

Application Deadline: Friday, January 31, 2025

The Alberta Gambling Research Institute welcomes applications from all qualified individuals, including those from within employment equity categories of women, persons with disabilities, members of visible minorities/racialized peoples, Indigenous peoples, and people of diverse gender identities and sexual orientation as well as all groups protected by the Human Rights Act. We are committed to employment equity and diversity and a positive and supportive environment. We offer accommodation for applicants with disabilities in our recruitment processes.

Purposes:

To support original research on gambling and to provide training and mentorship to emerging scholars working in gambling-related fields.

Alberta Gambling Research Institute

The Alberta Gambling Research Institute (the Institute) is a consortium of the Universities of Alberta, Calgary, and Lethbridge (the “Partner Universities”).

The Partner Universities are located on Treaty 6 and 7 lands. Treaty 7 is the traditional and ancestral territory of the Blackfoot Confederacy: Kainai, Piikani and Siksika as well as the Tsuu T’ina Nation and Stoney Nakoda First Nation, and home of the Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 3. Treaty 6 is the traditional and ancestral territory of the Cree, Dene, Blackfoot, Saulteaux and Nakota Sioux, and is home to the Métis Nation of Alberta, Regions 2, 3 and 4.

The Institute’s mission is ‘*to facilitate evidence-based broad research that informs gambling public policy and educates Albertans and the wider audience about the effects of gambling*’.

The provincial government has committed resources to support research and build capacity at the participant Universities. This grant application cycle runs from December 6, 2024 – January 31, 2025.

The Institute’s other activities include:

- funding of literature reviews on various gambling-related research topics;
- supporting capacity building at each of the participant Universities;
- developing and maintaining the Institute website;
- developing the collections and promoting access to library and support resources;
- organizing and sponsoring symposia and conferences;
- participating in research events;
- disseminating information and publications on current research; and,
- awarding graduate and doctoral level scholarships and research allowances to new scholars.

The administrative hub for the Institute is at the University of Calgary (2500 University Drive NW, Calgary, AB T2N 1N4). Each of the Partner Universities also has an affiliated research coordinator. For more information about the Institute and its achievements to date, please see

<https://research.ucalgary.ca/alberta-gambling-research-institute> or contact the Institute at (403) 220-3062.

Goals of the Institute:

1. To encourage, foster, and solicit research to better understand the role and impacts of gambling on the individual and society
2. To ensure research is collaborative and has stakeholder support
3. To support the development of research capacities across broad research disciplines
4. To contribute to making research accessible, useful, and applied

Stakeholder Identified High Priority Research Areas

For the 2024/2025 application cycle, the following stakeholder identified priorities will receive particular consideration:

Public policy – Comparative and evaluative research on social responsibility programs with a view to determining best practice guidelines. How should responsible gambling be measured? How should revenue generation be balanced with effective social responsibility? Some examples of particular interest are: effects of advertising, sustainability of gambling under ideal regulatory conditions, and the role of recreational gambling and sports betting in Alberta.

Indigenous / First Nations gambling – A continuing priority identified by stakeholders is the need for further research, including comparative, research into gambling behaviors and industry involvement of First Nations and other indigenous populations.

Longitudinal follow up studies – Basic understanding of the gambling behaviors and habits of various age cohorts was identified as being an integral building block for future research. Associated and follow-up research continues to be a high priority.

Internet / Remote gambling – The pervasiveness of this relatively recent format has accelerated it to the forefront of research demand. Some research has been completed, much is underway, but it will assuredly remain high on the gambling research agenda.

Provision and delivery of effective treatment programs – Although the evidence base for preventing and treating gambling disorders is growing, intervention research continues to be a priority. Stakeholders are interested in dissemination of research knowledge, translation of basic research findings into intervention, identification of best practices, development of easily accessible guidelines for clinicians/treatment providers, and provision of treatment in easily accessible modalities such as telephone, internet and text. A specific stakeholder area of interest is to gain an understanding of the reason for the observed decline in numbers of treatment-seeking by problem gamblers as well as strategies for increasing treatment-seeking. Research on the basic personality, social, cognitive and neurological mechanisms of gambling and disordered gambling are also encouraged, in particular with ties to prevention and intervention.

Socio-economic / Economic – Over time, enormous focus has been put on developing and applying a model for identifying and assessing the fullest range possible of individual, family and societal impacts of gambling. Follow-up and further studies are needed to help determine: What is the appropriate level of revenue for the provincial government to make from gambling? What percentage of revenue is from problem gamblers? How should revenue generation be balanced with effective social responsibility?

These topics for research projects are encouraged but submissions are not restricted to only these topics. Applications for other research topics that incorporates a gambling focus are eligible.

Eligibility of applicants

Doctoral degree holders who are eligible to be appointed as a Post-doctoral Fellow (Fellow) by one of the Partner Universities who provide evidence of existing research affiliation; application within Partner University's approved existing framework. The applicant may apply before completion of a doctoral degree, but the applicant must be completed their doctoral degree before taking up the PDF position. The PDF must be supervised by a faculty member at a Partner University. The Supervisor's role is to include regular meetings with the PDF and support, as required, the PDF's research activities.

Partner University Support

The Post-doctoral Fellow and Supervisor are to confirm Partner University support, examples of, which include the following:

- Working/office space
- Access to Partner University library(ies)
- Opportunity to present at Faculty colloquia
- Email access
- Opportunities to teach

Financial support

Detailed budgets must be submitted with all applications.

Eligible costs include:

- Salary and benefits
- Maximum total award will be \$130,000 (\$65,000 salary & benefits and \$5,000 research allowance per year for two (2) years – maximum PDF length will be two (2) years).

Eligible Research Allowance costs include:

- Costs directly related to research
- Equipment acquired with grant monies is the property of the host Partner University and reasonable requests for other uses of research funds will be accommodated wherever possible
- Varied and innovative **knowledge translation/transfer** initiatives
- Open Access (OA) publishing fees are allowed; however, discounted Author Processing Charges (APC) should be investigated and utilized whenever possible. For OA APC information and a list of available discounts/waivers in gambling-related journals – see: <https://research.ucalgary.ca/alberta-gambling-research-institute/resources/open-access-and-author-processing-charges>.
If journals without APCs or discounted APCs cannot be used, justification for the non-discounted journal is required along with its associated costs.
- Overhead/indirect costs (central, faculty and departmental costs that a University incurs to support research and other operations, which are not directly attributable to a specific research project) are not eligible expenses on individual research grants (since the Institute provides separate gambling research capacity-building funding to Partner Universities)
- Retroactive funding will not be considered

The PDF is responsible for initiating and monitoring any related contracts according to the host Partner University's procedures. The Institute will fund salary & benefits in compliance with University Post-Doctoral Collective Agreements. If approved funding is found to be insufficient by the PDF, it is the responsibility of the PDF and supervisor to obtain additional funding

Timelines

December 6, 2024	Applications/guidelines distributed/posted
January 31, 2025	Applications due to the Institute
mid-February/early-March, 2025	Proposal Adjudication Committee (PAC)/Board approvals/ recommendations
mid-March 2025	Approval announcement
January 2025	PhD degree conferred – certificate required
April, 2026	Progress reports (templates will be sent)
Within 3 months of completion date* (variable)	Completion reports (template will be sent)

* **Time extensions** - If research projects cannot be completed within the approved time period, **requests for time extensions must be made 3 months prior to the specified completion date** (e.g. September 1, 2025 for an extension request with the originally approved completion date of November 30, 2025). The extension may be approved to a maximum of one (1) year.

Selection and approval processes

A sub-committee of the Institute Board, the Proposal Adjudication Committee (PAC), will make **final** approvals and **notify successful PDF applicants by mid-March 2025**. Decisions will be based on:

- the merit of the proposal in addressing an identified stakeholder priority(ies);
- meeting the purposes of the Institute;
- the contribution the research makes to capacity-building in the Partner Universities;
- the identification of an audience who will be able to make use of the research generated by the PDF;
- plans regarding knowledge mobilization, including the flow of research knowledge between researchers within academia; and beyond academia to inform and engage, where applicable, those involved in public policies, practices and/or debates; and
- plans to advance knowledge through, where appropriate, the sharing of research data.

There is no decision appeal process.

Accountability/Progress Reports

The Institute is required to provide annual audited financial statements and reports on its research activities to its funder. It is also committed to providing information on the range of funded research projects through various communication and media activities (e.g. website listing, newsletter, and Research Offices). To assist with providing the most current and accurate information, researchers are required to provide brief annual reports (mid-April) as well as completion reports for all approved research projects. The PDF applicant (see 'Eligibility of applicants') is responsible for submitting the reports. The following information is required:

- assessment of progress towards meeting the identified research objectives;
- budget summary report for research allowance including expenditures to date;
- identification of tasks remaining;
- timeline of completed milestones and when tasks remaining are expected to be completed;
- brief (2-3 sentence) descriptive statement for Institute website and/or newsletter on status of research to date.

Supervisors are to review the progress reports prepared by PDF after completion of the first year of the Fellowship.

Completion reports are due to the Institute within three months of the actual completion date of research projects. Supervisors are to review and authorize the completion report prepared by the PDF after completion of the Fellowship. PDFs will also be required to submit a 1-2 page plain-language synopsis of the project, its main results, and implications, written for non-academic audiences. This synopsis will be

submitted to the Institute no later than 3 months after the end of the grant award. Any unexpended grant funds must be returned to the Institute.

Research ethics and other required approvals

Because of the tri-university eligibility for Institute grants, evidence of applicable certifications from the PDF's host Partner University are required (e.g., human subjects, participant payments, etc.). Respective Research Officers will ensure approvals and/or certifications have been obtained as required and will release grant monies as per respective university policies and procedures.

Procedure for requesting information for research purposes from AGLC

Due to their nature, some research investigations depend on access to information or data held by the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission (AGLC). A single point of entry has been established and a process to expedite their response and ensure that the proper authorizations are obtained. More information about accessing this type of data can be obtained by contacting Eric Baich at (780) 447-8777 or via email at: Eric.Baich@aglc.ca.

Intellectual property

The guidelines and policies of the principal applicant's host University are applicable.

**Alberta Gambling Research Institute
2023/2024 Post-doctoral Fellowship (PDF) Application Form**

Application Deadline: Friday, January 31, 2025

General Instructions:

1. Prior to completing this application, prospective applicants should read the Alberta Gambling Research Institute 2023/2024 Post-doctoral Fellowship (PDF) Grant Guidelines
2. An electronic copy (MS Word) of the completed application form is required.
3. The signed (e-signatures accepted) electronic copy must be received by the offices of the Alberta Gambling Research Institute (gfwong@ucalgary.ca) by 4:00 pm, Friday, January 31, 2025.
4. Only complete applications, duly signed, will be considered.

PART 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

Name of PDF applicant (surname, given names)
Proposed Department
Proposed Faculty
Telephone number
Address for correspondence
E-mail address

Short title of proposed research
Descriptive statement for general information purposes (maximum 3 sentences)
Research priority area(s) (if applicable)
Keywords (search terms)
Project starting date
Proposed completion date
Indicate if proposed research involves human subjects, environmental impact implications, potential data privacy concerns, etc.

PROPOSED SUPERVISOR: [Lastname, Firstname, Initials]

[Click here to enter text.](#)

COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

TELEPHONE:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

E-MAIL:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

SIGNATURE OF:	PRINTED NAME:	DATE:
[Candidate]		
[Proposed Supervisor/Co-Supervisor]		

PART 2: FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Research Allowance Budget summary:

Detailed research allowance budgets must be submitted with all PDF applications. Only those costs that are directly related to research are eligible for research allowances (see also 'Financial support' section of guidelines). Include the following budget items:

- *Materials and supplies*
- *Equipment*¹
- *Knowledge transfer/information dissemination activities (including, but not limited to, conference attendance)*²
- *Open Access (OA) Author Processing Charges (APCs) (utilization of discounted OA APCs)*³
- *Other (please specify)*

Total requested:

Total requested per year:

Provide a brief rationale for each major category of budget item and relating to the objectives and requirements of the proposed research for the research allowance.

Other sources of funding

Starting with the most recent, list the other granting agencies or programs from which you have requested or received funds within the last three years and indicate the status of this support (e.g. applied, held). Identify those awards, which are closely related to this grant request and, for each, describe its relationship to this request. This information, together with the CVs of the Fellowship applicant, will be provided to PAC to assist them with assessing the past and current research performance and the relationship to the applicant's research program.

Agency/Organization

Project title

Amount/yr.

Funding period

Status

PART 3: QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

[Synopsis - not to exceed 2 pages]⁴

A. Fellowship applicant information

Name of Fellowship applicant (surname, given names)

Academic and professional experience (starting with the most recent)

- Date

¹ Vendor quotes must be included for research equipment with component costs over \$1000. Equipment acquired with grant monies is the property of the host University. Only in exceptional circumstances will computers/software be eligible for grant support. An explanation for funding of equipment / infrastructure must be provided to clearly indicate how the funding of those purchases will contribute to capacity building around gambling-related research in the future.

² Knowledge transfer activities may vary; however, conference travel is limited to an annual maximum of \$3,000.

³ Open Access (OA) publishing fees are allowed; however, discounted Author Processing Charges (APC) should be investigated and utilized whenever possible. See <https://research.ucalgary.ca/alberta-gambling-research-institute/resources/open-access-and-author-processing-charges> for a list of OA APCs and available discounts/waivers in gambling-related journals. If journals without APCs or discounted APCs cannot be used, justification for the non-discounted journal is required along with its associated costs.

⁴ Outline relevant and significant contributions to research/scholarship **within the last 3 years or most recent period of research activity**, including publications (articles, books, book chapters, book reviews), works in press, research reports and papers, etc. **Start with the most recent and identify those works which are published in refereed journals. Do not exceed 2 pages.** This information will serve as an overview of the more detailed CV(s) submitted as separate files.

- Institution/Organization
- Faculty/School/Department
- Position (sessional lecturer, research associate, etc.)

Degrees Awarded (starting with the most recent) list the following:

- Degree
- Discipline
- Institution
- Date awarded

Current research interests (describe in key words)

Academic Awards and Distinctions

Record of research/scholarly achievements (e.g., publications and presentations)

B. Letters of Academic Reference/Support

LETTERS OF REFERENCE

Identify the two individuals who have been asked to submit a letter of reference on your behalf. The proposed supervisor(s) may be one of them.

Name	Institution/Organization	Email address

Letters of reference should highlight the candidate's strengths as they relate to suitability/experience in research (e.g., originality, technical ability, demonstrated skills, judgment, critical skills, etc.), as well as level of interest in the gambling field. Specific details are welcomed.

Two signed confidential letters of reference to be sent directly from referees to: gfwong@ucalgary.ca.

PART 4: RESEARCH PROGRAM

Abstract (250 word maximum)

- provide a concise, non-technical statement of the general objectives and significance of the proposed research

Description of proposed research (10 page maximum; minimum of 12 cpi)

Attach a description of the proposed research initiative being sure to include:

1. the objectives of the proposed research and its relationship to existing research, the investigator(s) research program, and literature;
2. its potential theoretical and practical significance;
3. the theoretical/conceptual framework guiding the research and, where applicable, the research hypotheses;
4. the methods and procedures to be used and the resources that are required, with particular emphasis on those for which funding is being requested;
5. a description of any proposed collaborative aspects;
6. a timetable for the completion of the proposed research (note: award advice given by TBD – mid-March 2025; and,
7. reference list – pages not to be included in 10 page maximum for 'Description of proposed research.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

	<i>Included</i>	<i>Not applicable</i>
1. An electronic copy with all required signatures (as appropriate to the applicant's host University) and containing separate files (MS Word format) of the application and CV for the Fellowship applicant – send via email to: gfwong@ucalgary.ca		
2. Confirmation that any necessary certifications and/or permissions will be obtained prior to grant allocation		
3. Vendor quote(s) for equipment over \$1000		
4. Confirmation that any related research contracts will be put in place prior to authorization to proceed (e.g. data collection agencies, external consultants, etc.)		
5. This checklist		

PART 5: SIGNATURES

Due to variations in internal structural and reporting arrangements, some, or all, of the following signatures are required. Advice should be obtained from the Research Officer of the host University (University of Alberta, University of Calgary, or University of Lethbridge) of the principal applicant/investigator. **The completed application and checklist are to be submitted to the Alberta Gambling Research by 4:00 pm, Friday, January 31, 2025.** Research grant accounts will be set up and funds disbursed according to the usual internal practices of the respective Research Offices.

Note to signatories:

The undersigned hereby certify acceptance of the terms and conditions of the Alberta Gambling Research Institute as outlined in the guidelines and on this application form and of any conditions applied to a grant pursuant to this application.

Post-Doctoral Fellow applicant

Date

Supervisor

Department Chair

Dean

Research Officer (signature indicates checklist confirmation)