



## Trainee Award - Network for Improving Health Systems Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy and Dalla Lana School of Public Health Partnership 2023-24 Competition

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### GUIDELINES FOR FUNDING

<b>Overview</b>	
Funding Envelope	\$250,000 annual investment x 2 years (10 awards per year)
Grant Value	\$25,000
Grant Duration	1 year
Application Deadline	June 30, 2024
Application Procedure	Proposals from LDFP trainees to be submitted to <a href="mailto:pharm.sci@utoronto.ca">pharm.sci@utoronto.ca</a>
How to Apply	See application instructions

#### **Purpose:**

The purpose of the Trainee Award - Network for Improving Health Systems LDFP and DLSPH Partnership is to build capacity in health services and policy research focused on improving the health care system, and in particular, research that is aimed at understanding a larger role for pharmacists and an expanded healthcare system that includes pharmacists.

#### **Eligibility:**

The program is open to all full-time research-stream graduate students (MSc and PhD) in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences at the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy. Students must be supervised by faculty who hold associate (for MSc students) or full (for MSc or PhD students) graduate faculty membership with the School of Graduate Studies and graduate appointments in either the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences at the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy. The supervisor must be eligible to hold tri-council agency funds (e.g. CIHR, SSHRC or NSERC). Materials from both the trainee and supervisor are required for this application (submitted together).

The Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy recognizes that diversity is essential to the creation of a vibrant intellectual community that allows our researchers to maximize their creativity and their contributions.

### Funding and Value of the Award:

The value of the Trainee Award - Network for Improving Health Systems award is up to \$25,000 for 1 year. It is expected that ten applications will be awarded in 2022-23 (to be used in 2023-24) and ten applications will be awarded in 2023-24 (to be used in 2024-25). A trainee is only eligible to be funded once every two years (i.e., cannot be funded two years in a row) through this competition.

Funds awarded will be applied as follows:

For an MSc or PhD student:

- This award will count towards the awardee's funding package, and will be eligible for any bonuses as described in the appropriate graduate unit funding policy;
- See additional funding details below

Funding envelope	Additional Funding Details
LDFP allocation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Lead PI must have a primary graduate appointment at the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy</li><li>• Funding will be held at the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy</li><li>• It is expected that up to <b>three</b> awards per year will be granted</li></ul>

This call for proposals is supported by the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy and the Dalla Lana School of Public Health in collaboration with Shoppers Drug Mart (SDM). The University of Toronto is responsible for managing the funding and funds shall be awarded at the discretion of the Dean of the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy and the Dean of the Dalla Lana School of Public Health, based on recommendations made by the peer review committee that will be reviewing applications.

### Competition Deadline:

The deadline for receipt of applications is **June 30, 2024**.

### Application Content:

The application must consist of the following sections:

- 1.0 Title and Lay Abstract (no more than ½ page)
- 2.0 Training Program Description (no more than 1 page)
- 3.0 Research Proposal (no more than 3 pages for content excluding references plus no more than 1 page for references)
- 4.0 Trainee CV (in the format of the Canadian Common CV; CIHR Academic)
- 5.0 Supervisor Letter of Commitment to Support the Trainee and Research Proposed (no more than 2 pages)

All components of the application should be submitted together in one document (ideally PDF format). Applications should describe, in language suitable for a non-specialist audience, the new and/or emerging area(s) to be addressed. Competitive applications will address the following:

- A concept that addresses program objectives and purpose (see above);
- The rationale for the proposed study and the potential impact of the expected results;
- Inclusion of internal and/or external partners (including co-applicants, collaborators and/or other institutions within government or the private sector).

Trainee projects need to address the areas of focus listed below.

Funding Envelope	Areas of Focus
LDFP allocation	<p>All funded trainees must have proposed projects that meet at least two of the criteria listed below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identifies gaps in care that could benefit from low acuity or other services that could be met by community-based pharmacists working on their own or as part of a larger clinical team;</li> <li>• Evaluates implementation of existing pharmacist centred services or new pharmacist-led approaches that better integrate community pharmacists into the primary healthcare system including monitoring/follow-up;</li> <li>• Demonstrates the effect of care by community-based pharmacy teams on patient reported outcome or experience measures</li> <li>• Includes an approach for community-based pharmacists to electronically receive data from or electronically share data with patients or other health care providers including patient self-report, diagnostic, laboratory or other clinical data;</li> <li>• Addresses socio-cultural and equity considerations related to pharmacy practice;</li> <li>• Addresses virtual care to leverage collaboration for care provided by community pharmacy teams and at least one other type of health care provider or organization and includes implementation and evaluation in collaboration with the DRx;</li> <li>• Addresses management of one or more chronic conditions (e.g mental health care, cardiovascular care, diabetes care) and includes (1) medication review as a core activity and (2) implementation and evaluation in collaboration with the DRx; and</li> <li>• Has a focus on development or use of artificial intelligence approaches integrated into pharmacy practice.</li> </ul> <p>All Trainee projects are expected to collaborate with the <a href="#">Discovery Pharmacy</a> as a knowledge user or as an implementation or evaluation site. It is recognized that all projects will have learnings based on findings from research and education findings that would be of interest to Discovery Pharmacy but also that some projects will not have an education or research implementation component suited for Discovery Pharmacy. Please review the <a href="#">NIHS site</a> for more information or connect with <a href="#">Ernie Avilla</a> directly.</p>

### **Application Review:**

Members of the professorial staff within the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, the Dalla Lana School of Public Health and individuals external to the Faculties and/or University will review all applications. To be successful, applicants must write their applications for non-specialist reviewers.

### **Evaluation Criteria:**

Applications will be assessed according to four criteria. The onus is on the applicant to address each criterion in the application. These include:

1. Strength of training program proposed (using CIHR fellowship award criteria <https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/26720.html>) (20%)
2. Merits of the proposal (including significance, methodology, measurable outcomes, feasibility and expected impact); (40%)
3. How well the proposal addresses the preferential consideration criteria (20%)
4. Trainee accomplishments to date based on level of trainee thus far (20%)

### **Reporting Requirements:**

The recipient of the award will be required to submit a 1-page report (template to be provided) to the LDFP Research Office at the end of the year detailing accomplishments in their training and project. The recipient of the award will also be required to submit a mid-term report (at 6 months into their project cycle).

### **Collaboration and Knowledge Translation Expectations:**

The recipient will be expected to

- agree to have the recipient name, picture and brief summary of research profiled on the Network for Improving Health System webpages;
- present their research methods or results at one of the planned purposely focused Network events to be held in the Fall 2024 or Spring 2025, where applicable these events will be cohosted by the Ontario Pharmacy Evidence Network;
- work with LDFP and DLSPH communications to highlight aspects of the research when requested;
- work with Centre for Practice Excellence and Ontario Pharmacy Evidence Network administrative staff to develop purposeful documents aimed at helping inform policy makers and the public about plans for the research and findings generated by the research.