2017/2018

Alberta New Investigator Awards Guidelines

(Fall 2016 Competition)

30 June 2016
Alberta New Investigator Awards

The Alberta New Investigator Awards support the achievement of the HSF Vision: Healthy lives free of heart disease and stroke. Together, we will make it happen. The initiative aims to nurture and build the capacity of Alberta’s cardio and cerebrovascular research and increase impact on the HSF mission to prevent disease, save lives and promote recovery.

Purpose

The Alberta New Investigator Awards aim to provide outstanding Alberta investigators in their early career with the opportunity to establish research programs and build teams through provision of a contribution to their group research efforts, laboratories or salary. The intent is to foster research excellence and support retention of outstanding talent in Alberta.

Description

This initiative provides salary support to excellent Alberta applicants whose innovative research plans have demonstrated strong potential to deliver impact on the HSF mission. The applicants are expected to demonstrate that their overall research program and plan have a cardio or cerebrovascular focus.

An applicant may not be in receipt of another major Personnel award (i.e. from another national funding agency) and a Canada Research Chair at the same time as holding the Alberta New Investigator Award. However, an awardee may accept supplemental funding (no greater than 50% of the value of the HSF award), if it is from a local, institutional or provincial funding source.

Eligibility

The Alberta New Investigator Award will be awarded to Alberta-based applicants with an MD, PhD, or equivalent degree who have clearly demonstrated potential to become an independent investigator.

The applicants for the Alberta New Investigator Awards should be in 7 years or less from the start of their first faculty appointment. Alberta New Investigator applicants who fall within start - 5 years of faculty appointment are also eligible to apply for the National New Investigator Awards Competition. Applicants (start – 5 years) will be required to apply once, using the National New Investigator Application Form. Alberta applicants who fall within 6 - 7 years of faculty appointment are only eligible to apply for the Alberta New Investigator Competition.

If you fall within start – 5 years of faculty appointment, please click this link for details of the National New Investigator Awards Guidelines (2017/2018).

Please review the following eligibility criteria specific to the Alberta New Investigator Awards Competition (2017/2018):

1. The applicants should be in 7 years or less from the start of their first faculty appointment.
2. The applicant should clearly demonstrate the potential to become an independent investigator.
3. The applicant must hold a faculty appointment at the time of award confirmation (i.e. July 1, 2017). New and upcoming appointees will be required to submit an official letter confirming appointment by the stipulated date with the application package.
4. Alberta applicants who have completed a National New Investigator Award or are in their final year of the term are eligible to apply.
5. Applicants are not allowed to hold one new and one existing Alberta New Investigator Awards at one time.
6. Applicants are allowed to apply for only one Alberta Initiative in a given competition (i.e. New Investigator or Seed Grant).
7. Applications for this award must be supported by the university or institution at which the applicant will conduct the proposed research. The university or institution is expected to guarantee the applicant appropriate academic rank and to provide adequate space and facilities.
for the investigator’s research, commensurate with the status of the individual’s experience and level of support by HSF.

8. The Dean and Department Head (or institutional equivalents) must guarantee at least 75% of the applicant's time allocated to research.

9. The applicant must hold a Grant-In-Aid in support of the proposed research at the time of this award; such grant(s) may be from the Heart and Stroke Foundation and/or other granting agencies. The research grant support has the following additional requirements:
   a. For each year of the three (3) years of the award, the recipient must be a Principal Investigator on a peer-reviewed grant originating from a national or provincial funding agency, irrespective of the amount of the grant.
   b. The recipient must have at least $30,000 per year of research funding for which he/she can either be principal or co-investigator.

Value and Term

1. The Award offers $60,000 per annum for a maximum of 3 years which includes the employer’s share of benefits. The award cannot be renewed for a second term. There are no additional allowances.

2. The Foundation does not impose any restriction on the additional income the awardee may earn, provided it is within the guidelines of the university or institution and that such activity does not impinge upon the time dedicated to the proposed research.

3. The recipient will be considered as an employee of the sponsoring university or institution and funds granted will be paid to the institution for payment to the recipient. The recipient will be a full-time member of the staff with respect to the university or institution’s policies.

4. The award may be terminated at any time for good cause by the recipient, the sponsoring institution, or HSF.

Review Process

All applications will undergo HSF peer review based on the following major criteria:

- Academic, research background and future potential of the applicant
- Research environment and
- Proposed research plan
Application Guidelines

Application Submission Deadline and Competition Results

Applications for the Alberta New Investigator Award must be post-marked/courier-stamped no later than September 12, 2016. Applications post-marked/courier-stamped after the deadline will be considered late. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that application packages and items arriving separately are delivered to HSF before the deadline. HSF reserves the right to decline late or incomplete applications. **ONE USB including a PDF of the complete application** and accompanying signed documents (the HSF will accept either original signatures, a scanned copy of the original signatures, or electronic signatures. Note: The expectation is that an electronic signature will hold the same weight as an original (wet) signature) from the applicant’s institute must be sent to the following address:

Research Department  
Heart and Stroke Foundation  
222 Queen Street, Suite 1402  
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5V9

Results will be posted on the HSF Research website ([www.hsf.ca/research](http://www.hsf.ca/research)) in September 2017. Official letters will be sent to the applicants by April 2017.

General

Grant recipients must abide by HSF Grant Management Guidelines including, but not limited to, intellectual property, research integrity, ethical requirements, indirect costs, open access to research outputs policy and others. The guidelines will be provided at the time of offer. For reference, the 2016/17 HSF Grant Management Guidelines can be found at: [http://www.hsf.ca/research/sites/default/files/Grant%20Management%20Guidelines%202016_En-FINAL.pdf](http://www.hsf.ca/research/sites/default/files/Grant%20Management%20Guidelines%202016_En-FINAL.pdf).

For any questions related to the Alberta New Investigator Awards or changes to the Guidelines, please contact the Heart and Stroke Foundation at:

Research Department  
Heart and Stroke Foundation  
Tel: 613 691 4050 Email: research@hsf.ca