Hospital’s expectations. By submitting the application, the primary supervisor confirms that:

- The applicant has, or will have, appropriate space and resources available to do their research.
- The information on the application is complete and accurate to the best of their knowledge.
- They will provide direct supervision.
- They will meet all reporting requirements of BC Children’s Hospital as relevant to the studentship.
- The applicant’s research abides by all ethical policies of the university/institution.

DEADLINES & RESULTS

Deadline

The closing date for submitting a COMPLETE application package online (<https://bcchr.slideroom.com>) is **Friday, December 12, 2025.**

Competition Results

Results of the Summer Studentship Awards will be sent to the applicant and primary supervisor by **spring.**

APPENDIX #1 – SCORING CRITERIA

Scoring Criteria

Category	Score	Description
Academic Achievement	0-5	0-1 Poor record of grades
		2-3 Average record of grade
		4-5 Outstanding record of grades
Scholarly Achievement	0-2	Record of awards and recognition
Research Project	0-2	Quality and feasibility of proposed research project in terms of scientific merit and timeline.
Benefit to the Student	0-2	Opportunity to gain new skills, knowledge and understanding of the research process
Discretionary Point	0-1	Discretionary point
Total	12	<i>Applications with scores of 6 or less are ineligible for funding</i>

Application Statistics

The statistics below are meant as a guide to help with the application process. The total number of applications received, merits of applicants and available funding varies yearly.

All applicants are encouraged to apply for external funding. Top-ranked BCCHR applicants are frequently awarded, but some accept external funding instead. This allows funding to be awarded to the next-highest-ranked student.

	2025		
	Applications	Funded Applications	
		# Funded	Scoring Range
Applications from:			
Undergraduate – 1 st Year	16	6	7 – 11 <i>5 top-ranked applicants declined BCCHR funding</i>
Undergraduate – 2 nd Year	17	5	
Undergraduate – 3 rd Year	24	10	
Undergraduate – 4 th Year*	16	3	
Medical Students	21	10	
Total	94	34	

	2024		
	Applications	Funded Applications	
		# Funded	Scoring Range
Applications from:			
Undergraduate – 1 st Year	7	5	6 – 11 <i>1 top-ranked applicant declined BCCHR funding</i>
Undergraduate – 2 nd Year	16	8	
Undergraduate – 3 rd Year	18	7	
Undergraduate – 4 th Year*	7	1	
Medical Students	37	13	
Total	85	34	

Applications from:	2023		
	Applications	Funded Applications	
		# Funded	Scoring Range
Undergraduate – 1 st Year	7	5	7 – 11 6 top-ranked applicants declined BCCHR funding
Undergraduate – 2 nd Year	5	2	
Undergraduate – 3 rd Year	18	10	
Undergraduate – 4 th Year*	6	3	
Medical Students	13	9	
<i>Total</i>	<i>49</i>	<i>29</i>	

**This is applicable to 4th year students returning in the Fall to continue their current academic program.*

Undergraduate students graduating in Spring/Summer are ineligible to apply for the studentship.

Funded students study at a wide variety of national/internal universities. Common programs of study include but are not limited to:

Health/Life Sciences
Chemistry/Biochemistry
Microbiology
Biomedical Engineering

Science/
Integrated Sciences
Molecular Biology
Medicine/
MD Undergraduate

Bioengineering
Psychology
Kinesiology
Physics
Immunology

Food/Nutrition
Engineering
Neuroscience
Pharmacology

APPENDIX #2 – PROJECT RELEVANCE

Funding for BC Children's Hospital Research Institute Studentships & Fellowships is provided by the *BC Children's Hospital Foundation*. To be eligible to receive funding, the application must demonstrate the research area has **direct relevance to improving the health of children (individuals 0–18 years of age) and their families.**

Applicants will have the opportunity to prove they meet the criteria on the application form (Page 4 – Research Project Relevance to Child and Family Health). **Applications that do not adequately demonstrate the project relevance to improving the health of children and their families will NOT be assessed by the Research Awards Committee and will be INELIGIBLE for funding.** All decisions on criteria eligibility will be made by BCCHR Leadership and considered final.

Can you adequately demonstrate that the project meets at least one of the following criteria, is - ?


- Striving to improve treatments or find cures for a childhood disease or disorder?
- Studying the social effects of disease on the family?
- Studying the developmental origins of childhood health and disease?
- Advancing knowledge of child health and development?
- Helping to inform policy and practices that impacts children and their families?
- Working to develop breakthrough technologies that will improve the well-being of children?
- Improving health outcomes for children?
- Enabling children and families to live a healthier life?
- A sample or population of study include children and/or families with children?

Relevant project examples

Below is a list of research projects that typically meet the funding criteria. If you are unsure if your research project has direct relevance to improving the health of children and their families, contact resinfo@bcchr.ca for more information.

- Research projects that adequately demonstrate improving the mental health or wellbeing of children.
- Research projects that adequately address the social impacts on families with children 0-18 years of age.
- Research projects that address gaps in healthcare access/clinical knowledge, injury prevention or social structures that directly impact children.
- Research projects on maternal or fetal health that adequately address how early development plays a critical role in the health of children later in life.
- Research projects on reproductive health that adequately address the origins of childhood health and disease.
- Global health research projects that work to improve children's health world-wide with potential implications for local children and their families.
- Research projects that adequately demonstrate how genetic, biological, social, and environmental factors are determinants of child health before birth and in childhood.

Projects that will NOT be considered

- **Research projects focused on**  **that do not adequately address**
 - adult health disorders or disease (i.e., Parkinson's, Alzheimer's disease, Huntington's disease, ovarian cancer, breast cancer, etc.)
 - women's health issues (i.e., contraception, pregnancy management, abortion, endometriosis, etc.)
 - adult substance abuse problems
 - the social effects of the disorder or disease on children 0–18 OR
 - how uncovering mechanisms of the disease or a deeper understanding of the disease may lead to developing new testing/diagnose for childhood diseases or disorders in the future.
- Research projects focused on environmental concerns that do not adequately address the relevant impacts on health outcomes for children or their families.
- Research projects focused on an adult community/adult data set that do not adequately address the relevant impacts on health outcomes for children.
- Research projects focused on reproductive health that do not adequately address developmental origins or the relevant impacts on health outcomes for children.