



BC NEIHR Doctoral Scholarship Overview and Instructions

Duration and Value: One year; \$35,000 (non-renewable)

Objective:

The objective of the BC NEIHR Doctoral Scholarship program is to help develop research skills and assist in the training of Indigenous (First Nations, Métis or Inuit) Doctoral students in British Columbia (BC) institutions, who demonstrate achievement in undergraduate and graduate studies and partnership potential with Indigenous communities, collectives and organizations.

Description:

The BC NEIHR launches an annual competition for up to three (3) Doctoral scholarships. Each year, recipients are invited to the Gathering for Indigenous Health Research (GIHR) with other funded Indigenous communities, collectives and organizations, where they present their work and speak about their participation in this scholarship program.

Eligibility: To be eligible to apply, you must:

- Provide proof of Indigenous (First Nations, Métis or Inuit) ancestry, specifically, a photocopy of either a status, citizenship, membership, registration, or enrolment card (refer to FAQs on website for examples).
- Be a Canadian citizen or a permanent resident of Canada.
- Not have held or hold a BC NEIHR Doctoral scholarship or Tri-Council Doctoral funding.
- Be enrolled in, have applied for, or will apply for full-time admission to a CIHR eligible (<https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/36374.html>) graduate program at the Doctoral level at a British Columbia institution (funds will not be released until we have received proof of enrollment).
- Submit a completed application prior to the deadline posted on the funding opportunity.
- Have completed, at the time of the application deadline, between zero and 36 months of full-time studies (or full-time equivalent) in the program for which you are requesting

funding. If you have completed more than 36 months of full-time studies in the program for which you are requesting funding, you are not eligible to apply.

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.
- Doctoral programs that are based only on course work are typically not eligible as they do not include a significant autonomous research component.

General Application Process:

- Applications must be prepared, finalized and submitted by applicants as one PDF file and emailed to [**bcneihr@uvic.ca**](mailto: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.
- Documents (e.g. CV) 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 peer review process and public announcement of recipients on our BC NEIHR website.
- Funds are released as payments each term and start in the September following the funding call. Students must be registered as full-time during the course of the payments.

If you have questions and/or need help with your application, please contact us by email at [**bcneihr@uvic.ca**](mailto:bcneihr@uvic.ca).

Applicants should consult the BC NEIHR YouTube Channel: @BC NEIHR for instructional videos on how to apply for scholarships as well as answers to Frequently Asked Questions.

Complete the BC NEIHR Master's Scholarship Application Form:

To complete the 2-page fillable PDF Application Form, please visit website: [**www.uvic.ca/bcneihr**](http://www.uvic.ca/bcneihr) to download the form or email the Network Coordinator [**bcneihr@uvic.ca**](mailto:bcneihr@uvic.ca).

The form will collect information about your discipline, research proposal and community/geographic region, which helps to assign applications to appropriate reviewers. The form will also ask you questions about other external funding, which is defined as funding from an outside research organization/agency (e.g. CIHR, SSHRC, MSFHR, Mitacs, etc.) and does not include internal funding from your own institution.

Letters of Support:

Each applicant must provide two letters of support, which can be from academic mentors and Indigenous communities, collectives and/or organizations (ICCOs) partners as appropriate. Ideally, one letter is from an academic mentor (e.g., supervisor) and one is from an ICCO. However, both letters can be from academic mentors. Letters should emphasize the applicant's potential for success (e.g., academic excellence and interpersonal/personal characteristics) and overall research potential, including significance and impact for Indigenous people health and wellness. Maximum of two letters and one page each.

Up-to-date Unofficial Transcripts:

Include in your application unofficial copies of all post-secondary transcripts. If you are a successful recipient, official transcripts will be required to receive your funds. Official transcripts are defined as transcripts issued by the institution's registrar office. Reviewers will want to see final grades on your transcript if you are in courses for the September-December semester prior to the March 1st deadline. If you are not in courses, but registered in a program (e.g. thesis), you must still provide an up-to-date transcript that includes thesis-registered semesters. If you are not yet registered in a Doctoral program, please provide a transcript of your most recent studies (e.g. Master's). If you are entering a Doctoral program based on work experience and do not have a Master's degree, please explain that in your proposal or letter of support. If awarded, you will be required to order your most recent official transcript for pick up or by mail, and then scan them. Please email the official transcript to bcneihr@uvic.ca.

Complete a CV:

A CV is required as it provides important information to reviewers for the adjudication of each application. Below are some key fields to include in your CV.

a. Education/Degrees

- All degrees (Bachelor, Masters and/or Doctoral) should be recorded in the CV whether they are complete or in progress. In addition, the following information should be included for eligibility purposes:
 - Degree Type
 - Degree Name
 - Specialization
 - Institution
 - Degree Status
 - Degree Start Date (YYYY/MM)
 - Degree Received Date/Degree Expected Date (YYYY/MM)
 - Supervisor

b. Recognitions

- Indicate any recognition received, including honors, distinctions, prizes, awards (monetary or not, declined, etc.) and citations. You should indicate from which channel the recognition was obtained (competitive process or not), and from which source (Federal, Provincial, Non-profit, etc.) If recognition was declined, it should also be indicated.
- c. *Employment, including Leaves of Absence and Impact on Research*
 - All relevant employment should be included.
 - Any special considerations that have had an effect on academic performance or productivity should be included. They may include considerations that may have resulted in delays in your program or research activities, such as health problems, family, community or cultural responsibilities, disabilities, or other circumstances. Any gaps in the chronology of your experience should be explained.
- d. *Research Funding History*
 - Include research funding entries whereby you were formally recorded as co-applicant, co-investigator, co-knowledge user, collaborator, decision maker, policy maker, principal applicant, principal investigator or principal knowledge user.
 - Do not duplicate information included elsewhere in the CV (e.g. CIHR Doctoral awards or any other type of federal or non-federal awards should be listed in Recognitions and not in this section).
- e. *Activities*
 - Activities and contributions should include both academic and non-academic achievements as well as their impact.
- f. *Contributions*
 - Presentations
 - Community or organizational presentations (date, location, name of event, name of your presentation, co-presenter's names).
 - Conference poster presentations should be listed. If the abstract was published in a conference journal, it should be listed under sub-section entitled "Conference Publications" under Publication section.
 - Publications
 - Include publications that have been accepted or are in press. Do not include publications in preparation or submitted.
 - Other Contributions – include any other oral, written or visual activities or materials produced. Service– local, regional, national and international community, organizational, government or institutional.
 - Intellectual Property
- e. *Other Relevant Factors (note: this section can be narrative based)*
 - Examples include, but are not limited to, expertise, community-based experience and responsibilities, lived and/or living experience(s), or leadership activities and skills.

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:

- Applicant's Potential (50%)
 - Research potential (e.g. work experience, community engagement, leadership experience, project management, volunteerism/community outreach, etc.).
 - Research or work-related experience in Indigenous wellness.
 - Academic excellence (as demonstrated by past academic results, transcripts, awards and distinctions).
 - Positionality statement is clearly articulated and described.
- Proposed Research Potential (50%)
 - Feasibility of the proposed study (i.e., relevance to Indigenous wellness, activities, timeline, scope).
 - Your proposal should describe:
 - a clear rationale for the study including existing literature (why should it be done?);
 - the aim of the research (i.e. what purpose will it serve?);
 - the methodology, methods and data analysis approach you will take; and,
 - potential impact and significance Indigenous peoples or ICCOs and how the study advances Indigenous wellness.

Please refer to the *BC NEIHR Doctoral Proposal Template* when writing your proposal.

Consideration will be given to distinctions-based, regional, cultural and disciplinary representation. Research will ideally be initiated by an Indigenous community, collective or organization (not sought out by the student or their supervisor).

Accountability:

On condition of receiving the scholarship, 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.

- Commit to actively supporting and mentoring peers and students affiliated with BC NEIHR.
- Contributing to the BC NEIHR evaluation activities by completing a brief survey or other evaluation activities about the experience.
- Attending the annual GIHR to present work and speak about participation in this opportunity.
- 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:

Please email bcneihr@uvic.ca.

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

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