**CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

**NRV SCN Summer Studentship Award 2020 Application Form**

#

# Background & Objectives

The Neurosciences, Rehabilitation, and Vision (NRV) Strategic Clinical NetworkTM (SCN) Scientific Office of Alberta Health Services (AHS) supports and provides training and mentorship opportunities to increase capacity in NRV-related research across Alberta. An efficient strategy to increase research capacity involves engagement of undergraduate students from a variety of health-related disciplines in research projects at early stages in their academic training.

The NRV SCN Summer Studentship Awards Program is designed to provide funding support to undergraduate students to participate and develop research skills applied to an area in neurosciences, rehabilitation or vision research relevant to the NRV SCN strategic goals. This capacity-building initiative will support trainees towards the generation of evidence to drive decision-making, ongoing health care system improvement and sustainability.

###

### Funding

**One NRV SCN Summer Studentship Award** will be offered externally, providing a stipend of **$1500/month** for the successful student awardee for a maximum of 4 months during the summer (May – August 2021)**.** The **total maximum amount of the single award is $6000**. Awards are non-renewable.

### Eligibility

When considering applicants, the review process will consider the following criteria:

* Studentship applicants must be enrolled or accepted as a full-time student in an undergraduate program at an approved post-secondary academic institution. Students need not be enrolled in an Alberta institution to be eligible; however, the summer research activities must be completed in Alberta.
* The area of proposed research must be related to neurosciences, rehabilitation or vision.
* Candidates must be supervised or co-supervised by a faculty member at one of Alberta’s academic institutions. Supervisors must clearly demonstrate a rich environment for student training and links with the NRV SCN.
* At least one award will advance research programs not directed by the NRV SCN or its leadership.
* Holders of other full-time, major studentship awards (e.g. CIHR, NSERC, AIHS, etc.) are ineligible for NRV SCN Summer Studentship Award.

### Relevant Topic Areas

Any proposed clinical, health services or population health research questions that have relevance to the NRV SCN will be eligible.

### Evaluation Criteria

A panel of researchers from the NRV SCN (members of the Scientific Advisory Committee), other SCNs (ASDs), and academic partners will review all applications based upon pre-defined quality assessment criteria. The composition of the panel should reflect the inclusion of a diverse group of engaged academics and researchers in health research as applied to neurosciences, rehabilitation and vision research and practice. Proposals will be reviewed by all members of the review panel, or a subset of reviewers, depending on application volume (at least two panel members will review each application).

Applications will be reviewed according to the following criteria (Appendix A):

* The scientific quality of the research project.
* Appropriateness and relevance to scope of NRV SCN, including how the work is aligned with one of the strategic priorities of the NRV SCN.
* The training environment in which the student will carry out their research project
* The student's academic record
* Special accomplishments or attributes relevant to the competition.
* Ensuring parity between a student supporting a research program distinct from the NRV SCN and a student supporting a research program directly under the NRV SCN

### Timelines

Dec 1, 2020 Call for NRV SCN Summer Studentship Award Applications

Feb 28, 2021 Applications Due

Mar 31, 2021 Notification of Awards

### Required documents

The following documents are required in a complete application for the NRV SCN Summer Studentship Award:

1. Application Form (Appendix B)
2. Applicant’s CV (2-page maximum)
3. Supervisor’s CV (2-page maximum)
4. Official Transcripts (all years of completed undergraduate work)
5. Supervisor’s letter of support

### Reporting

* The NRV SCN Summer Studentship Award recipients must submit a final report 30 days after completion of the award. This report will include a description of the research activities performed, summary of the findings, and planned dissemination activities (e.g. presentations, manuscripts etc.), if applicable.
* Reports will be shared with AHS (Research Priorities and Implementation office). The report should also inform how the results of the Summer Studentship research work inform future grants and research projects of value to the NRV SCN.
* NRV SCN Summer Studentship Award recipients will be invited to present the results of their summer project to the NRV SCN Core Committee. This will provide an opportunity for dissemination of findings and identify potential future work around the NRV SCN strategic goals and other programs of funding.

### Knowledge Dissemination

Synopses of the research studies conducted by the award recipients will be shared with the NRV SCN Core Committee and published in NRV SCN newsletters and/or the NRV SCN website. Students are encouraged to publish their research results in relevant peer-reviewed journals.

### Program Policies

1. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.
2. Any unused funds at the end of the award term must be returned to the NRV SCN Scientific Office for use towards future studentship research funding opportunities.
3. Failure to submit a final report will disqualify the applicant and supervisor from future funding.
4. Important changes to the proposed study proposal are permitted due to HREB/CHREB and recruitment delays; however, they must be reported to the NRV SCN Scientific Office in a timely fashion.
5. The funding must be used for student salary and may not be used to fund the research project/program.
6. Students must be actively engaged in the research as full-time summer students. They cannot be attending school or employed in another full-time position at the same time they receive the NRV SCN summer studentship award.
7. Awardees are required to notify the Scientific Office of the NRV SCN about any publications or presentations derived from the work supported by the NRV SCN summer studentship award.
8. It is expected that NRV SCN summer studentship awardees include the following statement under the Acknowledgements section of the publication:

“*Research reported in this publication was supported by the Alberta Health Services Neurosciences, Rehabilitation & Vision (NRV) Strategic Clinical NetworkTM (SCN). The content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the views of the NRV SCN Scientific Office or Alberta Health Services*”.

### Application Process

The Scientific Office of the NRV SCN will receive applications for the 2020 competition using the provided application form. Completed applications will be emailed in a single PDF to:

Dr. Kiran Pohar Manhas, JD, PhD

Assistant Scientific Director

Neurosciences, Rehabilitation & Vision Strategic Clinical NetworkTM

Kiran.poharmanhas@ahs.ca

**NRV SCN Summer Studentship Award 2020 Application Form**

|  |
| --- |
| **Applicant Information** |
| First Name | Initial | Last Name |
| Research Project Title |
| Address | E-mail |
| City | Province | Postal Code | Phone (Home) | Phone (Cell) |
| Institution (presently registered) | Degree Program/Discipline |
| Year of Study (current) | Start Date (dd/mm/year) | End Date (dd/mm/year) | GPA |
| **Supervisor Information**  |
| Name | Email | Telephone | Fax |
| Institution | Program(Faculty/Department/Division; Faculty) |
| Address | City | Province | Postal Code |
| **Location of Summer NRV Research (if different)** |
| Supervisor’s Name | Email | Telephone | Fax |
| Institution | Location of research space |
| Program(Department/Division) |  |  |
| Address | City | Province | Postal Code  |

|  |
| --- |
| **Project Information** |
| **The Project description included in this application was written by whom? *(Please indicate which most applies)***[ ]  Student led [ ]  Supervisor Led [ ]  Combination of Student and Supervisor[ ]  Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  |
| **Briefly describe the research project. (*750 words or less*)** |
| **Describe the project’s application to the NRV SCN mandate, particularly identify which of the NRV SCN strategic priorities the proposed work aims to address (see NRV SCN Transformational Roadmap 2020-2024). (*200 words or less*)** |
| **Describe the student’s role in the research project. (*200 words or less*)** |
| **Describe how this project complements your long-term career plans? (*200 words or less*)** |
| **Describe the training environment to be provided by the supervisor and host institution. (*200 words or less*)** |
| **NRV SCN Summer Studentship Award Checklist:**[ ]  Application Form[ ]  Applicant CV (2-page maximum)[ ]  Supervisor’s CV (2-page maximum)[ ]  Official Transcripts (all years of completed Undergraduate work)[ ]  Supervisor’s letter of support |
| **Ethics** |
| **The project requires:** [ ]  REB approval obtained [ ]  REB submission pending [ ]  N/A (lit reviews) [ ]  Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| **Summer Studentship Timelines** |
| School year end date:dd/mm/2020 | Summer Studentship Start Date of the dd/mm/2020 | Summer Studentship End Datedd/mm/2020 | Time dedicated to Summer Studentship\_\_ \_\_ Hours/week |
| Proposed timelines of the Summer Research Project |
| **Submission information** |
| Completed applications must be sent electronically in a single PDF format to Kiran Pohar Manhas at kiran.poharmanhas@ahs.ca no later than **February 28, 2021**Successful applicants will be notified no later than by April 15, 2021.For more information contact:Kiran Pohar Manhas,JD, PhDAssistant Scientific DirectorNeurosciences, Rehabilitation & Vision Strategic Clinical NetworkTMEmail: kiran.poharmanhas@ahs.ca Phone: (587) 774-7734 |
| **Signatures** |
| Student Applicant DateSupervisor Date |
| **For Internal Use Only** |
| Date Received: | Application Complete:[ ]  Yes [ ]  No | Notes: |
| Please carefully read all instructions and include all necessary documents.Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.It is the student’s responsibility to ensure that the materials have been successfully submitted. |