



BC NEIHR

UNBC Entrance Award Overview and Instructions

Duration and Value: \$1,000 (non-renewable)

Objective: The objective of the BC NEIHR UNBC Entrance Award is to support Indigenous (*First Nations, Métis or Inuit*) students who are entering a UNBC graduate program that has a significant research component (see program of study eligibility).

Description: The BC NEIHR offers three (3) UNBC Entrance Awards annually. We accept applications from January-August prior to the fall semester (i.e., September-December) start of the academic year. Awardees will receive their funds in full during their first fall semester.

Eligibility: To be eligible to apply, you must:

- Self-identify as Indigenous (*First Nations, Métis or Inuit*) on the BC NEIHR Registration Survey and have your letter of support confirm your Indigenous identity;
- Be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada;
- Not have previously held a BC NEIHR UNBC Entrance Award;
- Be enrolled in, have applied for, or will apply for full-time admission to a UNBC graduate program at the Master's or Doctoral level (funds will not be released until we have received proof of enrollment);
- Be starting their first year in their UNBC graduate program;
- Submit a completed application prior to the fall semester (September-December) start of your program. If you are starting your program in the winter semester (January-April) or summer semester (May-August), you must still have submitted your application by August 31st prior to the start of that academic year. For clarification on when to submit, please contact bcneihr@uvic.ca; and
- Have completed at the time of application deadline (August 31st) zero months of study in the program for which you are requesting funding.

General application process:

- Applications must be prepared, finalized and submitted by applicants as *one PDF file* and emailed to bcneihr@uvic.ca. See Application Checklist on the Application Form to ensure the completeness of your application.
- Any information that exceeds the page/character limits, or is not required, will be removed from the application prior to review.

Submit final application as *one PDF file* to



- Documents should use either Arial, Calibri or Times New Roman 12 point. Maximum of six lines per inch, margin of 2 cm (3/4 inch) – minimum- around the page. Do not use condensed/narrow font sizes, type density, or line spacing. Smaller text in tables, charts, figures, graphs, and references is acceptable, as long as it is legible when the page is viewed at 100%.
- Applicants should preview all components of their application to ensure its completeness.
- Submission of an application serves as consent to the review process and public announcement of recipients on our BC NEIHR website.
- Funds are released in full during the fall semester (September-December) or in the starting semester. Students must be registered as full-time to receive the funds.

Program of study eligibility:

The BC NEIHR accepts applications from all disciplines; however, an eligible program must have a significant research component. A significant research component is considered to be one that requires students to undertake original, autonomous research as a requirement for completion of the program. Examples include: completion of a thesis, major research project, dissertation, scholarly publication, performance, recital and/or exhibit that is merit/peer-reviewed at the institutional level.

- Joint programs with a professional degree (for example, JD/MA, MBA/PhD, MA/MBA) are eligible if they have a significant autonomous research component, as described above.
- Clinically-oriented programs of study, including clinical psychology, are also eligible programs if they have a significant autonomous research component, as described above.
- Programs that are based only on course work are typically not eligible as they do not include a significant autonomous research component.

If you have questions and/or need help with your application, please contact us Monday to Friday, 9:00 am to 4:30 pm Pacific Time, by email at **bcneihr@uvic.ca**, or by phone at **250-472-5449**.

Complete the BC NEIHR UNBC Entrance Award Form:

To complete the 2-page fillable PDF Application Form, please visit website: www.uvic.ca/bcneihr to download the form or email the Network Coordinator at bcneihr@uvic.ca.

The form will collect information about your program, discipline, research proposal and community/geographic region for administrative purposes.

Letter of Support:

Each applicant must provide at least one letter of support, which can be from academic mentors and Indigenous communities, collectives and/or organizations

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(ICCOs) as appropriate. One of your our letters of support must confirm your Indigenous identity. Maximum of two letters and one page each.

Up-to-date Official Transcripts:

Include in your application official copies of **all** post-secondary transcripts. If you are entering a Master's program based on work experience and do not have an undergraduate degree, please explain that in your proposal or letter of support. Official transcripts are defined as transcripts issued by the institution's registrar office. Transcripts from other sources, such as those printed from the student's account on the institution's website, are not official. Please order your most recent official transcript for pick up or by mail, and then scan them. The official transcript is not mailed directly to the BC NEIHR. The application and all supporting documents must be submitted as *one PDF file* by email to bcneihr@uvic.ca.

Description of applicant and proposed research:

Include a 1-2 page (max.) description of yourself and your proposed studies and research. Some elements to include could be where you are from, your previous studies or research, or what brings you to the UNBC graduate program (e.g., a specific mentor or anything about the program/institution). Please discuss how your proposed studies and research is relevant to and advances Indigenous health and wellness (broadly defined in wholistic terms, including physical, mental, emotional and spiritual). Provide a brief overview of the proposed research project, such as rationale for the research (why should it be done?), aim of the research (what purpose will it serve?), methodology, methods, timeline, scope, and how you plan to engage with those involved in the research project.

Selection Process:

BC NEIHR's principles of review include:

- confidentiality;
- absence of conflict of interest;
- fairness;
- accountability; and,
- transparency.

Review refers to the process used by BC NEIHR to assess applications submitted for funding. Applications are assigned to BC NEIHR Team Members who possess the required experience and/or knowledge (individual or collective) to properly assess the quality of the applications based on the objectives of the funding opportunity and its evaluation criteria. BC NEIHR's review process is supported by academic reviewers, as well as non-academic reviewers, including Indigenous organizations and community-based representatives.

Review Criteria:

Applications will be assessed on the basis of meeting all eligibility requirements and application completeness. In addition, the reviewers will assess and rank each application based on:

- Academic excellence (e.g., transcripts, scholarships and awards, field of previous studies, etc.);
- Personal characteristics and interpersonal skills (e.g., work experience, leadership experience, volunteerism, community service and engagement, etc.); and
- Research potential (e.g., potential contributions of the study, applicant's work experience and training in Indigenous research, etc.).

Accountability:

On condition of receiving the entrance award, recipients will be expected to meet specific accountability measures, including:

- Engaging with the proposed plan outlined in their application;
- Actively participating in and/or contributing to the BC NEIHR activities and resources;
- Supporting peers and mentoring students more junior in training;
- Contributing to the BC NEIHR evaluation activities by completing a brief survey about their experience; and
- Acknowledging the BC NEIHR in any publication or presentation related to the research project.

Use and disclosure of information:

The BC NEIHR may publish the name and other limited award information of award holders on their website: www.uvic.ca/bcneihr and/or social media pages.

For more information:

Contact Monday to Friday, 9:00 am to 4:30 pm Pacific Time.

bcneihr@uvic.ca

250-472-5449

You may also visit the BC NEIHR website for more information and/or social media pages for frequent updates on other student opportunities and resources.

Website: www.uvic.ca/bcneihr

Facebook: @BC.NEIHR

Twitter: @BCNEIHR

YouTube: @BC NEIHR

The BC NEIHR is generously funded by CIHR



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