

## Riddell Centre Emerging Cancer Scholar Award for Cancer Immunotherapy

**Objective:** The Riddell Centre Emerging Cancer Scholar Award for Cancer Immunotherapy aims to support and develop the next generation of leaders in cancer immunotherapy research. This award focuses on recruiting and / or retaining outstanding PhD and MSc students.

The Riddell Centre's research is strategically focused on advancing the following goals:

- Developing novel cell and immune-based therapies for hard-to-treat cancers
- Enhancing the effectiveness and safety of cancer immunotherapies
- Advancing new treatment approaches through clinical trials
- Training scientists and clinicians to excel in the cancer immunotherapy field

### Eligibility:

Applications are open to:

- Prospective or current full-time PhD/MSc students at the University of Calgary, supervised by a current or prospective Riddell Centre faculty member.
- Applicants must be accepted into a full-time MSc or PhD program at the University of Calgary under the supervision of a full member of the Riddell Centre for Cancer Immunotherapy.

### Additional Requirements:

- Award recipients and their supervisors must become members of the Riddell Centre and the Arnie Charbonneau Cancer Institute, adhering to all membership guidelines.
- Applicants must not have previously received funding through a Riddell Centre Graduate Scholarship.

### Terms and Conditions

The award aims to attract students who will be *highly competitive* for external awards on the basis of academic performance and research excellence. Students holding a Riddell Centre Emerging Cancer Scholar Award **are required to apply for all internal and external funding for which they are eligible**, including those from provincial and national agencies.

**Eligibility Limitations:** Students holding significant scholarships equal to or above the value of this award are ineligible to receive the Riddell Centre Emerging Cancer Scholar Award.

**Adjustments of Awards:** Students with scholarships of lesser value will have their Riddell Centre Emerging Cancer Scholar Award adjusted to ensure a combined total of 17,000 PhD students and \$15,000 MSc students.

**Reporting:** A final report detailing knowledge translation outputs and any external scholarship applications or awards will be required.

**Citizenship:** Unrestricted

**Number of Awards:** Up to 4 awards per year, subject to available funding and quality of applications

**Duration:** Scholarships are awarded for a period of 2 years.

**Value:** The award guarantees an annual stipend of:

**PhD Students: \$17,000/ per year** from the Riddell Centre, with the supervisor and/or co-supervisor providing additional funds to meet at least the minimum stipend.

**MSc Students: \$15,000/per year** from the Riddell Centre, with the supervisor and/or co-supervisor providing additional funds to meet at least the minimum stipend.

Supervisors agree to this financial partnership by applying to this competition.

**Application Instructions:**

This award application is administered by the Graduate Award Competition (GAC), available online, through your Student Centre. The form includes the following components:

**1:** The standard GAC application for students enrolled in CSM-based programs. Deadline is 11:59 PM on **January 2025**.

Please note that this deadline may be different if you are enrolled in a graduate program in another faculty. Please check with your program to find out your faculty's/ program's internal deadline for the GAC competition.

All components of the Standard GAC Award Application must be completed. These include:

- Eligibility statement
- References
- Transcripts: Transcripts will be added to your application after the deadline by your Graduate Program Administrator (GPA) based on the information provided in the application. You do not need to request transcripts.
- Other sections, Academic History; Awards; Research Abstract (250 words) and Proposal (thesis) (800 words); References cited in your research proposal (1000 words); Presentations and Contributions (1000 words); Leadership and Interpersonal Skills (800 words)

**2: The GAC Harmonized Award** attachment. Deadline TBA, submitted electronically through the Student Center via email to [awardsgse@ucalgary.ca](mailto:awardsgse@ucalgary.ca).

All components of the GAC Harmonized Award Attachment must be completed. These include:

- **An eligibility statement on how your training is aligned with the Riddell Centre research priorities in cancer immunotherapy research** (max. 400 words)
- Training experience, expectations and personal considerations section (max. 800 words)
- Training environment statement (max. 500 words)
- Supervisor Common CV CIHR Biosketch or equivalent
- Certificate of completion of the CIHR Sex and Gender module (IGH Learning - CIHR (cihr-irsc.gc.ca))

***Components 1 and 2 must be completed in full to ensure your application is valid.***

### **Application Deadlines**

The **GAC application** deadline is 11:59 PM on **TBA**, for students enrolled in CSM-based programs. The **GAC Harmonized Award Attachment** is due by **TBA**

### **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 submitted. Applicants must ensure that their project proposals can be understood by a non-specialist reviewer.

The top 50% of the applications reviewed by the GAC process will be re-reviewed by the Charbonneau Training Review Committee with their nominations submitted to the Riddell Centre. Applications will be adjudicated based on the following criteria:

- Excellence as it relates to the applicant's academic background and research experience
- Excellence and feasibility of the applicant's research proposal
- The quality of the research and training environment
- Relevance and contribution to advancing the Riddell Centre's goals in cancer immunotherapy research

### **Terms of the Award**

Awarded recipients and their supervisors agree to the following obligations, which include but are not limited to:

- **Acknowledgment of Support:** Recipients must acknowledge the financial support provided by the Riddell Centre at the Arnie Charbonneau Cancer Institute in all publications, presentations, communications, and marketing materials related to the funded research project.
- **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 Riddell Centre.
- **Continued Application for External Funding:** To enhance the training capacity of the Charbonneau Cancer Institute and Riddell Centre, all awardees must actively seek external funding opportunities. Successful external funding will allow Riddell's training funds to be allocated to additional trainees.
- **Notification of Awards:** Recipients must inform the Arnie Charbonneau Cancer Institute and the Riddell 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](mailto:charb.education@ucalgary.ca)**