CIHR: Reviewer in Training Program

On January 18th CIHR released a pre-announcement for the Reviewer in Training (RiT) Program. This is a program that builds on and replaces the CIHR Observer program. The RiT program provides a learning opportunity for Early Career Researchers to gain a better understanding of the peer review process through direct participation in the Project Grant competition with the support of a mentor.

- Participants will be assigned 3 applications to conduct practice reviews, attend the peer review meeting, present one of their reviews, and participate in the committee discussion of their assigned applications.
- Each participant will be assigned a mentor, either a committee chair or scientific officer, that will provide advice and support throughout the review process. This will include feedback on participants written reviews, prior to the committee meeting.
- If you complete the RiT program you will then be able to participate in peer review when requested (and available to do so) by CIHR

Eligibility:

- To be eligible to participate in the RiT program, individuals must meet CIHR's definition of an Early Career Researcher and must be working at a Canadian institution. Please note that CIHR has temporarily "paused the clock" regarding ECR status and this will apply within the RiT program.
- Early Career Researchers who previously participated in the CIHR Observer program are eligible but are required to re-submit an application.
You are eligible to apply even if you are submitting an application as a Nominated Principal Applicant (NPA) or Principal Applicant (PA) in the current competition. If selected, you will participate on a committee that is not reviewing an application where you are a NPA or PA.

The application period will open on February 1, 2021 and close on February 26, 2021.

To Apply:

1. You will need a CIHR PIN https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/38201.html
2. A PDF of your CIHR Biosketch Common CV
3. A letter confirming your eligibility as an Early Career Researcher. Please email Jenna Slobozian (jslobozi@ucalgary.ca) prior to February 12th to obtain your letter.
4. The names of two peer review committees – in order of preference – that you would like to participate on for which you have the appropriate expertise to review

Approximately 120 applicants will be selected, by lottery, which represents two opportunities per Project Grant Program committee. CIHR is committed to equitable and inclusive participation and may implement strategies in the lottery process to enhance equity, diversity, and inclusion.

To see the full details on the program visit: https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/52291.html.

If you have any questions about this program please contact me at any time.

Best,

Jenna

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