

SGS Award Announcement

To: Graduate Chairs/Directors; Graduate Coordinators; Graduate Administrators
From: Kyla Wiscombe, Postdoctoral Office
CC: Luc De Nil, Acting Dean, Graduate Studies and Acting Vice-Provost, Graduate Research and Education; Charmaine Williams, Acting Vice-Dean, Students; Laura Stathopoulos, Director, Graduate Awards and Financial Aid; Lisa Haley, Postdoctoral Office
Date: June 1, 2018
Re: **2018-19 Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships Program**

Award Overview

Applicant deadline to Faculty:	Date set by Faculty Research Office
Faculty nomination deadline to SGS:	August 31, 2018 (list of faculty nominations due to SGS)
Letter of endorsement made available:	September 12, 2018 (to successful nominees)
Nominee ResearchNet submission deadline:	September 19, 2018 8:00 p.m. (EDT)
Required Legal Status:	Domestic and International
Results:	Mid-February 2019 directly from Banting

Purpose

The Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships Program is intended **to attract and retain top-tier postdoctoral talent**, both nationally and internationally; develop their leadership potential; and position them for success as research leaders of tomorrow, positively contributing to Canada's economic, social and research-based growth through a research-intensive career.

Seventy fellowships are awarded annually, divided evenly between Canada's three federal granting agencies (CIHR, NSERC and SSHRC). There are a total of 140 awards active at any one time.

The Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships program is unique in its emphasis on the synergy of research goals and projects between the following:

- applicant – individual merit and potential to launch a successful research-intensive career
- host institution – commitment to the research program and alignment with the institution's strategic priorities

Eligibility to Apply

Applicants and the proposed host institution must meet specific eligibility criteria within several categories. Applications that do not meet all of the eligibility criteria will not be accepted. ([view complete requirements on the Banting website](#))

1. Applicant eligibility:
 - (a) Citizenship and location of host institution
 - (b) Eligibility window for degree completion
2. Host institution eligibility
3. Other eligibility restrictions

NEW: Extensions to eligibility window for degree completion - In order to encourage equitable access to excellent candidates, additional allowable reasons of career interruptions have been added.

NEW: Eligible referees - An assessment cannot be completed by the proposed supervisor unless that person is currently your supervisor or has been your supervisor in the past.

***To review all new program items and important reminders, please see the [2018-19 Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship competition launch memo](#)**

Endorsement Process

Given the limited number of fellowships awarded annually, universities are encouraged to carefully consider and **support only the highest quality applicants** from both Canada and abroad. In keeping with the aim of attracting postdoctoral fellows to Canada, units are encouraged to endorse new foreign candidates. In addition, careful consideration must be given to ensure gender equity in the endorsement process. U of T Faculty Research Offices receive allocations and are therefore limited in the number of applications they may put forth for endorsement by the School of Graduate Studies.

Applicants must be nominated by their Faculty (e.g. Faculty Arts and Science) to the School of Graduate Studies (SGS) to receive the [endorsement of the University](#). Supervisors wishing to support a candidate's application must contact their affiliated Faculty Research Office to inquire about the Faculty's internal deadline, application and selection process (see faculty contact info under "Contacts & Resources" section). **Applications submitted outside of the affiliated Faculty competition and therefore without the official endorsement of Dean of Graduate Studies will be deemed ineligible by the Banting Secretariat.**

University of Toronto graduates who wish to pursue their postdoctoral fellowship at another institution must apply through their proposed host institution, abiding to their internal selection process and deadlines. The School of Graduate Studies will complete the Fulfillment of Degree Requirements Form for the candidate, who must [request it by email](#) from the Graduate Awards Office. Those who have not completed their degree requirements yet are asked to submit the form to their graduate unit for completion.

***Faculty of Medicine –Please note:** Each affiliated hospital will hold its own competition as well. It is separate from Faculty of Medicine (via GLSE) and may have a different deadline and application process. Applicants will need to decide where to apply because it will determine where the award will be held and paid from (if successful).

Selection Criteria

Applications received by Banting will be evaluated based on the following selection criteria. Applicants, supervisors, departments and faculties are encouraged to consider these criteria when developing their applications and when selecting nominees to be forwarded:

1. **Research excellence and leadership in the research domain** - demonstrated capacity for research excellence based on track record as defined by quality of applicant's research contributions, and

demonstrated capacity for leadership in the research domain defined by the sphere of influence achieved to date by the applicant.

2. **Quality of the applicant's proposed research program** - examined in terms of the potential of the proposed research program (taking into consideration feasibility, timelines and novelty of research), executed in the proposed institutional environment, to position the applicant for significant impact through a research-intensive career (potential for significant impact).
3. **Institutional commitment and demonstrated synergy between applicant and institutional strategic priorities** – examined in terms of:
 - demonstrated commitment of institution to support the development of the applicant's research and leadership capacity through institutional support (funding, facilities, equipment, etc.) and professional development; and
 - demonstrated alignment and synergy between the applicant's research ambitions and the institution's potential to benefit strategically from its engagement with the applicant (alignment with institution's strategic priorities)

See the Banting Postdoctoral Fellows [selection committee guide](#) for further information.

Application Process [\[see Application Guide\]](#)

1. The Banting application is initiated by the applicant through the [ResearchNet](#) Application System with the CV data components created using the [Common CV](#) system.
2. Applicants intending to take up the fellowship at the University of Toronto should first contact their fellowship supervisor to request the support of their application and if granted, inquire about the specific nomination/selection process and associated deadlines implemented by their Faculty Research Office. **The University of Toronto does not have access to applications on ResearchNet.** Therefore, candidates may be asked to submit a copy of their entire application, including a copy of the confidential online referee assessment forms to their Faculty Research Office.
3. Applicants must be nominated by their Faculty (e.g. Faculty Arts and Science) to the School of Graduate Studies (SGS) to receive the endorsement of the University. Those nominated to SGS will be issued a [Letter of Endorsement](#) signed by the Dean of Graduate Studies necessary to complete the online application process at least one week before the ResearchNet deadline date. Only applications endorsed by the Dean of Graduate Studies will be accepted by the Banting Secretariat.
4. Nominees must also obtain (from the institution that conferred their degree) a Fulfillment of Degree Requirements Form and attach this completed document to their online application. Applicants who require this document from U of T must [request it by email](#) from the [Graduate Awards Office](#) before **Sept 7th**.
5. Candidates are responsible for uploading all required documents to ResearchNet to complete the application and submission process. Only the referee assessment forms are to be completed and submitted online by the referees. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that all components of the application are complete (including references) and the application is submitted via ResearchNet by the deadline of September 19, 2018 at 8:00 p.m. (EDT).

Important application requirements

Window for degree completion: Applicants to the 2018-19 Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships program must fulfill or have fulfilled all degree requirements for a PhD, PhD-equivalent or health professional degree:

- between September 15, 2015 and September 30, 2019 (inclusively), and
- before the start date of their award.

Applicants who have not fulfilled all requirements for their degree at the time of application must submit proof no later than October 15, 2019.

Mandatory arm's length referee: All applications must have at least 1 arm's length referee from among the 3 invited referees. The arm's length referee cannot be:

- a relative or close friend, or have a personal relationship with the applicant;
- in a position to benefit from the funding of the application;
- affiliated with the applicant's current and/or proposed institutions;
- professionally affiliated with the applicant, as a result of (but not limited to): being their supervisor or trainee; collaborating, publishing or sharing funding with the applicant, or having plans to do so in the immediate future.

NEW: Supervisor's statement (page limit) - The maximum length of the statement has been reduced to four (4) pages

NEW: If your proposed research involves or impacts Indigenous communities, please include “This research involves Indigenous Peoples” (in bold) at the beginning of the lay abstract. The process for assessing applications involving Indigenous research will be noted in the revised Selection committee guide, which will be available by July 1, 2018. The Application guide may also be updated with relevant details at that time.

*To review all new program items and important reminders, please see the [2018-19 Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship competition launch memo](#)

Contacts & Resources

U of T nomination/selection process:

See Faculty Research Office contact information (see table below)

Banting Program information: [see website](#)

Banting PDF [Review Process](#) (Overview and Selection Committees Guide)

School of Graduate Studies Contact:

Kyla Wiscombe, Postdoctoral Office

sgs.postdoc@utoronto.ca

416-946-5254

Faculty	Faculty deadline for Banting applications (Expected month - contact directly to confirm); current as of May 2018	Applicants submit application directly to:	Point of contact for applicants and supervisors:	Faculty Administrative Contact	Additional Instructions (for applicants & supervisors)
Applied Science and Engineering	July	Faculty Office	Faculty Office	David Duong	
Architecture, Landscape, and Design - Daniels	August	Faculty Office	Faculty Office	Shirley Chan	
Arts and Science	August	Faculty Office	Faculty Office	Christine Yarish	
Dentistry	August	Graduate Unit	Graduate Unit	Lisa Hutchinson	
Forestry	TBD	Faculty Office	Faculty Office	Laura Lapchinski	
Information	August	Faculty Office	Faculty Office	Anna Pralat	Contact the Dean to discuss proposed applications early.
Kinesiology and Physical Education	June/July	Faculty Office	Faculty Office	Kristina Ognjanovic	
Law	August	Faculty Office	Faculty Office	Carla Serpe	
Management	August	Faculty Office	Faculty Office	Sasha Lucas	
Medicine	July	Faculty Office	Faculty Office	Debbie Chau	Students wishing to have their fellowship administered via affiliated hospital need to contact the research office at the hospital for their application and deadline.
Mississauga	August	Faculty Office	Faculty Office	Carla DeMarco or Rong Wu	UTM has an internal adjudication process to determine which applications are going forward from the UTM campus, based on their allocation.
Music	August	Faculty Research Office	Faculty Research Office	Mary-Beth Campbell	The Faculty of Music conducts an internal adjudication process to determine nominations based on the Faculty's

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					quota. Details will be forwarded to faculty members in advance of the deadline. Additional information for applicants may be found on the Faculty of Music's Research webpage .
Nursing	TBD	Faculty Office	Faculty Office	Shefali Ram	
OISE	August	Faculty Research Office	Faculty Research Office	Heather Gibb	There will be an internal adjudication process to determine the applicants who can apply for this fellowship. Communications will be sent out to Faculty.
Pharmacy - Leslie Dan	August	Graduate Unit	Graduate Unit	Tammy Chan	There will be an internal adjudication process to determine the applicant(s) going forward based on departmental quotas. Communication will be forwarded to the Faculty closer to the deadline.
Public Health – Dalla Lana	August	Faculty Office	Faculty Office	Office of Research	
Scarborough	August	Office of the Vice Principal, Research	Office of the Vice Principal, Research	Suzanne Jaeger or Monica Caverson	<p>Instructions for Supervisors:</p> <p>1) Supervisors wishing to support a candidate's application must notify the UTSC Office of the Vice-Principal, Research (UTSC VPRO) of the planned application in advance of the UTSC internal deadline.</p> <p>2) Supervisors are responsible for the preparation of the</p>

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					<p>Supervisor's statement in consultation with their chair/director.</p> <p>3) The UTSC VPRO will carefully select only the highest quality applicants from both Canada and abroad within its allocation in accordance to the stated Selection Criteria.</p>
Social Work	August	Faculty Office	Faculty Office	Joanne Daciuk	