

BANTING POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

INFORMATION SESSION APPLICANTS AND SUPERVISORS

JUNE 11, 2024



LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

A moment to reflect

- In the spirit of Truth and Reconciliation
- As part of Indigenization of the University
- To bring our attention to Indigenous peoples as we begin a conversation of research which may involve or impact them

We acknowledge that the lands on which Memorial University's campuses are situated are in the traditional territories of diverse Indigenous groups, and we acknowledge with respect the diverse histories and cultures of the Beothuk, Mi'kmaq, Innu, and Inuit of this province.

WHAT WE'LL COVER TODAY

- Brief overview of the award, eligibility, and application process
- A look at selection criteria
- A walk through of the application
- Alert you to other resources online

- Questions

THE AWARD - \$140,000 + \$20,000

- The top postdoctoral fellowship offered by the Tri-Councils. Meant to:
 - attract and retain top-tier talent, both nationally and internationally
 - develop their leadership potential
 - position them for success as research leaders of tomorrow
- Unlike other PDFs, it's about the *synergy* between the applicant, supervisor, and institution – mutual benefit of all parties
- Award details
 - \$70,000/yr stipend for 2 years from the tri-council
 - \$10,000/yr research grant for 2 years from Memorial

THE AWARD - CONTINUED

Without exception, Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships:

- are tenable **only** at the institution that supported the original application for the program (Memorial)
- must be taken up no earlier than April 1st and no later than October 1st following the year of application;
- are for two years;
- cannot be held concurrently with another Tri-Council training award; and
- can only be held once in a lifetime.

THIS WEBSITE IS YOUR FRIEND:

<https://banting.fellowships-bourses.gc.ca/en/home-accueil.html>

ALWAYS consult the Banting Postdoc website and guidelines for answers to all your questions.

We're here to help, but only Banting can give you official answers to questions.

If you can't find an answer in the guides, email Banting directly and keep the email response for your records.

ELIGIBILITY FOR HOLDING A BANTING AT MEMORIAL

- Canadian citizens, permanent residents, and foreign citizens
- Finish *most recent* PhD, PhD-equivalent, or health professional degree between Sept 15, 2021 – Sept 30, 2025
- Can apply for Banting and regular Tri-Council PDF at the same time
- Can't be in, or on leave from, a faculty position (tenure-track or tenure)
- Can only submit one application per competition year
- **Usually not for students who did their PhD at Memorial; also, justification is needed if you've been a PDF at Memorial for more than 6 months at the time of application**

APPLICATION PROCESS IN BRIEF

- 1) Email sgs@mun.ca (attention: Scholarships Officer) by **June 18th, 2024**, to alert us that you intend to apply. In that email include your name, your supervisor's name, and your discipline.
- 2) Register for a Canadian Common CV account
- 3) Register for a ResearchNet account
- 4) Complete the EDI Self-Identification Questionnaire
- 5) Contact referees (and discuss this with your supervisor)
- 6) Work with supervisor on all aspects of the application
- 7) Ask supervisor if their department or faculty has an earlier deadline than SGS ... AND ...

8)

Submit all application material as a single PDF file to
the Scholarships Officer at

SGS@mun.ca

on or before **July 19, 2024**

Incomplete applications will not be accepted

OVERVIEW OF TIMELINE

June 18th, 2024: Deadline for potential applicants to contact SGS (SGS@mun.ca) to notify if submitting a Banting application.

July 19th, 2024: Deadline for submission of complete Banting application packages. Submit to SGS@mun.ca

Mid-August: The internal review committee completes the internal review of applications and submits recommendations to the SGS.

Mid to late August: Notification of successful and unsuccessful applicants and their proposed supervisors.

August 28th: Successful applicants submit the **Endorsement Approval Form**. The form can be completed before the July submission deadline, but it is only required for successful applicants.

September 13, 2024: Institutional support letter provided to the successful applicant(s).

September 17, 2024 (20:00 EDT): Application submission deadline; applicants are responsible for submitting their applications online.

SELECTION CRITERIA

3 multidisciplinary committees (CIHR, NSERC, SSHRC), rank applications on 3 equally weighted criteria:

- 1) Applicant's research excellence and leadership in the research domain.
- 2) Quality of applicant's proposed research program.
- 3) Institutional commitment and demonstrated synergy between applicant and institutional strategic priorities.

#1: RESEARCH EXCELLENCE AND RESEARCH LEADERSHIP

Proof of demonstrated capacity

- Research excellence (based on track record)
 - Quality of the applicant's research contributions
 - Impact of their activities in their research community
 - Clarity with which the applicant writes their proposal to a multi-disciplinary committee (i.e., non-specialist audience)
- Leadership in the research domain (sphere of influence on...)
 - research programs
 - institutions (e.g., research, cultural)
 - research communities (e.g., local, international)
 - society at large (e.g., regional, national)

#2: QUALITY OF PROPOSED RESEARCH PROGRAM

- The quality of the proposal in terms of its novelty/originality, feasibility and significance
 - Research proposal (including SGBA+ considerations)
 - Lay abstract of research proposal
 - Bibliography and citations included in the research proposal
 - Supervisor's statement
 - Referee assessments (Merit of proposed research section)
- The environment(s) in which the proposed research will be conducted
 - Research proposal
 - Supervisor's statement (discussion of research environment and support)
- Research respectfully involving Indigenous Peoples (if applicable) – community engagement
 - Research proposal
 - Supervisor's statement (discussion of engagement, reciprocal benefit, institutional support etc.). Supervisor must corroborate details provided in the research proposal

#3: INSTITUTIONAL COMMITMENT AND DEMONSTRATED SYNGERY

- Institutional commitment to champion the development of the applicant's research and leadership
- Professional development opportunities offered by the institution
- Institution's research capacity in the area of the applicant's proposed research program, providing an intellectually stimulating environment to position the applicant as a research leader
- Alignment and synergy between the applicant's research ambitions and the institution's strategic priorities
- Institutional potential to benefit strategically from engaging with the applicant.

APPLICATION SECTIONS

	Excellence	Proposed Research	Synergy
CCV (Vanier-Banting academic)	X		
Sig of Research Contributions (1 page)	X		
Sig of Leadership Contributions (1 page)	X		
Special Circumstances (if applicable; 1 page)	X		
Lay Abstract (2000 character textbox)		X	
SGBA+ considerations (2000 character textbox)		X	
Research Proposal (4 pages in English, 5 pages in French, including all graphs and images)	X	X	X
Bibliography (4 pages)		X	
Supervisor's Statement (4 pages)	X	X	X
3 Referee Assessments (4500 characters [~1.5pg] for each of the 3 evaluation criteria)	X	X	X

Institutional Letter of Endorsement (1 page) is for administrative purposes only and does not go to the selection committee.

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES (1 PAGE)

Career/research delays

Delays / interruptions (periods of no work at all) to your academic and/or career advancement, research, dissemination of results, training, etc.

- Examples: parental leave, child rearing, illness, disability, cultural, community or family responsibilities, socio-economic factors, access to research/leadership opportunities or relocation of your research environment. Applicants can include any post-degree training that is not research-focused (e.g., clinical training, residency, certificates) in this section.
- **Justification for extensions to the eligibility window for degree completion** **MUST** provide specific dates for your delays and/or interruptions, including the exact number of months or days of these interruptions

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES (1 PAGE)

Justification for remaining in PhD research environment (mandatory if applicable)

- Only in rare circumstances will a Banting be awarded to an applicant who is staying at the same institution or within the same research environment where they completed their PhD... “must provide a strong justification for this exceptional circumstance”
 - The more similar it is, the stronger the justification needed

Justification for remaining in the same research environment (other than PhD) (mandatory if applicable)

- If you’ve been a PDF for more than 6 months at time of application, you **must** justify staying. The longer you’ve been here, the stronger the justification needs to be.

Examples of valid justifications

- Scientific reasons (e.g., availability of specialized equipment/infrastructure or expertise); family reasons (e.g., family obligations); health reasons (e.g., proximity to health care facilities); reasons related to community or cultural responsibilities; and conducting research with Indigenous communities.

ADVICE

Send out invites to referees immediately after consulting with your supervisor; give those referees an earlier deadline of July 16 (these must be in before our SGS deadline)

Consult with and work with your supervisor on all aspects of the application (create that “synergy”)

Include everything possible on that Canadian Common CV (if you’re not sure it’s relevant: put it in)

Be prepared for several drafts of the Research Proposal

SGS HELP/SUPPORT

More resources on other parts of the application:

Questions about our SGS process should be directed to:

Tammy Power-Taylor (sgs@mun.ca)

Questions and advice on the structure and organization of Research

Proposal pages:

Danine Farquharson (daninef@mun.ca)

QUESTIONS?