



## 2025 Funding Program Pathy Family Fellowship Awards

### Purpose

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The Pathy Family Fellowship provides financial support for highly qualified, promising post-**Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC)** training fellows. It allows them to pursue additional post-RCPSC subspecialty clinical and research training in adult healthcare.

Fellowships that include research training are prioritized, and clinician-scientist training aligned with McGill University Health Centre (MUHC) and the Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre (RI-MUHC) priorities is given even higher importance.

### Funding

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Pathy Family Research Fellowship Awards are available thanks to funding from the McGill University Health Centre Foundation and its generous donors.

All applications should demonstrate how the proposed project applies to healthcare in the adult population.

The funding start date for this fellowship is July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025

### Award Details

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Fellowships: Candidates who are MDs and aim to become clinician-scientists or clinician-investigators will be given priority.

#### Definitions:

##### Clinician Scientist:

- ❖ Devotes  $\geq 75\%$  of professional effort to research.
- ❖ Has formal training in research methodology (MSc or PhD degree).
- ❖ Develops and leads research projects.
- ❖ Study types: basic (experimental), clinical, and epidemiological.

##### Clinician Investigator:

- ❖ Devotes 25-50% of professional effort to research
- ❖ May or may not have formal training in research methodology.
- ❖ Contributes to research projects.
- ❖ Study types: basic (experimental), clinical, and epidemiological.

**Number of Awards Available:** The number of awards granted per year depends on the applicant mix and availability of partner funding.



**Amount of the Award:** Maximum of \$48,500, which must be matched by Department/Division funds to ensure a minimum stipend of \$70,000. Additionally, [as per law 96](#), the department/division must ensure a mandatory \$1,000/year French language acquisition course fee.

**Term of Award:** Fellowship awards will be granted for one year. During the first year, the awardee is expected to seek peer-reviewed funding to support any subsequent years of training.

**Award Renewal:** New applicants will receive priority. If additional funding is available, renewal applications will be considered. Renewal applicants must demonstrate substantial progress in achieving their research objectives.

## Candidate Eligibility

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- a. **Applicant:** must be in an FMHS-approved [Postgraduate Medical Education Residency Program](#).
- b. **Citizenship:** Canadian and International applicants are eligible. Priority will be given to Canadian citizens and permanent residents.
- c. **Prior education:** Must have completed an MD degree (or international equivalent) and be eligible for licensure in Quebec. Residency training must have been completed within the last three years. Faculty members are not eligible.
- d. **Career focus:** Committed to an academic career with ongoing research activity. Those planning to continue collaborative work with MUHC/RI-MUHC are given priority.
- e. **Study type:** basic (experimental), clinical, and epidemiological.
- f. **Study topic:** The application should demonstrate how the proposed project is applicable to healthcare in the adult population. Research projects can be broader than basic and clinical medical science; topics such as medical education, leadership and management, EDI, and the impact of climate change in medicine are strongly encouraged.
- g. **Concomitant higher degree:** Applicants may be enrolled in a higher degree program (MSc or PhD) during the tenure of the fellowship as long as they demonstrate that they have sufficient time also to conduct substantive research.
- h. **Supervisor(s):** Must have a supervisor who is an [established researcher at the RI-MUHC](#).
- i. **Training area:** Needs to align with the [MUHC](#) and [RI-MUHC](#) priorities.

### [MUHC Priorities:](#)

- 1) To stimulate organization-wide innovation and clinically relevant research that unleashes our full potential.
- 2) To create an MUHC data ecosystem as a pathway to discovery, learning, and excellence.
- 3) To improve patients' care journeys within and beyond our walls.
- 4) To foster strong, happy, and healthy teams now and for the future.

### [RI-MUHC Priorities:](#)

The Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre (RI-MUHC) is committed to advancing biomedical and healthcare research with a strong emphasis on patient-centred innovation. Their research programs are designed to cover the entire lifespan and include a broad range of medical fields.



For more information, please visit the [MUHC](#), [RI-MUHC](#), [MUHC Foundation](#).

## Fellowship Conditions and Responsibilities

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**Submission of an application implies acceptance of the following conditions by both the applicant and their supervisor(s):**

- a. **Protected time:** It is expected that the principal focus and time commitment of the successful candidate will be to further their research experience.
  - a. *Fellows* in the clinician-scientist stream must devote at least 75% of their time to research-related activities. Non-research-related clinical work or teaching may be done concurrently during the fellowship but should not exceed 25% of their time.
  - b. *Fellows* in the clinician investigator stream must devote 25-50% of their time to research-related activities. Candidates with a greater time commitment to research will be given preference.
- b. **Award Administration:** The MUHC and the receiving department/division will partner to administer the award.
- c. **Funding Match and Top-up:** The host Department/Division is responsible for ensuring the total stipend the Fellow receives is \$70,000. A top-up of the MUHC award or other internal or external sources is permitted up to a maximum of \$100,000 per year. Successful candidates must declare all sources of salary support in the application.
- d. **French language acquisition support:** Under law 96, the department/division must ensure a mandatory \$1,000/year French language acquisition course fee.
- e. **Letter of offer:** Upon receiving an award offer, the applicant must notify the Fellowship Committee Chair of their decision to accept it within 14 days.
- f. **Letter of agreement:** On acceptance of the award, the successful candidate and his/her supervisor will sign a letter of agreement to the Conditions and Responsibilities of the award and submit this to the Committee Chair within two months of the offer.
- g. **Acknowledgment:** Any formal presentation (e.g. poster, oral paper), publication, or thesis resulting from the *Fellowship* must acknowledge the support of the MUHC and RI-MUHC.
- h. **Final report:** A summary of the activities and accomplishments achieved during the *Fellowship* shall be submitted to the Committee Chair within three months of the end of the fellowship year.
- i. **Ongoing funding:** The awardee is expected to seek peer-reviewed funding during the first year to support any subsequent years of training (if applicable).



## Components of the Application

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The components of the application include:

- a. **Signed submission checklist**
- b. **A letter from the applicant** (2 pages maximum) with the following headings:
  - I. Background preparation, i.e., career path to date
  - II. Specific educational objectives for the fellowship include detailed plans (including rotations, time allotment for clinical work, research work and teaching).
  - III. Plans for the research component (based on the specific research objectives)
  - IV. Future career plans
- c. **Summary of proposed research project** (2 pages maximum). If the research proposal requires additional funds, the summary should describe the source of this funding (obtained or applied for) and include a brief discussion of alternatives if applied-for funding is unsuccessful.
- d. **A copy of the applicant's current CV.**
- e. **A copy of the proposed primary supervisor(s)' current CV.**
- f. **A letter of support from the proposed primary supervisor outlining**
  - I. The strengths and weaknesses of the candidate,
  - II. The clinical fellowship and research facilities and resources available to the candidate,
  - III. The proportion of time the candidate will spend on research, coursework, clinical duties, and teaching. Describe the benefit to the MUHC/MUHC-RI (reputation, recruitment, support of existing research initiatives).

*\*Please note:* Applications must use a minimum of 12-point font and 1-inch margins for all submitted material



## Application Submission

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**Deadline:** December 2, 2024, 11:59 p.m. EDT (Eastern Daylight Time)

**Notice of Decision:** January 31, 2025

**Email to** [pre-awards.rimuhc@muhc.mcgill.ca](mailto:pre-awards.rimuhc@muhc.mcgill.ca) with the subject line: Pathy Family Clinical Research Fellowship

## Selection Process

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The MUHC Fellowship Award Committee will follow a formal selection process and will review each of the submissions using a ranking system that recognizes:

- I. The quality and potential of the candidate, including demonstration of a sincere commitment to a career in research or other aspects of academic medicine
- II. The quality of the clinical and research environment and the supervisor(s)
- III. The quality and potential importance of the proposed fellowship activities, including their relevance to the MUHC and RI-MUHC strategic directions.

**a. Rating system:** A 10-point rating system will be used by the reviewers:

Component	Maximum Points
The candidate	5
The environment/supervisor	2.5
The research proposal	2.5

**b. External reviews:** If necessary, request formal, written external reviews from people who know the candidate or his/her supervisor or who have expertise in the area of proposed research.

**c. Conflicts of interest:** Members of the Award Committee may have potential conflicts of interest in reviewing applicants and selecting successful fellowship candidates. A set of guidelines has been developed to prevent actual or perceived, direct or indirect conflicts of interest in the selection process.



## Application Checklist

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Please check that each of the items below is completed (an incomplete application package will not be accepted):

- Signed Submission Checklist
- Applicant's letter (2 pages maximum)
- Summary of research proposal (2 pages maximum)
- Applicant's current CV
- Primary supervisor's current CV
- Letter from supervisor

## Questions?

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Contact the RI-MUHC Pre-Awards Office at: [pre-awards.rimuhc@muhc.mcgill.ca](mailto:pre-awards.rimuhc@muhc.mcgill.ca)