

Background

The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) is Canada's largest mental health teaching hospital and one of the world's leading research centers in its field. The organization conducts groundbreaking research, provides expert training to health care professionals and scientists, develops innovative health promotion and prevention strategies, and advocates on public policy issues at all levels of government.

CAMH is dedicated to finding innovative solutions to major challenges in the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of mental illness and improving outcomes for those affected, now and in the future. Each year CAMH provides opportunities to the next generation of scientists to train in a unique learning environment and help contribute to the breakthrough mental illness research and treatments of tomorrow. Postdoctoral researchers are expected to make independent contributions to knowledge during their appointment. These may be in the form of a contribution to an existing project, or through the development of an original project aligned with the following themes:

1. Basic and pre-clinical neuroscience
2. Brain and/or behavior interventions (including technology-based interventions)
3. Clinical measure and/or biomarker identification
4. Community-based research
5. Health policy or health services research
6. Implementation science
7. Social and epidemiological research
8. Translation of clinical neuroscience (i.e. the study of mechanisms of disease and new ways of diagnosis and treatment) into clinical treatment

Current Postdoctoral Research Award Opportunities

Funding for postdoctoral training is provided across several internal funding streams (conditional on availability of funds) of which some may have specific focus areas or eligibility criteria. Please see below and Appendix A for descriptions of each funding stream.

- **Azrieli Adult Neurodevelopmental Centre – Postdoctoral Research Award:** Up to four 2-year awards, each valued at a total of \$75,000 CAD per year (\$70,000 stipend + \$5,000 research allowance), are available. This award will require all researchers to complete independent research, contribute clinically to Adult Neurodevelopmental Services at CAMH and get involved in education and training of clinicians to work with people with neurodevelopmental disabilities.
- **BRIDGES (Building Research and Innovation through Diversity, Growth, Equity and Sustainability) – Postdoctoral Research Award:** One 1-year award valued at a total of \$75,000 CAD (\$70,000 stipend + \$5,000 research allowance) is available. This award is open to researchers who self-identify as Black, First Nations, Métis and Inuit, or from other racialized groups. CAMH is dedicated to fostering a more equitable, diverse, and inclusive research environment for trainees.
- **Discovery Fund – Talent Development Competition:**
 - **1-Year Postdoctoral Research Award:** 1-year awards valued at a total of \$75,000 CAD (\$70,000 stipend + \$5,000 research allowance) are available.
 - **2-Year Postdoctoral Research Award:** 2-year awards valued at a total of \$75,000 CAD per year (\$70,000 stipend + \$5,000 research allowance) are available to provide postdoctoral researchers with the opportunity to generate new international and national collaborations with two co-supervisors from different institutions. During the first year of this award, awardees will be located at an institution

external to CAMH (University of Toronto is acceptable, but another institution would be preferable) and during the second year, the awardee will be located at CAMH. During the first year, CAMH assumes no responsibility or obligations related to the applicant's engagement or employment status. Applicants must confirm with their co-supervisor and the collaborating institution that they meet the requirements for being a postdoctoral researcher at the collaborating institution. If the collaborating institution has a minimum stipend amount that is greater than \$70,000, the Discovery Fund will not provide any additional funding, and the difference will need to be provided by the supervisor and/or co-supervisor. To be eligible for the 2-year award, applicants must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident. If the collaborating institution is located outside Canada, the applicant is responsible for meeting all applicable statutory requirements respecting authorization to work in that country.

- **Koerner Postdoctoral Research Award:** One 1-year award valued at a total of \$75,000 CAD (\$70,000 stipend + \$5,000 research allowance) is available. This award is open to researchers from underrepresented groups, in alignment with CAMH, Government of Canada, and Tri-Agency priorities to address systemic racism, sexism, and discrimination in Canadian institutions through an intersectional lens, tackle systemic barriers that limit the full participation of all talented individuals, and increase equitable and inclusive participation in the research system. It reflects the commitment of CAMH to foster a more equitable, diverse, and inclusive research environment for trainees.

All applications will be evaluated by external reviewers, based on CIHR standards of excellence. The final selection of awards will be made by the separate committees overseeing each funding stream.

Eligibility Criteria

- The award is intended to support candidates who are seeking **full-time** postdoctoral studies under the primary supervision of a CAMH Scientist. Applicant's supervisor(s) must agree to provide the applicant with a minimum of 75% protected time for research.
- 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.
- There is no limit to the number of applicants per supervisor applying for any CAMH Postdoctoral Research Award. However, **only one award may be held under each supervisor**, determined by ranking.
- Applicants may submit only **one** application per cycle for the CAMH Postdoctoral Research Award. Their application will be considered for all eligible funding stream based on responses to eligibility related questions, project alignment, and availability of funds.
- Applicants must have a PhD and/or regulated health professional degree at the time they start the award. For examples of health professions, please consult CIHR's list of [Eligible Health Professions](#).
 - Applicants must be within 5 years of completing their doctoral/regulated health professional degree, both at the time of application and during the term of their research award (if successful).
 - Any interruptions, delays or post-degree clinical training in post-PhD/regulated health professional degree cumulative experience may be taken into account in determining eligibility if detailed information on the interruption, including specific dates, is provided.
 - Prospective applicants who exceed or are within 1 year of the 5-year maximum at time of application must consult with ResearchHR@camh.ca & internal.funding@camh.ca regarding eligibility to be a Research Trainee before applying.
- 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 an employment position other than a trainee must contact ResearchHR@camh.ca and internal.funding@camh.ca in advance of the deadline to confirm eligibility.

- Current or former CAMH Postdoctoral Research Awardees are not eligible to apply. Trainees may receive a maximum of one CAMH Postdoctoral Research Award at CAMH. Applicants with external funding support that overlaps the period of the CAMH Postdoctoral Research Awards are not eligible to apply.
- Applicants must apply to at least one external agency for research stipend support in the time period between April 1, 2025 and December 31, 2025.
 - Applicants applying to the CAMH Postdoctoral Research Award are strongly encouraged to apply for the CIHR Fellowship: [Canada Postdoctoral Research Award \(CPRA\) program](#). The CAMH Postdoctoral Research Award and CIHR Fellowship application material are intentionally aligned, so applicants are strongly encouraged to apply for both to maximize their chance of success. Deadlines and additional information for the CIHR Fellowship can be found on [CAMH's Research portal](#).
 - The requirement to apply for external funding will not be mandatory for international applicants (those who are not a Canadian citizen, permanent resident of Canada, or Protected Person under subsection 95(2) of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act) **IF** they are not eligible to apply for the CIHR CPRA program.

If there are other circumstances that prevent this, please consult with internal.funding@camh.ca. You will be asked to provide proof of application submission should you be successful in receiving a CAMH Postdoctoral Research Award.

- CAMH 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. *Please note: self-identification as a member of an eligible underrepresented group is a specific eligibility criterion for the Michael and Sonja Koerner Foundation and BRIDGES funding streams.*

Conditions of Award:

- All Postdoctoral Research Awards must have a start date between June 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026.
- Award acceptance must be provided within 20 business days of the notice of award or the award offer will be cancelled.
- Proof of degree fulfillment will be required to accept the award.
- Proof of external funding application will be required to accept the award (exceptions apply; please refer to the eligibility criteria above).
- If the applicant is successful in obtaining an award offer from an external agency, the applicant will accept the external offer and free up the Postdoctoral Research Award for other candidates. In situations where the value of the external award is less than the Postdoctoral Research Award, a top-up may be provided. The amount of the top-up will depend on funding availability.
- Under no circumstances will Research Award funds be used to cover gaps in funding between the time when existing funding ends and the external funding begins.
- Applicants must be within the CAMH institutional standards for stipend support. Applicants cannot exceed the institutional standard through multiple sources of support.
- If you are awarded a multiyear award, continuation in funding is contingent on an annual review of your research and progress.
- Applicants will not be able to start their award at CAMH if their supervisor has any incomplete/outstanding trainee progress reports. CAMH will work with the supervisor to ensure that the reporting is completed and the applicant can start the Research Award.

- Research Allowance funds are to be used by the trainee to carry out their proposed research, advance their research and/or professional capacity, for dissemination activities and/or to cover any additional mandatory payroll-related costs.

Instructions

1. Notice of Intent

Applicants must submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) online using the following form:

<https://form.jotform.com/251845325041249> by **October 3, 2025 by 5:00pm (EST)**.

The NOI must identify the supervisor(s), the, include a brief description of the proposed project (250 words), answer applicant eligibility, project representation questions, and provide 3-5 project area and methodology keywords. Information from the NOI will assist the Grants & Awards team with assessing applicant eligibility and matching applications to academic experts in the review process. Late NOIs will not be accepted.

*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 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 **November 7, 2025 by 5:00pm (EST)**.

For guidance on RAAF submission, please see the [Research Portal](#). If you are applying as an external applicant, please reach out to internal.funding@camh.ca for instructions on how to create an account for the eRA Portal.

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

The full application must be submitted by **November 14, 2025 by 5:00pm (EST)**. Except for Section (a) below, upload all other required documents, excluding reference letters, as PDF attachments. Late applications will not be accepted. A link to the online form will be provided following NOI submission and confirmation of eligibility.

a) Project Information:

- **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.
- **Funding Stream:** This section will also require you to complete self-identification and other funding stream eligibility questions. This information will be used to assess your eligibility for all available funding streams. Information collected here 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 selection committee and a small number of ROSS staff members for the purposes of program administration.

- **Stream Justification – No character limit.** Based on your responses to the eligibility questions and funding stream priorities, briefly describe how your proposed project aligns with the objectives of the applicable funding stream. Please reference any relevant themes, populations, or focus areas.

b) Training Plan (maximum 2 pages):

- Provide an overview of how your previous research training and/or experience outside of academia relates to the present proposal (i.e., how your previous experience will benefit your current/upcoming research training work) and elaborate on your career goals.
- Describe how the training you expect to acquire will contribute to your productivity and research goals.
- If relevant, describe how additional postdoctoral/post-health professional training experience, including the development of research, technical, and professional skills and networks, will contribute toward your career goals.
- Indicate why you decided upon your proposed training location (i.e., CAMH, supervisor, etc.) and what you expect to learn from the training experience.
- Provide justification if you are planning to hold this award in the same research environment (i.e., research institution or its affiliate, supervisor or co-supervisor) where you completed your previous degree.

c) Research Project Summary (maximum 1 page, including references):

The research project summary should be written in general scientific language, which is an important skill to acquire for future success in the research environment as applications can be reviewed by multi-disciplinary committees. This section should include the specific research hypothesis and describe your role on the proposed project. It must include a concise account of the subject matter, an overview of each part of the research plan, specific project aims, and the methodology. The summary should reflect the significance of your project and should clearly state an explanation of the relevance of your project to the goals of the competition. Please use the following headings:

- **Background** – summarize the stage 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.
- **Impact** – state how the project will advance knowledge if completed as planned.
- **Relevance to the goals of the award** – demonstrate your proposed project's alignment with the research themes and strategic priorities of any funding streams that you are eligible for. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that the proposal meets the criteria of the funding stream they are eligible for.
- **Role on proposed project** – address how the proposed research will support your training goals.
- **Timetable** – include a timetable for the work in your description
- **Reference Page** – include reference list

d) Research Training Environment (maximum 1 page):

Describe the space, facilities and personnel support that will be available to you. This section should be written with the input of the proposed supervisor(s) and should demonstrate their commitment to support the development of the applicant's research project (funding, facilities, equipment, etc.) and professional development. It should also demonstrate a commitment to developing your research, technical and professional skills and networks over the training period by providing career planning, skills development and networking opportunities to prepare for an impactful career.

e) Most Significant Contributions (maximum 2 pages):

The applicant must choose up to three research-related contributions (e.g., research publications,

reports, books, guidelines, datasets, code, tools, training and mentorship, volunteerism, community engagement, standards, software or commercialized products) that they judge to be the most important. For each of these contributions:

- discuss the significance, relevance and impact (e.g., influence on policy and practice, influence on direction of thought, use of research results by stakeholders, health outcomes, societal outcomes, and distinctions-based, meaningful and culturally safe health research) of your work. If appropriate, discuss the rationale for choosing a research dissemination practice;
- describe your role in the research, including clearly outlining your contribution to collaborative research (for example, consider the percent contribution to the team effort, if required);

f) Interruptions and Delays (Optional) (maximum 1 page):

Applicants can identify any circumstances that might have delayed or interrupted their academic and/or career advancement, scientific research, other research, dissemination of results, training, etc. Common examples of delay(s)/interruption(s) include parental leave, medical leave and/or family-related responsibility, mandatory military service, disruptions due to war, civil conflicts or natural disasters in the country of residence, or limited research opportunities due to socio-economic reasons, relevant employment in industry or government, and for health professionals, engagement in post-degree non-research related clinical training or activities (residency, etc.).

It is essential that applicants provide specific start and end dates for their interruption(s); the impact areas; and the reason(s) for or a brief explanation of the absence. Applicants may explain any gaps in the chronology of their experience. However, applicants are not required to justify circumstances when noting considerations related to personal identity considerations. Should an applicant choose to include this information, it will be reviewed by peer review committee members. If there are none, leave this section blank.

4. Applicant Curriculum Vitae (CV):

Provide a CIHR Academic CV (completed via the [Canadian Common CV](#) interface).

5. Letters of Reference – max 1 page each, using 12-point font.

Two referees must provide an assessment of the applicant. These assessments should come from people under whom you have trained and/or who have had a good opportunity to assess your potential for research. Applicants should refer their selected sponsors to CIHR's [Information for Sponsors](#) web page for useful tips.

- Two letters of reference must be submitted by 5 p.m. on the application due date (**November 14, 2025**).
- Letters must be submitted by email from the referee's email to internal.funding@camh.ca. The Reference Letter must be on institutional letterhead and signed by the referee.

Note: It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that letters of reference are sent by the submission deadline.

6. Submitting the Application

The application must be submitted online (link to be provided following NOI submission) **by November 14, 2025, 5pm ET.**

Application components that require attachments must be uploaded as a PDF file only.

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 may not be specialists in the applicant's specific subject area.

7. Formatting Instructions

All attachments must adhere to the following formatting guidelines:

- **Font:** Use a minimum of 12 point, Times New Roman font in black type. Do not use condensed fonts. Superscript and subscript text are allowable. You may use other fonts and font sizes for text in tables, charts, figures, graphs and legends only, as long as it is legible when the page is viewed at 100%.
- **Line spacing:** Use a minimum of single line spacing (paragraph settings in MS Word). Do not use narrow line spacing.
- **Character spacing:** Use normal/standard character spacing. Do not use condensed character spacing.
- **Margins:** Insert a minimum margin of 2 cm (0.79 inch) around all pages. Margins may include page numbers in the header or footer (number only) but must otherwise be empty and contain no text or images.
- **Page limit:** Observe page limitations. Additional pages may NOT be added unless specified.
- **Page size:** Use only letter size (21.59 X 27.94 cm / 8.5" X 11"), white paper/background for all attachments. Photo-reduce the supporting documents if the originals exceed the upload size limit.
- **Page numbers:** should be included on the bottom right-hand corner of each page.
- **Attachment format:** Attachments must be uploaded in PDF format (unprotected).

DEADLINES AT A GLANCE

Notice of Intent: October 3rd, 2025

RAAF: November 7th, 2025

Full Application: November 14th, 2025

Notice of Award (anticipated): April 2026

Appendix A – Postdoctoral Research Award Funding Streams

Azrieli Adult Neurodevelopmental Centre – Postdoctoral Research Award

The Azrieli Adult Neurodevelopmental Centre is aligned with CAMH's strategic goals of improving care for the patients of today and innovating care for the patients of tomorrow. It is intended to promote excellence in the field of adult neurodevelopmental disabilities (e.g., intellectual disability, autism) and mental health. The Azrieli Centre is dedicated towards finding innovative solutions to solving major challenges in care delivery, and the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of mental illness in adults with neurodevelopmental disabilities and to increasing educational opportunities in this field for mental health trainees and providers. The Azrieli Centre is built upon four pillars: Clinical Innovation; Research Excellence; Education and Training; and Knowledge Exchange. Through this work, the Azrieli Centre will help improve education, awareness, diagnosis and treatment of the adult neurodevelopmental population locally, nationally and globally.

The Azrieli Centre will provide support for postdoctoral researchers applying concepts to better identify, prevent, diagnose and treat mental illnesses in adults with neurodevelopmental disabilities and their families.

Clinical Innovation: Azrieli Centre researchers will work within a rich clinical setting, which includes interprofessional inpatient and outpatient services representing six disciplines, receiving exposure to a wide-range of services for this diverse population. Postdoctoral Researchers must be registered with or are eligible for registration with their respective Ontario professional college.

Research Excellence: At the Azrieli Centre, every postdoctoral researcher will have sustained support to conduct innovative research that will lead to better care for this population with mentorship available from across CAMH. Research projects will have clinical application and offer opportunities for researchers to work together and learn from one another. Projects can fall under one of the research themes listed below under Award Guidelines.

Education and Training: In addition to their research activities, researchers will work closely with CAMH Education and Professional Practice portfolios and with their respective health discipline at a CAMH affiliated academic institution to explore how to integrate teaching about neurodevelopmental disabilities and mental health into discipline specific training and health care curricula.

Knowledge Exchange: To maximize the reach of discovery and educational efforts, researchers will engage in creative professional activities and develop expertise in knowledge exchange, to learn from and share knowledge directly with patients, their families and the public. Every project will include a knowledge-exchange component, and all researchers will receive training in knowledge exchange and benefit from working with individual and family project advisors at the centre. The Azrieli Centre will help transform the way information and resources for this population get shared across CAMH, including health care providers, health system planners, patients, their families and the broader community.

The Azrieli Centre Postdoctoral Research Award competition will provide postdoctoral researchers with a comprehensive training program in the field of adult neurodevelopmental disabilities mental health, with practical training in research techniques. Postdoctoral researchers are expected to make independent contributions to knowledge during their appointment. These may be in the form of a contribution to an existing project, or through the development of an original project. Additionally, all researchers will contribute clinically to the Adult Neurodevelopmental Service at CAMH, and be involved in teaching, supervision and curriculum development.

Awards are targeted toward the **diverse clinical disciplines responsible for mental health care** in the neurodevelopmental disabilities population, including but not limited to psychiatry, psychology, nursing, social work, occupational therapy, and behaviour analysis. Researchers from across disciplines will benefit from working together in

their various clinical, research, and educational activities.

Note: In relation to these criteria, eligibility will be determined using the response(s) provided in the Application form.

BRIDGES (Building Research and Innovation through Diversity, Growth, Equity and Sustainability) –

Postdoctoral Research Award: The Northbridge General Insurance Corporation in collaboration with CAMH will provide support for postdoctoral researchers from underrepresented groups pursuing basic and clinical research to better identify, diagnose, prevent and treat mental illnesses. To be eligible for this opportunity, applicants must self-identify with at least one of the following groups:

- First Nations, Métis and Inuit
- Black
- Racialized persons

Note: In relation to these criteria, eligibility will be determined using the response(s) provided in the Application form. Given that this funding opportunity is only open to specific populations, selecting "I prefer not to answer" to the question relating to these criteria will prevent your candidacy from being considered.

Discovery Fund - Talent Development Competition

The Discovery Fund will provide support for postdoctoral researchers pursuing basic and clinical research to better identify, diagnose, prevent and treat mental illnesses. The Discovery Fund strategic priorities are listed below. All applications (including basic and clinical research projects) must identify the relationship to at least one of these three priority areas:

- 1. Suicide Rate Reduction**
 - a. Community/public health-based interventions
 - b. Hospital-based interventions
 - c. Endophenotypes of suicidal behaviour
- 2. Reducing Disability Associated with Mental Disorders**
 - a. Addressing cognitive dysfunction associated with mental disorders across the lifespan
 - b. Decreasing disability associated with depression and other common disorders
- 3. Improving Psychosis Prevention and Outcomes**
 - a. Primary prevention/early intervention
 - b. Improving functional outcomes associated with chronic psychotic illness

Koerner Postdoctoral Research Award

The Michael and Sonja Koerner Foundation in collaboration with CAMH will provide support for postdoctoral researchers from underrepresented groups pursuing basic and clinical research to better identify, diagnose, prevent and treat mental illnesses. To be eligible for this opportunity, applicants must self-identify with at least one of the following groups:

- First Nations, Métis and Inuit
- Racialized persons
- Women
- 2SLGBTQ+
- People with disabilities (including people who have experienced mental health and substance use challenges)

Note: In relation to these criteria, eligibility will be determined using the response(s) provided in the Application form.

2026 Postdoctoral Research Award



Given that this funding opportunity is only open to specific populations, selecting "I prefer not to answer" to the question relating to these criteria will prevent your candidacy from being considered.