

2017 Undergraduate Summer Studentships Allergy, Asthma and Anaphylaxis Research Training Awards

Application Deadline: February 10, 2017

AllerGen NCE Inc. (AllerGen) 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.

The research studentships provide capacity-building opportunities for undergraduate summer students specializing in biomedical, health, social and/or natural science and engineering research related to allergy, asthma, and related immune/inflammatory processes and diseases.

The studentships are aligned with AllerGen's strategic goal for the development of HQP:

Create 'value-added' opportunities for the training, education, and professional development of HQP, students and new professionals that strengthen Canada's knowledge base, innovative capacity and work-force productivity.

The studentships are intended to foster interest in allergic and related immune disease research among students at the undergraduate level of study by recruiting the top undergraduate students to work with established AllerGen research teams. It is hoped that this experience will spark an enduring interest in allergic and related immune disease research and/or clinical practice among these students and potentially lead them to pursue advanced studies in related areas.

1.0 Eligibility

Applicants must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident and enrolled in a full-time undergraduate degree program in Canada.

At the time of the award, applicants must have completed at least one year of undergraduate study. Applicants that have completed the requirements of an undergraduate program, e.g., Hons BSc, must be enrolled in a graduate or professional degree program in fall 2017.

Eligible applicants will be restricted to those working on projects with researchers that are recognized as AllerGen investigators.

2.0 Value of Training Award

A maximum of ten awards will be awarded providing a stipend of up to \$3,500 each.

The award is based on a combination of AllerGen funding and matching partner (non-AllerGen) funding, for a total award value of \$7000.

AllerGen project funding cannot be used as the required 1:1 matching funding.

The studentships are based on a minimum commitment of ten weeks (six weeks for medical school students) between May 1 and August 31, 2017.

If the duration of the summer studentship is less than 13 weeks, the amount of the award will be pro-rated at \$270.00 per week.

If the awardee is successful in obtaining a major award or a combination of several awards (including the *AllerGen Studentship*) greater than or equal to \$8,500, the AllerGen award will be reduced accordingly.

3.0 Conditions of Funding

Successful applicants will be expected to work full-time on a research project under the supervision of an AllerGen investigator.

Successful applicants will be required to sign the *AllerGen Networks of Centres of Excellence (NCE) Standard Agreement Acknowledgement Form*, agreeing to the terms and conditions of Network participation.

Successful applicants' host institution must agree to administer the studentship and provide confirmation of matching funding.

All studentship awardees will be required to submit a final report demonstrating progress towards the milestones and deliverables outlined in their application.

4.0 Evaluation Process

Applications will be evaluated by AllerGen's Advanced Education and Training Opportunities Advisory Committee (AETOAC), which will rank and recommend applications for approval to AllerGen's Research Management Committee (RMC).

AETOAC will rank applications based on the following:

Excellence of the Applicant	Applicant's achievements including transcripts, publications, presentations and past experiences
Excellence of the Project	Quality and scientific merit of the proposed research including the strength of the hypothesis, research objectives, methodology and anticipated outcomes
Quality of the Training Environment	Supervisor's research and training environment (<i>e.g.</i> , publications, grant support, number of trainees supervised, <i>etc.</i>)

The applicant's research proposal must be relevant to biomedical, health, social and/or natural science and engineering research in the area of allergy, asthma, and anaphylaxis and related immune/inflammatory diseases and processes.

The proposal must also be aligned with AllerGen's mission, vision and goals for 2012-2019, (Appendix A).

5.0 Research Proposal

The maximum length of the project proposal is two pages and must include the following:

- Introduction to proposed research project and focus
- Hypothesis
- Project objectives (maximum two)
- Selected research methodology and its appropriateness
- Anticipated research outcomes clearly defining what will be achieved through the research award and how this project will build capacity and advance AllerGen Network research in terms of the scientific, social and/or economic value-added of the project.

6.0 Application

6.1 Application Submission

Applications will be reviewed by AllerGen Administrative Centre for completeness and for conformance to all eligibility requirements. Incomplete applications will be returned to the applicant without further consideration.

A completed application form must be accompanied by the following attachments:

- Research proposal
- Applicant's CV, including any applicable publications (e.g., abstracts, posters)
- Supervisor's CV (last 5 years, full)
- Official transcripts of all years of undergraduate study (including GPA)
- Letter of support from supervisor, which includes confirmation of matching funding
- Two professional/academic based reference letters (in addition to supervisor's letter)

Completed applications must be sent electronically in single PDF to Michelle Harkness at michelleharkness@allergen-nce.ca no later than February 10, 2017.

Successful applicants will be notified no later than March 31, 2017.

For more information contact:

Michelle Harkness
Manger HQP Training Program and Events
(905) 525-9140 ext. 26633
michelleharkness@allergen-nce.ca

Please carefully read all instructions and include all necessary documents. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that the materials have been successfully submitted.