

Brain Canada-Kids Brain Health Network

Training Awards

Developmental Neurosciences Research

Request for Applications (RFA)

Instructions for Institutions

Brain Canada and Kids Brain Health Network are partnering together and are pleased to announce a competition for training awards in developmental neurosciences co-funded by Brain Canada (through the Canada Brain Research Fund) and institutional sponsors. These awards will support predoctoral fellowships valued at up to \$30,000 per year for a maximum funding term of two years and postdoctoral fellowship valued at up to \$50,000 per year for a maximum funding term of two years. All awards include an additional \$5,000 per year career development supplement. The awards will be made to outstanding predoctoral and postdoctoral fellows undertaking a program of research training that incorporates original research into the origins, early detection and effective treatment of disorders of brain development. Fellows with programs of study with a concentration on knowledge translation and in neuroethical issues in the developmental neurosciences and neurodisabilities are also encouraged.

Funding Sponsors

The Canada Brain Research Fund is an innovative collaboration between the Government of Canada (through Health Canada) and Brain Canada to encourage Canadians to increase their support of brain research, and maximize the impact and efficiency of those investments. Brain Canada is raising up to \$120 million from private and non-federal government sources, which is being matched by the Government of Canada on a 1:1 basis. The Fund supports “the very best Canadian neuroscience, fostering collaborative research and accelerating the pace of discovery, in order to improve the health and quality of life of Canadians who suffer from brain disorders.” Brain Canada will match on a 1:1 basis the funds put forward by eligible institutional sponsors to fund each training award. For training awards, primary eligible sponsors include research institutions, hospitals and health-care organizations. Other eligible sponsors include provincial government agencies and ministries, for-profit enterprises, individual donors, charitable organizations, or any other entities, including foreign entities or organizations, that receive 50% or less of their funding from the Government of Canada. Examples of ineligible source of funding would be a grant funded by a federal government granting council such as CIHR.

The role of the Host Institutions in this competition is to solicit the predoctoral and postdoctoral trainees eligible to apply to the competition and determine which applicants it will support. The Host Institutions must provide a letter to Brain Canada confirming the number of predoctoral and postdoctoral fellowships that they are able to support for this Initiative. Furthermore, the Host Institution will provide a letter confirming eligibility for each of their applicants to include with their online application materials.

The Brain Canada Funds will be in the form of a matching contribution and will be conditional on the prior payment of the sponsor's funds (cash only; not in-kind contributions) to the Host Institution with confirmation of payment thereof, for up to the maximum allowable amount and funding term per competition. If the sponsor is the Host Institution, the matching 50% from the Canada Brain Research Fund will be sent to the Host Institution, once Brain Canada receives confirmation that the Host Institution has allocated the funding contribution to the specific awarded project.

As an alternative, sponsor contributions can be provided in cash, not in-kind, to Brain Canada, which will add the matching 50% from the Canada Brain Research Fund, and Brain Canada will administer the award.

While it is Brain Canada's policy to deduct a 5% fee from our sponsors' funds to offset the costs associated with delivering a program, for this program, we are waiving the fee. This is in recognition of Kids Brain Health Network contributions to key aspects of the program.

How to Apply

1. The institutions will provide a commitment letter to Brain Canada (to be sent electronically to programs@braincanada.ca) confirming the number of predoctoral and postdoctoral fellowships with required career development supplement for each Sponsor's funding contribution is available. A template of this letter can be found here: http://www.braincanada.ca/files/BC_KBHN_institute_commitment_letter_final.docx. The deadline for letters is **16:00 ET on June 30, 2017**.
2. The institutions will solicit the predoctoral and postdoctoral trainees eligible to apply to the competition and determine which applicants it will support. The institutions will provide a letter of support to the applicant, confirming that they had been vetted (or approved) to submit an application for this competition.
3. All applications must be submitted using Brain Canada's electronic grant management system (https://braincanada.smartsimple.ca/s_Login.jsp). The applicant must submit the institutional letter of support along with completing all required application fields in the Brain Canada's electronic grant application system before **16:00 ET on August 15, 2017**.

For enquiries, please contact Brain Canada at: programs@braincanada.ca