

AllerGen–CAAIF Emerging Clinician-Scientist Research Fellowship

The goal of the *AllerGen–Canadian Allergy, Asthma and Immunology Foundation (CAAIF) Emerging Clinician-Scientist Research Fellowship* is to enable Canadian Allergists and Clinical Immunologists to pursue allergy, asthma and/or anaphylaxis academic research training immediately following their Clinical Immunology and Allergy sub-specialty training. The award is intended to develop and distribute allergy and clinical immunology academic research expertise to institutions across Canada.

The quality of the research or training opportunity and the potential for a combined career as a clinician and researcher are the principal criteria on which applications will be judged. Eligible academic foci include basic and/or clinical research related to allergy, asthma and/or anaphylaxis.

FUNDING INFORMATION

Value of the Award:

The *AllerGen–CAAIF Emerging Clinician-Scientist Research Fellowship* provides a stipend of up to \$250,000 for a maximum of two years for clinicians who have completed a Clinical Immunology and Allergy sub-specialty. Preference will be given to applicants whose host institution can confirm that the applicant has been identified for a junior faculty position following successful completion of the Fellowship and/or continued provincial research funding support.

AllerGen encourages applicants to secure matching funding to a level commensurate with their level of clinical training.

Duration of Support:

The duration of support provided to successful applicants will be for two years. A \$100,000 Fellowship plus a \$25,000 research allowance will be awarded in each of the two years of this Fellowship. Awardees will be eligible to receive year-two funds subject to AllerGen's satisfactory evaluation of a written report demonstrating progress. This award is non-renewable.

Research Allowance:

The research allowance of \$50,000 over two years is provided to pay for the awardee's research equipment, materials and supplies, relocation to and from the laboratory (where applicable), travel to scientific meetings held either inside or outside Canada and other costs directly related to their research

program. These funds cannot be used to pay for health insurance. An awardee may apply receipts against the research allowance for up to three months beyond the official termination date, at which time the account must be finalized.

Conditions of Funding:

All conditions specified in the CIHR Grants and Awards Guide <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/805.html> shall apply to applications funded through this Request for Applications.

Any unspent funds must be returned to AllerGen immediately on the last day of the three-month period following the official termination date.

AllerGen will specify any additional conditions of funding in the award offer and/or funding letter.

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must be Canadian citizens or permanent residents who are enrolled in or have completed Clinical Immunology and Allergy sub-specialty training.

Individuals who pursue PhD studies following completion of Clinical Immunology and Allergy subspecialty training are also eligible to apply.

NEW - Applicants who successfully completed Clinical Immunology and Allergy sub-specialty training or PhD studies in 2015, 2016 or 2017, are eligible to apply. Individuals completing Clinical Immunology and Allergy sub-specialty training or PhD studies in 2018, and beyond are not eligible to apply, due to the conclusion of AllerGen NCE-funding on March 31, 2019.

Eligible candidates include applicants who received their Clinical Immunology and Allergy sub-specialty training both inside and outside of Canada, provided the applicant is certified to practice allergy/immunology in Canada.

Preference will be given to applicants whose host institution provides a letter of support which includes a stated interest to appoint the candidate to a junior faculty position. Applicants are encouraged to use the fellowship as a bridge to a faculty appointment.

The Fellowship must be held at a Canadian university or research institute. The host institution must be an AllerGen signatory or become a signatory by agreeing to the terms and conditions of Network participation, as set out in the NCE Standard Agreement.

Should a successful applicant already hold a concurrent award, the Fellowship will be pro-rated accordingly. Should an awardee receive additional awards, a similar reduction will be made. Awardees are required to notify AllerGen immediately of any and all awards received during the term in which they hold the *AllerGen–CAAIF Emerging Clinician-Scientist Research Fellowship Award*.

EVALUATION PROCESS

Applications will be screened by the AllerGen Administrative Centre staff for completeness. Eligible applications will then be subject to peer review by the AllerGen Advanced Education and Training Opportunities Advisory Committee, which will rank and recommend applicants for final decision by AllerGen's Research Management Committee.

Evaluation Criteria:

The quality of the research or training opportunity and the potential for a combined career as a clinician and researcher are the principal criteria on which the applications will be judged. More specifically, points considered in the assessment of an application are as follows:

- Academic achievements
- Publication record and contributions to published work
- Research accomplishments to date, including evidence of independence and originality
- Quality and clarity of the proposed research project and the potential to increase capacity of translational Clinical Immunology and Allergy research
- Appropriateness of the proposed research or training project to further the candidate's combined clinical and research career
- Supervisor/mentor qualifications and strength of learning environment
- Sponsor assessments and strength of references
- Institutional confirmation of the candidate's identification for a junior faculty position

PUBLICATIONS

Awardees must acknowledge the assistance given by AllerGen in any publication or presentation made during or resulting from the tenure of the Award.

AllerGen shall be provided a copy, at the time of submission, of all manuscripts and presentations submitted for publication that arise from the efforts of the Fellowship recipient during the tenure of this Award.

MONITORING, PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT AND EVALUATION

AllerGen is committed to demonstrating results to Canadians for the public funds it invests on their behalf. Therefore, processes for monitoring progress and appropriate use of funds, as well as for performance measurement and program evaluation are in place. To this end, funding recipients must:

- Contribute to the monitoring, review and evaluation of AllerGen's programs, policies and processes by participating in networking activities including Research Conferences/Scientific Meetings, as well as participating in evaluation studies, surveys, workshops, audits and providing data and reports as required for the purpose of collecting information to assess progress and results;
- Encourage their associates, trainees and administration to participate in the monitoring, review and evaluation of AllerGen's programs, policies and processes as required;

- Sign AllerGen’s Standard NCE Network Agreement and comply with the agreement’s provisions.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND COMMERCIALIZATION

Awardees and their host institutions must be signatories to the AllerGen Standard NCE Network Agreement. As per this agreement, AllerGen NCE Inc. requires that it be informed of any commercial exploitation arising from activity supported through the Award in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Standard NCE Network Agreement. AllerGen directs that effort should be made by the Awardee to maximize beneficial social and economic impacts to Canada as a result of this Award.

TERMINATION OF THE AWARD

This Award may be terminated at any time with 30 days written notice for good and sufficient reason by the Awardee, the host University or AllerGen NCE Inc. If terminated, all unspent funds as at the termination date, must be returned immediately to AllerGen.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Applications must be received in the AllerGen Administration Centre no later than 1 December 2017, by 11:59 pm.

Candidates are requested to complete the *AllerGen–CAAIF Emerging Clinician-Scientist Research Fellowship* application form and include the following:

1. A description of the proposed research project and training opportunity, (maximum five pages, excluding references, which may be appended on a separate page);
2. A brief applicant statement describing how the *AllerGen–CAAIF Emerging Clinician-Scientist Research Fellowship* will contribute to your career development and the training opportunity to be provided.
3. The impact of your research as a foundation project for your clinician-scientist career.
4. The training opportunity including the nature of the learning environment and mentoring to be provided.
5. CV for both the candidate and the proposed supervisor(s).
6. Proof of enrollment or completion of Clinical Immunology and Allergy sub-specialty training.
7. Sponsor Assessments from three (3) individuals under whom the candidate has trained and who have had an opportunity to assess the candidate's potential for research success. A sponsor assessment template is available by contacting the AllerGen Administrative Centre. Sponsor assessment forms must be sealed at source.
8. Letter(s) of support from the candidate's proposed supervisor(s). The letter must indicate institutional support for the fellowship *i.e.*, resources to be provided, protected research time *etc.*

9. Letter from the host institution confirming identification for a junior faculty position, where applicable.
10. Official transcripts of the candidate's graduate and/or clinical training, including proof of any degrees completed, in the original sealed envelope.

KEY DATES

Application Deadline: 1 December 2017
Adjudication: January 2018
Notification: February 2018

Mail or courier application to:

Leah Graystone
AllerGen NCE Inc.
McMaster University
Michael G. DeGroot Centre for Learning and Discovery, Room 3120
1280 Main Street West, Hamilton, ON
L8S K1

CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions regarding the completion of the application and the peer review process, contact:

Leah Graystone
Phone 905-525-9140 ext. 26633
Email leahgraystone@allergen-nce.ca



About AllerGen

AllerGen NCE Inc. is a member of Canada's Networks of Centres of Excellence (NCE) program with a mandate to support research, networking, commercialization, knowledge mobilization and capacity building activities that contribute to reducing the morbidity, mortality and socio-economic impact of allergic and related immune diseases.

AllerGen's Mission

To catalyze and support discovery, development, networking, capacity building, commercialization and knowledge translation/mobilization that contribute to reducing the morbidity, mortality and socioeconomic burden of allergy, asthma and anaphylaxis for the benefit of Canadians and the global community.

AllerGen's Vision

To catalyze an enduring network of researchers and trainees, industry partners, healthcare providers, patient advocates and policy makers whose combined efforts improve the quality of life of those impacted by allergic disease, asthma and anaphylaxis, nationally and globally.

AllerGen's Goals

1. Catalyze and support innovative research to discover causes, prevention and treatments for allergic and related immune diseases
2. Contribute to development, translation, mobilization, commercialization and policy use of research that accelerates Canadian innovation, productivity and economic competitiveness
3. Develop and maintain networking and partnerships rooted in strong, mutually beneficial relationships with relevant communities and organizations
4. Create "value-added" opportunities for the training, education and professional development of highly qualified personnel (HQP), students and new professionals and the public that strengthen Canada's knowledge base, innovative capacity and work-force productivity
5. Leave an enduring network of relationships and capacity that sustains AllerGen-fostered research partnerships, commercialization and knowledge mobilization into the future, as a legacy benefiting Canadians nationally and globally.

The **AllerGen Administrative Centre** is located at
McMaster University
Michael G. DeGroot Centre for Learning and Discovery, Room 3120
1280 Main St. West, Hamilton, ON
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