



Robson Centre Emerging Cancer Scholars Award in DNA Science

Purpose of Award

The Robson Centre Emerging Cancer Scholar Award in DNA Science are competitive internal awards that recognize exceptional graduate students within the Robson DNA Science Centre, a research centre within the Arnie Charbonneau Cancer Institute, University of Calgary, who are conducting innovative and impactful research to the Robson Centre's research priorities, see below. By providing financial support and encouraging pursuit of external funding, the award aims to foster the development of future research leaders and strengthen the Institute's training environment in Cancer Research.

The Robson Centre's research priorities include DNA-focused science in the following areas:

- Environmental Exposures Causing Cancer and Aging
- Therapies for Rare Cancers
- Fundamental Mechanisms of DNA repair and Cellular Aging
- Real-world Informatics and Systems of Oncology

Eligibility Criteria

- current full-time PhD or MSc students at the University of Calgary whose primary supervisor is a current member of the Robson DNA Science Centre and the Arnie Charbonneau Cancer Institute
- Fulfills the Graduate Award Competition eligibility criteria (<https://grad.ucalgary.ca/awards/award-guide/step-1-applying/eligibility>)
- Citizenship: Open to all students; no citizenship restrictions

Number of Awards: determined by available funding

Value and Duration from the Robson Centre Emerging Cancer Scholar Award in DNA Science:

- **PhD** \$20,000/year for up to 2 years
- **MSc** \$17,500/year for 1 year

Refer to GSE guidelines for mandated top up policies.

Funding Expectations:

Award recipients are **required** to apply for all internal and external funding for which they are eligible, including those from provincial and national agencies.

Refer to GSE guidelines for mandated top up policies.

Adjustments of Awards:

This award fall under the University of Calgary graduate award regulations: [Regulations | Faculty of Graduate Studies | University of Calgary](#)

This award falls under the CSM Funding Policy: <https://cumming.ucalgary.ca/gse/current-students/student-payments>

Reporting Requirements:

A final report must be submitted detailing knowledge translation outputs, external scholarship applications and awards received.

Application Instructions:

Applications are administered by the Graduate Award Competition (GAC), available online, through your Student Centre. Please follow all guidelines and application deadlines for the GAC.

Required Components:

All components of the Standard GAC Award Application and CSM Harmonized Form must be completed.

Include an **eligibility statement** (max. 400 words) describing how your research aligns with the purpose of the Robson Centre Emerging Cancer Scholar Award in DNA Science (see Purpose of Award).

Adjudication Process and Evaluation Criteria

Eligible applications will receive a primary score through the GAC review process. This is a multi-disciplinary group of reviewers who may not have the in-depth knowledge in all the projects they review. Applicants must ensure that their project proposals can be understood by a non-specialist reviewer.

The top 50% of the applications will be re-evaluated by the Charbonneau Training Review Committee and adjudicated based on the following criteria:

- Relevance and contribution to advancing the Robson Centre's research priorities
- Significance and quality of the proposed project
- strength of the candidate (e.g., academic excellence, research experience, awards)

Award Terms and Obligations

Awarded recipients and their supervisors agree to the following obligations:

Acknowledgment of Support:

All publications, presentations, and communications related to the funded research must acknowledge support from the Robson DNA Science Centre Scholar Award and Arnie Charbonneau Cancer Institute.

Participation in Training Activities:

Awardees are required to participate in training activities, such as courses, workshops, and professional development opportunities organized by the Charbonneau Cancer Institute and the Robson DNA Science Centre.

Continued Application for External Funding:

To enhance the training capacity of the Robson DNA Science Centre and the Arnie Charbonneau Cancer Institute, all awardees must actively seek external funding opportunities.

Notification of Awards:

Recipients must inform the Arnie Charbonneau Cancer Institute and the Robson DNA Science Centre of any awards received from external or internal agencies or programs during the term of their award.

Please contact Charbonneau Education with any questions at: Email: charb.education@ucalgary.ca