

CAN-AMR-Net Trainee Scholarship

Terms of Reference and Instructions for Applicants

- **Who we are:** The Canadian Antimicrobial Resistance Network (CAN-AMR-Net) is a Health Research Training Platform (H RTP) funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) from 2024 to 2030. With a central platform management team based at the University of Calgary, five hubs across Canada (BC, Prairies, ON, QC and Atlantic Canada), and four thematic areas, this Pan-Canadian, One Health initiative brings together academic experts, researchers, trainees and interest holders from both public and private sectors. Encompassing over 25 institutions, CAN-AMR-Net focuses on addressing Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) from a One Health approach and leverages diverse expertise to train the next generation of researchers, practitioners, and leaders in AMR and One Health to tackle the wicked problem of AMR.
- **Objective:** The CAN-AMR-Net Scholarship supports outstanding graduate students and postdoctoral fellows (PDFs) who engage in AMR research across diverse disciplines. This scholarship provides financial assistance for academic excellence, transdisciplinary research, and commitment to AMR research across human, animal, and environmental health sectors.
- **Scholarship value:** As per the CAN-AMR-Net funding, the award will provide a one-year award valued at:
 - \$10,000 for graduate students and
 - \$20,000 for PDFs.
- **Scholarship eligibility criteria:** Applicants must meet the following qualifications:
 - The scholarship is **open to full-time (domestic and international) MSc students, PhD students, and PDFs in Canada**, who are registered in a degree program of a **Canadian university** and **supervised by a Principal Investigator (PI)/member within the CAN-AMR-Net** training Platform.
 - **Limit per CAN-AMR-Net PI/member:** Each CAN-AMR-Net PI/member can have up to two trainees submit scholarship applications per year. However, to allow for maximal and equitable access to the funding, a maximum of one award per year and total maximum of 3 during the H RTP period (2024-2029) will be granted to trainees from each PI/member primary supervisor.
 - **Citizenship:** Unrestricted
 - **AMR-relevant projects and discipline balance:** While projects must address a topic directly relevant to AMR from a One Health perspective, applications are encouraged across diverse disciplines (e.g., social sciences, bio-medical, veterinary, and environmental sciences) to promote a balanced representation of fields within the One Health framework.
 - **Collaborative project priority:** Priority is given to trainees involved in innovative, collaborative, and transdisciplinary projects within the CAN-AMR-Net training platform, as well as those working with another H RTP, such as the Canadian One Health Training Program for Emerging Zoonoses.
 - **Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Accessibility (EDIA) Considerations:** CAN-AMR-Net is committed to EDIA principles. Applicants from underrepresented groups are strongly encouraged to apply, and EDIA considerations will be integrated into the selection process to support fair representation in all groups.

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- **Indigenous Trainees:** Two scholarships per year are specifically reserved for Indigenous trainees.
- **No Overlap Funding from HRTPs:** Trainees receiving support from other HRTPs are **ineligible** to receive a CAN-AMR-Net scholarship.
- **Funding Cap:** Applicants receiving significant external funding are NOT eligible to receive funding from CAN-AMR-Net. This scholarship may be used as a top-up to other support to a maximum of \$40,000 for graduate students (\$50,000 for international students) and \$60,000 for PDFs, from all sources of funding.
- **Selection Criteria:** Evaluation will consider the following criteria:
 - A. **Academic excellence (25%):** Demonstrated by publications, awards and scholarly achievements.
 - B. **Research potential and experience (25%):** Evidence of research accomplishments, transdisciplinary engagement, and potential contribution to the CAN-AMR-Net objectives.
 - C. **Excellence of research proposal (25%):** Quality, relevance, and impact of the research proposal in accordance with the CAN-AMR-Net goals.
 - D. **Innovation and initiative in AMR from One Health perspective (OH Impact Statement) (25%):** Evidence of innovation and initiative in addressing AMR challenges from One Health perspective.
- **Application Deadlines:** Applications should be submitted by **January 31st** each year.
- **Application Process:** Submit the completed application form, along with your resume/CV and a copy of your transcripts.
- **Administration and Selection:** The Scholarship Adjudication Committee (SAC) will evaluate applications based on the criteria above and make recommendations to the CAN-AMR-Net Executive Committee (EC), which will make the final decisions ensuring equitable regional distribution and adherence to EDIA principles.
- **Decision and Notification:** Decisions will be communicated within 8 weeks of the application deadline. Recipients must confirm acceptance within 14 days of notification. This award is available to start as of May 1 or September 1. Funds committed to graduate students or PDFs who subsequently withdraw or graduate during the year must be cancelled immediately, and remaining funds revert to CAN-AMR-Net platform.
- **Post-Award Requirements**
 - Recipients are expected **to present their research** at CAN-AMR-Net's annual or regional hub meetings.
 - **Acknowledgment in Publications:** Award recipients must include acknowledgement of CAN-AMR-Net funding in publications and other research dissemination:

"This research was supported by funding from the Canadian Network for Antimicrobial Resistance (CAN-AMR-Net). The authors gratefully acknowledge CAN-AMR-Net for their financial support, which made this work possible."

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- **Progress and Presentation Requirements:** Recipients must provide a final progress report (Summary of activities, key achievements, impact statements, etc.) once the term of the funding is done. A template of report can be found on CAN-AMR-Net website.