

2026 CAMH Koerner Research Scholars Research Studentship Program for Health Professional Trainees

Background

The **Koerner Research Scholars** program is dedicated towards providing health professional trainees with the opportunity to work with distinguished scientists to gain experience with sound research methodologies, and to experience excellent mentorship while exploring mental health research across a broad spectrum of scientific disciplines. This program is open to all health professionals currently in a training program and at any stage of their chosen vocational program, including physicians, psychologists, nurses, occupational therapists, and social workers. In addition to completing the proposed research and engaging in mentorship opportunities within their supervisor's research group, trainees will be invited to attend research meetings and events.

Award Guidelines

The Koerner Research Scholars program is a competitive research studentship providing support for health professional trainees to complete a mental health research project under the supervision of a CAMH scientist. The objective of this competition is to provide health professional trainees with exposure to the breadth of mental health care and research, including hands-on research experience, training and mentorship. The competition is open to both internal CAMH and external applicants.

Koerner Research Scholars positions are full-time for a duration of 10 to 12 weeks. This research studentship program will cover **wages and employer payroll contributions** for the successful applicant's training engagement. The trainee will be remunerated at a rate of **\$22 per hour, for a maximum of 400 hours**, to carry out their proposed project over a continuous training period of **10 to 12 weeks**. The proposed supervisor will contribute up to **\$5,000** in toward the position, and the Koerner Research Scholars program will cover the remaining amount (approximately \$6,000).

Selection will be based on project proposal strength and feasibility, mentorship environment, and the applicant's CV. The selection will be made by a subcommittee of CAMH scientists, based on CIHR standards of excellence.

Eligibility Criteria

- Applicants must obtain sponsorship of a primary supervisor who holds a scientific appointment at CAMH as Associate Scientist, Staff Scientist, Senior Staff Scientist, Scientist, or Senior Scientist. Applicants are encouraged to reach out to potential CAMH supervisors. Information regarding CAMH scientists can be found at the [CAMH staff directory](#). Please contact internal.funding@camh.ca to clarify eligibility if your potential supervisor's scientific appointment type is not listed here.
- Applicants must be registered in a health professional program during the year they begin the award. For examples of health professions, please consult CIHR's list of [Eligible Health Professions](#).
 - **Note:** The health profession must require at least a Bachelor's degree for licensure in Canada, be regulated by provincial legislation, and provide a service that promotes health and/or prevents disease.
- CAMH Employees are ineligible to receive remuneration from a training award and their employment role concurrently. Interested applicants who are currently employed by CAMH under a position other than a trainee must contact ResearchHR@camh.ca and internal.funding@camh.ca in advance of the deadline to confirm eligibility.
- Applicants are only eligible to hold the Koerner Research Scholar studentship one time.
- Applicants must meet eligibility requirements for CAMH Research Trainees as set out in policy [AR 1.2, Research Trainees](#).
- Applicant's supervisor(s) must agree to provide the applicant with a minimum of 100% protected time for research.

- The Koerner Research Scholars Award welcomes applications from First Nations, Métis and Inuit, racialized and 2SLGBTQ+ communities, women, people with disabilities (including people who have experienced mental health and substance use challenges), and those not listed who may contribute to the further diversification of ideas.

Conditions of Award

- Awards are limited to a 10- to 12-week period of support.
- Awards are to commence during the period of June 1, 2026 to February 28, 2027.
- Applicants must indicate the period that the position will be completed related to their individual academic calendar. In choosing to accept an award, an applicant will be required to provide the CAMH Research Operations, Services and Support Office with an annual update of their current clinical or academic positions/affiliations for a total of five years.
- Applicants will not be able to start their award at CAMH if their supervisor has any incomplete/outstanding trainee progress reports or a lapsed scientific appointment. CAMH will work with the supervisor to complete reporting and the applicant can start the Research Award.

Application Instructions

1. Notice of Intent

Applicants must submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) online by **February 27, 2026 by 5pm EST** using the following form: <https://form.jotform.com/252796149001255>. The NOI must identify the supervisor(s), include a brief description of the proposed project (250 words), answer self-identification* and project representation questions, provide 3-5 project area and methodology keywords, and include a letter from your supervisor confirming the source of matching funds. Information from the NOI will assist the Grants & Awards team with matching applications to academic experts in the review process.

*Information collected will be confidential, cannot be accessed by reviewers, and will not be linked to personnel data. Data regarding the applicant pool will be reported only to the Koerner Research Scholars Award selection committee and a small number of ROSS staff members for the purposes of program administration, process improvement, and reporting requirements.

2. Research Assurances and Approvals Form (RAAF)

A RAAF must be submitted via the [eRA Portal](#) by **March 6, 2026, 5PM EST**. For guidance on RAAF submission, please see the [Research Portal](#). If you do not have already have an eRA account, please submit a request form [here](#) well in advance of the deadline.

As you are completing your RAAF:

- In the RAAF form, your supervisor must be listed as the CAMH Project Lead.
- For Question III.6, please select “Grant” as the RAAF Submission Type.

3. Full Application

Applicants must submit their application online using the guidelines below by **March 13, 2026, 5pm EST**. A link to the online form will be provided following NOI submission and confirmation of eligibility. Late applications will not be accepted.

a) Project Information

- Applicant Name and Email
- Supervisor(s)
- Project Title – Limit of 640 characters, including spaces.
- Lay Title – Limit of 200 characters, including spaces. Provide a title for the project that is in a language clear to the general public

- Lay Abstract - Limit of 2,000 characters, including spaces. Describe the project in a way that is accessible to a lay audience.
- b) **Research Project Summary** – Limit of 4,000 characters, including spaces, references included. The research project summary should be written in general scientific language, and should include the specific hypothesis of the research and describe your role in the proposed project. Make sure that the summary provides a concise account of the subject matter, an overview of each part of the research plan, specific project aims and the methodology. Please use the following headings:
 - **Background** – summarize the state of knowledge relevant to the proposal.
 - **Hypotheses/research questions** – state these clearly and concisely.
 - **Methods** – give essential details of methods; describe the data to be collected and the method of data analysis proposed. Clearly define the population.
 - **Originality** – state how the project will advance knowledge if it is completed as planned and meaningfully extend the knowledge and/or skills of the applicant.
 - **Impact** – state how the project will advance knowledge if completed as planned.
 - **Role on proposed project** – address how the proposed research will support your training goals.
- c) **Research Supervisor Statement** – Limit of 1,750 characters, including spaces. Please upload a statement demonstrating the commitment of the proposed supervisor(s) to support the applicant's research development, and how the training goals or plan align with the trainee's career path. This section should include information related to space, facilities and personnel support that will be available to carry out the proposed research, as well as relevant grant support and research training opportunities. An in-depth description of the role and responsibilities of the applicant in the supervisor's research should be included.
- d) **Curriculum Vitae** – The applicant must provide a [CIHR Academic](#), [CIHR Biosketch](#), or [NIH Biosketch](#).
- e) **Academic Documentation – Proof of registration**
Please upload a letter from the University registrar indicating that the applicant is registered in eligible health professional program, or some equivalent proof of registration. If the applicant is not yet registered at the time of application, this letter is required prior to acceptance of the award.

4. Submitting the Application

The application must be submitted online (link to be provided following NOI submission) **by March 13, 2026, 5pm EST**. If you have any questions regarding the application guidelines or submission process, please contact internal.funding@camh.ca.

Note: Supplemental material and material exceeding the specified length will not be considered in the review process. The reviewing committee consists of academic experts but not necessarily specialists in the applicant's specific subject area.

DEADLINES AT A GLANCE

Notice of Intent: February 27, 2026

RAAF: March 6, 2026

Full Application: March 13, 2026

Notice of Award: April 2026

