

KILLAM RESEARCH EXCELLENCE AWARD

The Killam Scholarship and Prize Programs were established in memory of Izaak Walton Killam through the Will of his wife, Dorothy Johnston Killam, and through gifts made during her lifetime. Their primary purpose is to support advanced education and research at five Canadian Universities including the University of Calgary.

1. PURPOSE OF THE AWARD

The Killam Research Excellence Award recognizes an individual who has made outstanding contributions to research over at least a decade. The recipient will receive a \$5,000 cash prize and a commemorative certificate at the annual Killam Reception. One award will be made each year.

2. ELIGIBILITY

The Killam Research Excellence Award is open to academic staff at the University of Calgary. No individual may be awarded the award more than once. Current and former Killam Memorial Chairholders are ineligible to hold this award.

For the purpose of this award, one Tri-Council alignment must be declared in the application, and no individual will be eligible in more than one Tri-Council area of expertise.

While Faculty members may be nominated for multiple University of Calgary Killam Awards in a given year, scholars are only eligible to receive one University of Calgary Killam Award per year. This includes the Killam Memorial Chairs, Killam Annual Professor Award, Emerging Research Leader Awards, Research Excellence Award, Graduate Supervision and Mentorship Award, Undergraduate Mentorship Award, and the McCaig-Killam Teaching Award. This provision is in place to ensure that UCalgary can recognize as many deserving scholars as possible each year.

3. EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

The University of Calgary is committed to an equitable, diverse, and inclusive campus and recognizes that diverse faculty, staff, students, and alumni benefit and enrich the work, teaching, learning and research experiences of the entire campus and broader community. We are committed to removing barriers that have been, and continue to be, encountered by equity-deserving groups, including women, Indigenous peoples, visible/racialized minorities, persons with disabilities, and LGBTQ+.

The Killam Selection Committee reflects this commitment in its composition and deliberations. Nominators must also consider equity, diversity, and inclusion of eligible faculty from all equity-deserving groups, including women, Indigenous peoples, visible/racialized minorities, persons with disabilities, and LGBTQ+.

4. CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

Candidates must have demonstrated:

- Excellence in research supported by evidence of impact;
- Recognized contributions and impact on knowledge and innovation over at least a decade, nationally and internationally;
- Successful promotion, dissemination, and/or management of research activities over a significant period of time;
- Training of graduate students and other highly qualified research personnel.

5. NOMINATIONS

For each year, one of the Tri-Council eligible areas is determined based on the following cycle:

<u>AWARD YEAR</u>	<u>TRI-COUNCIL</u>
2026	SSHRC
2027	NSERC
2028	CIHR
2029	SSHRC
2030	NSERC

The Killam Selection Committee welcomes nominations from Deans. A maximum of three nominations for this award are invited from the Cumming School of Medicine and the Faculty of Arts; a maximum of two nominations from the Faculty of Science and the Schulich School of Engineering; a maximum of one nomination for each award is invited from each of the other Faculties.

The recipient of the award will be expected to participate in a public lecture or research event.

Nomination Package:

1. Signed letter of nomination by the Dean or Designate. The letter (maximum 4 pages) should include:
 - a statement about the standing of the individual within their specific research field;
 - **discipline-specific information about workload, stage in career and measures of excellence in the specific field;** and
 - the significance, benefits or impacts of the nominee’s achievements as they relate to each of the award criteria.

Forms of research contributions can vary greatly among disciplines. Given that the nomination will be peer reviewed by an interdisciplinary selection committee that includes researchers who may not have direct expertise in the nominee’s field, clearly explain the expected level of research contributions (for example: scholarly publications, presentations, software packages, book chapters, exhibitions, performances, etc.) in the nominee’s discipline to allow informed assessment of the nominee’s research contributions by a variety of experienced researchers.

Descriptions of research contributions should align with the principles of the [San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment](#), as the University of Calgary is a signatory.

2. The nominee’s curriculum vitae (maximum 15 pages), including a list of his or her publications **and a list of the 10 most significant contributions or publications** with an explanation of why they are significant

(one paragraph per contribution or publication). An **optional** [Killam CV template](#) is available (link will download a Word document.)

6. SUBMISSION PROCEDURE

The closing date for the submission of nominations to the Research Services Office for 2026 is **June 1, 2026**. The Faculty's research facilitator, awards staff, or Dean/Associate Dean (Research) must submit to Research Services using the UCalgary Killam Awards Webform by [clicking "Submit a Nomination" on this page](#). Ensure that a **single PDF document** containing all the nomination materials is submitted.

7. SELECTION AND NOTIFICATION

Nominations will be adjudicated by the University of Calgary Killam Selection Committee. The Killam Selection Committee shall consist of members from the academic community who have been appointed by the Killam Advisory Committee.

The Research Services Office will contact award recipients and nominating Deans confidentially in September and the public announcement will take place at the annual Killam Reception in October.

8. CONTACT

Direct any inquiries to the Research Services Office: researchawards@ucalgary.ca