

# Memorandum

**To:** Deans and Associate Deans of Research  
**From:** Thomas Loebel, Dean & Associate Vice President Graduate  
**Date:** April 20, 2023  
**Status:** Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship Competition 2023-2024

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The Faculty of Graduate Studies is accepting nominations for Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships. Please share the information contained in this memo regarding the Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships and the internal York selection process to all eligible researchers in your unit.

Because of the highly competitive nature of this opportunity, an internal selection process is in place, whereby supervisors/candidates must submit a truncated, preliminary version of the application as a Letter of Intent (LOI) on an internal deadline in advance of the agency deadline. All LOI submissions will be reviewed by the York Banting Selection Committee. Successful candidates will then be invited to go forward to the full application stage and submission to the agency. Only those applications that have been submitted and undergo internal review will be considered for being forwarded for the full Banting PDF competition.

The Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships program provides funding to the very best postdoctoral applicants who will positively contribute to the country's economic, social and research-based growth. The objective of the Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships program is to:

- attract and retain top-tier postdoctoral talent, both nationally and internationally
- develop their leadership potential
- position them for success as research leaders of tomorrow

The Banting program is unique in its emphasis on the “synergy” between the applicant and the host institution; that is, the close and unique alignment of the supervisor’s research, the applicant’s research, and the institution’s strategic priorities. This “synergy” should therefore guide both the prospective supervisor’s choice of candidate and the nomination package’s points of emphasis.

## Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships, Competition Year 2023-2024

### Description

The purpose of the Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships is to build world-class research capacity by recruiting top-tier Canadian and international postdoctoral researchers at an internationally competitive level of funding. Seventy fellowships will be awarded each year through CIHR, NSERC and SSHRC. The program is unique in its emphasis on the synergy between applicants and research institutions. The emphasis is on the excellence of the candidate as well as the quality of the research environment, and, given the limited number of fellowships, this is a highly competitive program. Evidence of the quality of the research environment is required as is an indication of the level of institutional support that will be made available to the nominee.

### Value

\$70,000 per year for two years.

### Eligibility criteria

- Canadian citizens, permanent residents of Canada and/or foreign citizens
- Recently completed a PhD, PhD-equivalent, or health professional degree (degree completed between September 15, 2020 and September 30, 2024, with a possible extension of this window by up to a cumulative maximum of two years for career interruptions due to [specific reasons](#).)
- Nominees must not hold a tenure-track or tenured faculty position
- Only in rare cases will a fellowship be offered to an applicant proposing to hold it at the same institution at which the PhD was completed
- Applicants must be nominated by the institution and can only take up the fellowship at the nominating institution
- Please review complete [eligibility criteria](#).

### Required Documents for LOI/Application Guide

Documents to be submitted for the LOI stage:

- Research proposal (max. 4 pages for English applications, max. 5 pages for French applications)
- Draft supervisor's statement (max. 4 pages)
- Vanier-Banting CCV (Create an account at the [CCV website](#))
- Special Circumstances (max. 1 page), *optional* (e.g. justification to remain in the same institutional environment, career interruptions. See the [Banting application guide](#) for additional details)

As signatories of the San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA), a global initiative whose purpose is to support the development and promotion of best practices in the assessment of scholarly research, the three federal granting councils recognize and value a broad range of contributions and emphasize their quality and impact. To that end, the guidance provided to

applicants and peer reviewers is now aligned with [DORA recommendations](#). It is encouraged, then that Banting PDF applicants highlight a range of contributions in their applications and reviewers are asked to assess research excellence broadly (i.e., not just based on publications).

The Banting PDF program encourages equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI), as part of the Tri-Agency's broader commitment to excellence in research and research training in Canada. EDI considerations will be taken into account throughout the Banting PDF competition.

Applicants are encouraged to review the [Vanier-Banting Secretariat guidance on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion](#) in research and to take Sex- and Gender- based Analysis Plus (SGBA+) principles into account in their proposed research, systematically examine how differences in identity factors, such as sex, gender, race, ethnicity, religion, age and mental or physical disability, affect the outcomes of research and the impacts of research findings.

In order to be funded, research involving and engaging with Indigenous communities must fulfill the pillars for respectful research engaging with Indigenous peoples. Proposed research must be in accordance with the policies and principles outlined in the following:

- [Tri-Council Policy Statement: Chapter 9: Research Involving the First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples of Canada](#)
- [SSHRC Guidelines for the Merit Review of Indigenous Research](#)
- [CIHR's Research Involving First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples of Canada](#)

For more information on application requirements, please review the full [Banting application guide](#).

## Timeline and Deadlines

Step	Description	Date
Banting PDF Information Session	<p>Of interest to potential applicants and supervisors, this session will include an overview of the Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship application process, a discussion of the evaluation criteria, and a Q &amp; A portion.</p> <p>This session will be hosted online: <a href="#">Registration Link</a></p>	<p>Thursday, June 1 from 1:00-2:30pm</p> <p>The session will be hosted online using Zoom. Please register at: <a href="#">Banting Information Session</a></p>
Internal LOI deadline	<p>Deadline for submission of LOI documents by <a href="#">electronic submission</a></p>	<p>July 12</p> <p><a href="#">Submission Link</a></p>
Internal Selection Process	<p>Banting selection committee meets to decide which files will move forward to Banting. Applicants will receive notification that they are moving forward and will receive feedback.</p>	<p>By August 11</p>
Application Development Meetings	<p>Meetings with selected applicants, supervisors, and FGS to assist in development of the application</p>	<p>August 14-18</p>
Technical Review Deadline	<p>Revised Banting files due for technical review (direct submission to <a href="#">Kim McIntyre</a>, Postdoctoral Services Coordinator)</p>	<p>September 13</p>
Banting PDF Deadline	<p>Final submission of Banting PDF application to agency.</p>	<p>September 20</p>

## Process

- Contact [Kim McIntyre](#), Postdoctoral Services Coordinator, if you are interested in this opportunity
- Potential candidates should work with their nominating supervisor to compile the documentation necessary for the letter of intent (LOI)
- Submit all required documentation electronically no later than **July 12, 2023**: [Submission Link](#)
- Wait for follow-up from Banting Selection Committee

- Revise and compile complete application as requested

### **Selection criteria**

*Research excellence and leadership in the research domain* – demonstrated capacity for research excellence based on track record to date as defined by quality of applicant's research contribution, and demonstrated capacity for leadership in the research domain defined by the sphere of influence achieved to date by the applicant.

*Quality of applicant's proposed research program* – examined in terms of the potential of the proposed research program, executed in the proposed institutional environment, to position the applicant for significant impact through a research-intensive career (*potential for significant impact*).

*Institutional commitment and demonstrated synergy between applicant and institutional strategic priorities* - demonstrated commitment of the institution to support development of the applicant's research and leadership capacity through institutional support (funding, facilities, equipment, etc.) and professional development.

Demonstrated alignment and synergy between the applicant's research ambitions and the institution's potential to benefit strategically from engagement with the applicant (alignment with institution's strategic priorities).

### **FGS Contact**

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