

## THE PETER LOUGHEED RESEARCH AWARD

The Cumming School of Medicine welcomes applications for The Peter Lougheed Research Award. The competition is open to junior investigators at or coming to the Cumming School of Medicine.

A [Junior Investigator \(researcher early career\) as defined by Tri-Council \(CIHR\)](#) is "a researcher within five years of the date of their first independent research-related appointment" (see link for exceptions)

Funds will benefit excellence in health research in Alberta, by providing salary and research support to exceptional young researchers thereby encouraging them to continue their career in the province.

Award criteria:

- The proposal supports a novel research project aligned with the priorities of the CSM (see CSM Strategic Plan 2023) available at: <https://cumming.ucalgary.ca/about/cumming-school-medicine/stratplan2023>
- Preference will be given to proposals that foster collaboration across multiple CSM priorities
- Proposals will be assessed on the quality of the applicant, including publications, grants and students in the research program being proposed for funding.

The funds can be utilized to cover salary and support for research activities including consumables, travel, equipment and other relevant costs.

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*The funds awarded can be applied towards the salary of a new researcher as a salary recovery only. This award cannot be used as a salary top-up.*

*Postdoctoral fellows or graduate students are not eligible to apply for this award. Eligible applicants must have their primary academic appointment (or be recruited to a primary appointment) in the Cumming School of Medicine.*

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Applicants can request up to **\$64,750**

Please see next pages for **Frequently Asked Questions**.

Complete applications must include **Application form**, Description of project (200-250 words), Research proposal (max 2 pages), Budget justification (max 1 page) and a recent Curriculum Vitae (max 5 pages). In addition to your Application and its sections, you may also append: References, Bibliography, Tables, Figures, Letters of support, Equipment quotes as needed. Appendices must be submitted as one PDF file, no larger than 10 pages (10MGB).

Deadline for application submission **September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

Questions about this competition must be submitted to: [medendow@ucalgary.ca](mailto:medendow@ucalgary.ca) for the attention of Patty Beug-Jang.

Guidelines & Application can be found at: **Cumming School of Medicine (CSM) website**, under **Research & Institutes Overview – Funding Opportunities - Endowments**:

<https://cumming.ucalgary.ca/research-institutes/funding-opportunities/endowments>

## 2024 Peter Lougheed Research Award

### Competition Frequently Asked Questions

- [Eligibility](#) **and additional CIHR ECR eligibility clarifications - see the last pg**
- [Additional documents accepted](#)
- [Budget](#)

#### **Eligibility**

***Q: Is CSM adjunct appointment considered eligible for this competition?***

A: Yes, as long as you provide Department Head's attestation that you are an "[Independent Researcher](#)" as defined by CIHR:

- is autonomous regarding their research activities; and has an academic or research appointment which:
  - must commence by the effective date of funding; and
  - allows the individual to pursue the proposed research project, to engage in independent research activities for the entire duration of the funding, to supervise trainees (if applicable, as per their institution's policy), and to publish the research results; and
  - obliges the individual to conform to institutional regulations concerning the conduct of research, the supervision of trainees, and the employment conditions of staff paid with CIHR funding.

***Q: If I am a member of a CSM Institute (eg ACHRI, HBI) am I eligible to apply if I don't have an academic appointment with CSM?***

A: Unfortunately, you are not eligible to apply for this competition. Institute membership only doesn't make an applicant eligible to apply for this award. Eligible applicants must have an academic appointment, preferably primary, with Cumming School of Medicine.

***Q: I am just starting my fulltime position as an AMHSP with the Department of .... but am currently a Clinical Lecturer with the UofC. In a few months, I will be moving to a GFT academic/research role as an assistant professor. Does the role of clinical lecturer make me ineligible for this award?***

A: You would be eligible to apply for the Peter Lougheed competition if you will append a letter from your Department Head confirming your GFT recruitment and eligibility for the Peter Lougheed Research Award for you. The letter would indicate that you have been offered a GFT position in the Department of ....., pending Faculty approval in.... 20XX, thus satisfying the award eligibility criteria that the applicant "will be recruited to a primary (full time research) appointment to the CSM".

***Q: Is a Clinical Assistant Professor rank considered eligible for this competition as per CHIR definition of "Independent researcher"?***

A: CIHR does not have any specific restrictions surrounding the link between titles and eligibility. So as long as the applicant meets CIHR's definition of an **independent researcher**, they would be considered to have an eligible appointment. That is they are:

- autonomous regarding their research activities; and
- have an academic or research appointment which:
  - must commence by the effective date of funding; and
  - allows the individual to pursue the proposed research project, to engage in independent research activities for the entire duration of the funding, to supervise trainees (if applicable, as per their institution's policy), and to publish the research results; and
  - obliges the individual to conform to institutional regulations concerning the conduct of research, the supervision of trainees, and the employment conditions of staff paid with CIHR funding.

The appointment as a Clinical Assistant Professor meets the above criteria and so, you are eligible.

***Q: I am an Academic, with a faculty appointment, but I do 50% research and 50% clinical work. The requirements call for a "full time researcher". Would I still be eligible to apply?***

A: Since your academic appointment is a full-time appointment and since when calculating Early Career Investigator eligibility for CIHR, the percent of time devoted to research versus other duties, such as teaching or clinical work, does not factor into the calculation of time spent in a faculty appointment, we have concluded that you would be considered to be full-time researcher by CIHR's methods of calculation and therefore, eligible to apply for this competition.

***Q: If I have already been successful in the past competitions for this award, am I still eligible to apply?***

A: Yes, you are eligible.

### **Additional documents accepted**

***Q: Can I append reference/ collaboration letters to my application?***

A: Yes, you can, provided that you PDF these documents, combine them into **one document** and append them your application.

***Q: Are figures acceptable in addition to the application?***

A: Yes, you may append figures to the application as one PDF document attached to your application.

**\*\*\* One PDF file for all attachments, no larger than 10MGB to include: mandatory CV (max 5 pgs) and optional: References, Bibliography, Tables, Figures, Letters of support, Equipment quotes**

### **Budget**

***Q: Is the split between research and salary recovery up to the applicant (if approved), or does the Dean have a formula that he applies, for instance for other funding agencies, the applicant faculty member will only apply if at least 70% of the total awarded goes to research.***

A: The applicant has the discretion to decide on the split. If they would like to put all of the funding towards research, they should propose this in their application. There is no specific formula or requirement on how the research and stipends are split. If the applicant is a clinician, it would make sense to direct the funding towards salary recovery as this frees up time for academic/research work. For basic science researchers, using the funding for operations is the preferred route.

***Q: Are student stipends and/or contractors/ research assistants' salaries to assist with projects (analysts, project managers) eligible?***

A: As long as the support for these positions is relevant to the project you are proposing, they are eligible. They can be listed in your budget as student stipends, research assistant etc...

**Q: Is financial need a consideration for this grant? For instance, I already have large Tri-Council funding and so I am not sure if the funding currently held will help or hurt my chances of receiving this award.**

A: Financial need is **not** considered as part of the criteria and so, it would not impact your application.

**Q: Does the project have to be entirely new, or can we request funding to supplement ongoing work/ grants for which we do not have sufficient funds to fully complete the work?**

A: The award criteria, as provided in the TOR and as copied on pg 1 of the Application indicates: “The proposal supports novel research project aligned with the priorities of CSM (available at: <https://cumming.ucalgary.ca/about/cumming-school-medicine/stratplan2023>)” Since the application that you intend to submit for Peter Lougheed Research Award Competition has been already supported through another funding mechanism, for example CIHR, we do not think that it can still be considered “novel”/ new.

**Q: I will be taking maternity leave shortly. However, I would like to submit an application proposing work that is ongoing as part of my PhD student’s doctoral program. If I were to secure this funding, I just want to confirm that my maternity leave would not prohibit spending the funding for my PhD student stipend.**

A: If you budget in your application for funding to support a student involved in the proposed research, your leave would not impact this, provided the research is still ongoing while you are in maternity leave.

**Additional clarifications regarding [CIHR Early Career Researcher](#)**

ECR cohort	Status
Progressed out of ECR status before Mar. 1, 2020	Standard 60-month window applies
Held ECR status between Mar. 1, 2020, and Sep. 15, 2022	ECR status extended to 84 months (no further extensions to ECR window)
New ECRs entering system after Sep. 15, 2022	Standard 60-month window applies

if an eligible leave occurred ANY time during the ECR window, it counts as double.