



## Research Training Awards - Application Instructions Studentship Competition

### Purpose of the Training Awards Program

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The Canadian Venous Thromboembolism Research Network (**CanVECTOR**) is a pan-Canadian, patient-oriented Community Development Program centered on Venous Thromboembolism-related research, training, and knowledge translation. Their mission is to decrease the health, social and economic burden of venous thromboembolism (VTE) on affected individuals, their families, and on Canadians as a whole.

The purpose of the **CanVECTOR Research Training Awards** is to provide financial support for highly qualified, promising trainees or fellows to allow them to pursue research training in thromboembolism at a Canadian centre. The area of training must: 1) align with CanVECTOR priorities, 2) be research focused, and 3) be supervised by a CanVECTOR member. The Training Awards will also promote trainees from various and diverse groups across Canada, while still requiring excellence in VTE research.

Please note, Application Instructions for the Fellowship Competition can be found [here](#).

### Competition Partners

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These training awards are available thanks to the generous support of our partners. For a full list of partners, go to [www.canvector.ca/partners](http://www.canvector.ca/partners).

### Award Details

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CanVECTOR Graduate Studentships offer support to candidates who are enrolled in an MSc or PhD program and are interested in conducting VTE-focused research or developing VTE-related methodology expertise. The number of awards granted per year is based on the number of applications received and the availability of partner funding.

**Amount of the award:** *Studentship:* maximum of \$10,000

**Term of award:** Studentship awards will be granted for one year. It is expected that the awardee will seek peer-reviewed funding during the first year to support any subsequent years of training (if applicable).

**Award renewal:** Priority for studentship awards will be given to new applicants. If additional funding is available, renewal applications will be invited and considered in the subsequent competition. It is expected that renewal applicants will demonstrate evidence of substantial



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progress in achieving their research objectives. Applications from trainees who have actively participated in CanVECTOR activities will be viewed favourably.

**Award priority:** To better promote the growth of VTE research and CanVECTOR goals across Canada, priority will be given to applicants from institutions and working with supervisors who have not yet received CanVECTOR funding.

### Candidate Eligibility

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- a. **Citizenship:** Canadian and International applicants are eligible to apply. Priority will be given to Canadian citizens and Canadian permanent residents.
- b. **Prior education:** *Studentship* applicants must meet all requirements for their current/upcoming MSc or PhD program. Persons who already hold a faculty position are not eligible.
- c. **Career focus:** Candidate must be committed to a career with a focus on thromboembolism, including a commitment to ongoing research activity.
- d. **Type of research activities:** Eligible research activities must be in an area related to thromboembolism, and aligned with the mission and goals of CanVECTOR.
- e. **Location of training:** The *Studentship* must be completed at a CanVECTOR training site at one of the following Canadian universities: Dalhousie University, McGill University, McMaster University, the University of British Columbia, the University of Ottawa, the University of Toronto, the University of Western Ontario, the University of Calgary. Priority will be given to applications for training at sites that have committed partnership funds to CanVECTOR. Applicants from other training sites are invited to email [info@canvector.ca](mailto:info@canvector.ca) to discuss the connection to CanVECTOR, prior to completing an application.
- f. **Concomitant higher degree:** *Studentship* – applicants must be enrolled in a full-time graduate program (MSc or PhD) during the 1-year award period (starting by September following the competition).
- g. **Supervisor(s):** Must be an established researcher who has agreed to be the Student's supervisor and who accepts the conditions of the award as outlined below. At least one of the applicant's supervisors must be a CanVECTOR member.



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### Studentship Conditions and Responsibilities

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**Submission of an application implies acceptance of the following conditions by both the applicant and his/her supervisor(s):**

- a. Protected time:** It is expected that the principal focus and time commitment of the successful candidate will be to further his/her research experience in thromboembolism. *Graduate students* are expected to be enrolled full time in an MSc or PhD degree program.
- b. Award administration:** The administration of the award will be through a university department or hospital research department and not sent to the successful candidate directly. The University or Hospital will then issue the funds to the award recipient according to their own procedures and payment schedules.
- c. Top-up:** It is the responsibility of the host university or hospital to ensure that the total stipend that the Student receives meets the minimum institutional and provincial funding standards (as applicable). Successful candidates must declare all sources of salary support to the CanVECTOR Training Office.
- d. Letter of offer:** Upon receiving an award offer, the applicant must notify the CanVECTOR Training Office [training@canvector.ca](mailto:training@canvector.ca) of their decision to accept within 14 days.
- e. Letter of agreement:** On acceptance of the award, the successful candidate and his/her supervisor will sign a letter of agreement to the Conditions and Responsibilities of the award and submit this to the CanVECTOR Training Office [training@canvector.ca](mailto:training@canvector.ca) within 2 months of the offer.
- f. Acknowledgment:** Any formal presentation (e.g. poster, oral paper), publication, or thesis resulting from the CanVECTOR research *Studentship* must acknowledge the support of CanVECTOR, and a copy of any publications resulting from the studentship must be sent to the CanVECTOR Training Office [training@canvector.ca](mailto:training@canvector.ca)
- g. Final report:** A brief summary of the activities and accomplishments achieved during the *Studentship* year shall be submitted to the CanVECTOR Training Office within 3 months of the end of the funding year.
- h. Presentation:** The Student will be required to present a summary of his/her research activities at the CanVECTOR annual conference (in-person if possible).
- i. Ongoing funding:** It is expected that the awardee will seek peer-reviewed funding during the first year to support any subsequent years of training (if applicable).



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### Components of the Application

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#### The components of the application include:

- a. 2020-2021 CanVECTOR Studentship Award [Application Form](#)
- b. A letter and summary of proposed research project from the applicant (**2 pages maximum**) with the following headings:
  - I. Background and rationale (**1/2 page**). If the research proposal requires additional funds, the summary should describe the source of this funding (obtained or applied for) and should include a brief discussion of alternatives, if applied-for funding is not successful.
  - II. Hypothesis and goal (**1/4 page**)
  - III. Specific objectives and methodologies (**3/4 page**) – include specifically the role of the applicant in the project, and the length of time
  - IV. Conclusion and expected outcomes (**1/2 page**)
- c. Lay summary (**maximum 400 words**). The lay summary is a brief summary of a research project that is used to explain complex ideas and medical and scientific terms to people who do not have prior knowledge about the subject. In language suitable for a lay audience, describe the following:
  - I. Purpose of the research
  - II. Relevance of the research
  - III. General approach (methods)
- d. A copy of the applicant's current CV (**maximum 4 pages**).
- e. A copy of the proposed primary supervisor(s)' current CV (**maximum 4 pages**).
- f. A letter of support from the proposed primary supervisor (**maximum 1 page**) outlining 1) the strengths and accomplishments of the candidate, 2) the research facilities and resources available to the candidate, and 3) the proportion of time the candidate will spend on research, course work, clinical duties, and teaching.

*\*Please note:* Applications must use a minimum of 12-point font and 1-inch margins for all submitted material.



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### Application Submission

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Inquiries can be addressed to Jessie Micholuk, Manager of the CanVECTOR Training, Mentoring and Early Career Development Platform, at [info@canvector.ca](mailto:info@canvector.ca).

Please email completed application packages to the CanVECTOR Training Office: [training@canvector.ca](mailto:training@canvector.ca) by **12:01AM EST April 19, 2021**.

### Selection Process

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The Studentship applications will be reviewed by the CanVECTOR Basic Science Platform co-leads, in collaboration with the CanVECTOR Patient Partner Council and external reviewers, as appropriate. Applications will be ranked based on the quality of the applicant, the clarity of the lay summary, the research environment, and the quality of the research proposal (alignment with the mission of CanVECTOR, rationale, clarity of the objectives, feasibility, originality and impact).

### Application Checklist

**Please check that each of the items below is completed (an incomplete application package will not be accepted):**

- 2021-2022 CanVECTOR Studentship Award [Application Form](#)
- Applicant's letter & research proposal (2 pages maximum)
- Lay Summary (400 word maximum)
- Applicant's current CV (4 pages maximum)
- Primary supervisor's current CV (4 pages maximum)
- Letter from CanVECTOR supervisor (1 page maximum)



Canadian Venous Thromboembolism  
Research Network

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CanVECTOR must be acknowledged in the funding section of publications and presentations if a study or researcher has received direct financial support from CanVECTOR. To see the full CanVECTOR Acknowledgment Policy, click [here](#).