

# Ted Rogers Centre for Heart Research - Education Fund 2025/26

Application Deadline – Monday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025

## Background

The Ted Rogers Centre for Heart Research (TRCHR) is focused on transforming prevention and management of heart disease – in particular, heart failure. The Centre’s mission includes children and adults, with an overarching goal of addressing heart failure across the entire lifespan. It blends basic, translational, and clinical research with a focus on supporting collaborative research projects with strong potential for impact. The Education Fund enables career development of the next generation of cardiovascular investigators.

## Award

- Awards are provided at two levels and are renewable once:
  - **Doctoral (PhD) Award - \$25,000**
  - **Post-doctoral Researcher (PDR) Award - \$40,000**
- The funding period runs September 1, 2025 - August 31, 2026
- The number of awards funded is dependent on the quality of applications received during the cycle.
- Upon completion of the funding period, trainees are required to:
  - Submit an end of term report
  - Write a letter of thanks describing their research for the Rogers family
  - Complete an intake form to meet with the TRCHR’s Translation & Commercialization Committee
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## Eligibility

- The proposed project must:
  - Focus on an aspect of heart failure. This may be broadly interpreted and include fields of science, medicine, nursing, engineering, data science, public health, etc.
  - Involve collaboration among at least two of the TRCHR’s three partner organizations (SickKids, University Health Network, University of Toronto)
  - Include a plan for/focus on translation or commercialization of the associated research
- Trainees must:
  - Be full-time doctoral or post-doctoral researchers
  - Reside in Canada at the time of receiving the award
  - Be supervised by a full-time faculty member or scientist of a partner institute: SickKids, UHN, U of T (including any U of T-affiliated teaching hospitals). *Trainees with co-supervisors from different partner institutions and/or disciplines may be scored more favourably for the collaboration weighting as it demonstrates a greater degree of collaboration.*

- **For PDR applicants only:** Applicants with a PhD are to be within 5 years of PhD completion. Exceptions to this may be possible for postdoctoral fellows with clinical training extending beyond 5 years post-MD.
- The Supervisor/PI may:
  - Have up to one trainee funded by this program *per level* (i.e. one PhD and one PDR) across new and renewed applicants
  - Be named as a collaborator on more than one application

## Application Process

The online application form can be accessed at <https://tedrogersresearch.grantplatform.com/>.

To assist you in completing your application, feel free to watch our workshop “[Writing a Strong Grant Application](#)”, led by a panel of former Education Fund reviewers. *While the workshop content is helpful, please note that funding amounts and criteria weighting in the video have since changed. Please refer to the 2025/26 Education Fund notice for the most up to date details.*

Please submit your completed PhD/PDR application and associated documents before the due date indicated below. Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted. A panel of Ted Rogers Centre for Heart Research investigators will review and adjudicate all applications.

Please direct any questions about the application to Maria Bata (Coordinator, Planning & Operations) at [maria.bata@uhn.ca](mailto:maria.bata@uhn.ca).

- **January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025** – Application form posted on the [online grants platform](#).
- **March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025** – Full application due
- **Week of July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025** – Notice of final decision
- **September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025** - funding period begins

## Application Outline & Evaluation

SECTION	REQUIREMENTS	WEIGHTING
<b>Applicants’ Excellence</b>	Applicant’s current Curriculum Vitae & publication list	25%
<b>Background and Rationale</b>	Describe why this project is significant and innovative. ( <b>&lt;200 words</b> )	25%
<b>Objectives and Research Plan</b>	Describe the project deliverables and how they will be achieved with consideration to scientific rigour and feasibility. Touch on the outcomes you expect as a result of this project. ( <b>&lt;800 words</b> )	
<b>Focus on Heart Failure &amp; Organizational Alignment</b>	Describe how this project addresses aspects of heart failure and how it aligns with the Centre’s mission and objectives more broadly. ( <b>&lt;200 words</b> )	10%
<b>Collaboration</b>	Describe how your project benefits from collaboration between partners of the Ted Rogers Centre for Heart Research. ( <b>&lt;200 words</b> )	15%
<b>Potential for Impact - Translation and/or Commercialization</b>	Describe your plans/activities for translation/commercialization of the research findings (e.g., policy or systems change, clinical practice, IP). ( <b>&lt;200 words</b> )	15%

<b>Inclusion</b>	Describe how the project meaningfully incorporates the following into the design of the proposed research where applicable: a) persons with lived experience; and b) diversity, equity, and accessibility. Consider the appropriateness of inclusion in development of the research process, such as recruitment practices, mentorship, environment, and trainee development. <b>(&lt;250 words)</b>	5%
<b>Supervisor's Experience</b>	Supervisor's CIHR Common academic CV ( <u>last five years only</u> ).	5%
<b>Project Importance for Career Goals</b>	Describe how your project is important in furthering your career goals. <b>(&lt;200 words)</b>	Non-weighted requirement
<b>Letters of Support – if applicable</b>	Letters of support from co-supervisor(s) and collaborators providing substantive resources (i.e. patient records, technological support, animal models, etc.)	Non-weighted

## Award Renewal Process

- **PhD renewal applicants must:**
  - Complete an abbreviated application that will be assessed separately from new applications. Applicants will be assessed on the progress demonstrated during their first year of funding and their research goals for the following year.
  - Apply for *at least one* other peer-reviewed funding in the same cycle (e.g. OGS, CGS, other peer-reviewed institutional funding etc).
- **PDR renewal applicants must:**
  - Complete a full application with an additional question on progress demonstrated during their first year of funding. This will be scored alongside new applications.
- Grant renewals are not guaranteed.

## Top-up Process for Award Recipients

- Applicants who have received multiple awards (e.g. scholarships, grants, etc.) are eligible for top-up funding.
- The top-up is dependent on the funding amount of the other awards.
- PhD awardees will be topped up to reach a total award amount of \$25,000, with a **minimum** top-up of \$5,000.
- PDR awardees will be topped up to reach a total award amount of \$40,000, with a **minimum** top-up of \$10,000.