

Brain Tumour Research Studentship Outline and Guidelines

Outline

Every day 27 Canadians are diagnosed with a brain tumour. Brain tumours are unpredictable and complex. They can affect vision, hearing, memory, balance and mobility. Their effects are physical, emotional, financial, and last a lifetime.

Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada raises funds to provide vital services and programs for the brain tumour community. We also lead research into the cause of and cure for this devastating disease through a variety of funding opportunities including the Brain Tumour Research Studentship. This award provides students opportunities to gain experience in Brain Tumour research and its research methods.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Applications will be considered for students working on brain tumour research projects in the following two categories:

- Medical students, **without PHD** and currently in their first year at a medical school in Canada.
- Undergraduate students who are enrolled in a Canadian post-secondary institution and have at least 2 consecutive summers remaining in their College or University program.

Successful applicants will receive \$10,000 over two years (\$5,000 per summer). Funding will be granted for students working on projects in June, July and August 2025 and June, July and August 2026 (unless otherwise requested).

Qualifications

The following considerations and criteria will be used to evaluate all applications.

1. Qualifications of the applicant based on the following documentation that must accompany the application:
 - a. Documentation confirming enrollment in medical school (i.e. letter of acceptance, letter from registrar's office)
or
Documentation confirming enrolment in post secondary program (College or University) (i.e. letter of acceptance, letter from registrar's office)
 - b. Letter of acceptance from Supervisor (one award per lab, per year)

- c. Three (3) **additional** Academic Letters of Reference (outside of Supervisor)
 - d. Current copy of Applicant's résumé
 - e. Current copy of Supervisor's curriculum vitae for past 5 years' work
2. Quality of the brain tumour research project (*see below for types of projects funded*)
 3. Ability of proposed laboratory or institution to conduct the brain tumour research project

SHARING YOUR SUCCESS

Students who receive a Studentship from Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada are required to share their success at the end of the first summer (September 2025) and once the project is complete (September 2026).

Notification of any publications resulting from the project should also be forwarded to Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada's Research Committee. This information may be shared on Braintumour.ca and with our sponsors, supporters, and other individuals through our marketing efforts, publications and events like the annual Brain Tumour Foundation Conference.

Guidelines

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS

Applications must be submitted by **January 24th, 2025**. The selection process and approval will take place shortly after and the results will be communicated to all applicants by **end of March 2025**.

INSTITUTIONAL REQUIREMENT

Funds are granted only for students attending a university in Canada, working on projects to be performed in Canada.

TYPES OF RESEARCH FUNDED

Applications are considered for adult or pediatric brain tumour research that is Basic, Clinical, Translational or a Population Study. All research focuses will be given serious consideration, however those that are focused on Primary Tumours will be priority. Research types are defined, for the purposes of this context, below:

Basic Research: In this context, ‘Basic’ research involves the development of new concepts (eg. signaling pathways using an in vitro model). Basic science research is meant to increase our scientific knowledge base, with the intent of bettering our understanding of the cause and progression of brain tumours.

Clinical Research: Research in which people, or data or samples of tissue from people, are studied to understand health and disease. Clinical research helps find new and better ways to detect, diagnose, treat, and prevent disease. Types of clinical research include clinical trials, which test new treatments for a disease, and natural history studies, which collect health information to understand how a disease develops and progresses over time.

Translational Research: In this context, ‘Translational’ is defined as pre-clinical research evaluating the therapeutic potential of recent discoveries in the basic mechanisms of either brain tumour pathogenesis or experimental therapeutics. Human studies are excluded.

Population Study: A study of a group of individuals taken from the general population who share a common characteristic, such as age, sex, or health condition. This group may be studied for different reasons, such as their response to a drug or risk of getting a disease.

EVALUATION PROCESS

- **January 24th, 2025:** Applications are due to Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada in office
- **January 24th – March 28, 2025:** Review of applications
- **End of March 2025:** All applicants will be contacted regarding Application Status
- **May 2025:** Payment and confirmation letter sent for Summer 2025 (first year of project)
- **September 12, 2025:** Report on first summer of project is due to Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada
- **May 2026:** Second (and final) payment sent for Summer 2026 (second year of project)
- **September 11, 2026:** Report on second summer of project and full report on project outcomes is due to Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada

APPLICATION SUBMISSION

The application must be submitted electronically by January 24th, 2025, 4:30pm EST:

- A. Letters from References also must be received no later than January 24th, 2025, 4:30pm **EST**
- B. Please **mail the original and 2 copies and send ONE electronic** PDF copy sruypers@braintumour.ca of completed studentship application to:

Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada
Research Committee
205 Horton St E, Suite 203
London, ON N6B 1K7
Re: 2025-2026 Brain Tumour Research Studentship Application

If you have any questions, please call or email:

Susan Ruypers, Manager of Mission Support and Resources

Phone: 519-642-7755 or 1-800-265-5106 ext. 240

Email: sruypers@braintumour.ca

Alternatively, please visit www.braintumour.ca/research to find the Studentship Guidelines and Application Form.

You must advise Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada promptly should you decide to withdraw your application or have received another award after submission OR if you withdraw from your course/program after being awarded funding.