GRADUATE STUDENTSHIP IN PROSTATE CANCER RESEARCH

Part 1: Overview Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participating Organization(s)</th>
<th>Prostate Cancer Canada</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Funding Opportunity Title</td>
<td>Graduate Studentship in Prostate Cancer Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Prostate Cancer Canada (PCC) is offering a limited number of trainee scholarships to outstanding doctoral students studying prostate cancer. These awards provide recognition and funding to students early in their academic research careers with an opportunity to continue their research training in an outstanding research environment.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Launch Date</th>
<th>September 1, 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registration Deadline</td>
<td>September 25, 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application Deadline</td>
<td>October 15, 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peer Review</td>
<td>November 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anticipated Award Notification Date</td>
<td>December 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding Start Date</td>
<td>January 1, 2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Part 2. Full Text Announcement

Section I. Funding Opportunity Description

Description

Prostate Cancer Canada (PCC) is offering a limited number of awards, which provide a stipend for outstanding graduate students conducting prostate cancer research.

The goal of the Graduate Studentship in Prostate Cancer Research is to provide funding to doctoral students to advance their research training and studies. This program aims to support high-potential trainees to develop their skills in an outstanding research environment. The expectation is that following this period of research and training, award recipients will continue their research careers in prostate cancer.

The research proposed must be in the area of prostate cancer and may address any of the broad areas of prostate cancer research, including (but not limited to) prostate cancer biology, treatment, diagnosis, survivorship and prevention. Basic, translational, clinical and/or population-based studies in any of these research areas are appropriate.

Section II. Award Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Instrument</th>
<th>Award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Application Types Allowed</td>
<td>New</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funds Available and Anticipated Number of Awards</td>
<td>Currently, the total amount budgeted for this funding opportunity is $200,000 to fund 5 trainee awards.*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Please note that the number of awards is contingent upon availability of funds and the submission of scientifically meritorious applications.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Award Budget</td>
<td>The maximum amount of each award is $40,000.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Award Project Period</td>
<td>The funding period is 1 year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The amount available for this program is subject to funds raised. Should funding levels decrease, PCC reserves the right to reduce, defer or suspend financial contributions to grants received as a result of this funding opportunity.
Section III. Eligibility Information

Eligibility to Apply

In order to be eligible for a Graduate Studentship Award, applicants must, at January 1, 2014:
- be accepted into a full-time doctoral program in Canada at an eligible institution
- have completed at least one year of their doctoral studies
- be at least one year from submission of doctoral thesis

Students enrolled in combined degree programs (e.g. MD/PhD) are eligible to apply during the research portion of their program. The health professional degree portion is not counted as graduate studies.

Eligible Institution

To be eligible to apply for a PCC grant or award, applicants must be affiliated with an eligible institution.

Eligible institutions must meet the following requirements:
1. The Institution type must fall under one of the following categories:
   - Canadian post-secondary institutions and their affiliated institutions including hospitals and research institutes;
   - Canadian non-governmental, not-for-profit organizations (including community or charitable organizations) with an explicit research or knowledge translation mandate;
   - Canadian non-federal government departments or agencies, including regional health authorities, when specific programs of those departments or agencies do not fund the activity that forms the subject matter of the grant.
2. The institution must be a recognized legal entity.
3. The institution must have the necessary accounting systems and financial controls in place to manage PCC Funds.
4. The institution must ensure that the student will have the time and infrastructure that will permit the pursuit of the planned research and the freedom to publish the results.

Applications from for-profit organizations are not eligible.
Non-domestic (non-Canadian) entities (foreign institutions) are not eligible to apply.

Key Components

Key components for the award, in addition to information about the applicant, include:

Environment: The applicant’s host institution must have a well-established record of research career development activities and qualified research faculty to serve as mentors. The institution must demonstrate a commitment to the development of the applicant. The applicant, along
with the supervisor and institution, must lay out a clear career development program that maximizes the use of relevant research and educational resources, and may propose additional qualified faculty as mentors in the specific area of prostate cancer research.

**Supervisor(s):** The applicant must name a supervisor who will advise in the planning, direction, and execution of the applicant’s program. The supervisor should be recognized as an accomplished investigator in research and have a track record of success in training independent investigators.

**Environment and Institutional Commitment to Applicant**

Applicants must provide a written commitment from the host institution confirming their status in the doctoral program.

**Section IV. Guidelines and Review Process**

**General PCC Guidelines**

PCC policies and guidelines as outlined on the PCC website will apply to the applications submitted and awards made in response to this program announcement.

PCC reserves the right to amend the review process at any time. Any changes that are made to the process will not adversely affect the rigor and equity of the process. Every effort will be made to inform applicants of changes in a timely manner.

**Allowable Costs**

**Stipend**

A Graduate Studentship in Prostate Cancer Research provides $40,000 towards a stipend for the award recipient (based on a full-time student status). Additional scholarships received from other agencies can be accepted but cannot exceed $40,000 per annum. In such cases, the PCC contribution will be reduced in order not to exceed the $40,000 per annum stipend cap. Other grants must not require extra duties or responsibilities that would interfere with the purpose of the Graduate Studentship in Prostate Cancer Research award.

**Conditions of Funding**

Successful applicants funded through this funding opportunity must fully comply with the following conditions:

- Successful candidates must accept their awards within 15 working days of notification. Failure to do so will result in a cancellation of the offer and the award may be given to the next fundable applicant.
- Acknowledgment of the funder’s support in all publications and presentations that result from the funded research. In addition, PCC would ask that PCC staff is notified prior to publication of research papers emanating from this award.
• Submit to PCC a final written progress report that includes a list of all presentations and publications resulting in whole or in part from this award.
• It is expected that following the funding period, awardees will continue to contribute to the ongoing success of the program by participating in surveys and providing data or reports that will aid program evaluation.

Performance Indicators
Performance indicators will be developed in order to evaluate the success of the Graduate Studentship in Prostate Cancer Research program.

Review Process and Evaluation
A Peer Review Committee will review the Graduate Studentship Award applications for excellence using the review criteria as described under “Evaluation Criteria”. Selected applicants will be invited to participate in a one-to-one telephone interview with a peer review panel member in November. Applicants will be notified by e-mail in October/early November 2013 with details regarding the process.

Evaluation Criteria
Graduate Studentship applications will be evaluated based on their excellence as judged against the following evaluation criteria:

Applicant
• Potential to develop as a researcher
• Quality of the applicant's academic achievements, extracurricular activities, characteristics and abilities;
• Quality of the letters of reference from three referees;

Supervisor(s)
• Appropriateness of the supervisor’s research qualifications;
• Quality and extent of the supervisor’s proposed role in providing guidance and advice to the applicant;
• Previous experience in fostering the development of trainees;
• History of research productivity and peer-reviewed support;
• Strength of the supervisor’s statement.

Research Project
A research proposal must be provided.
• Scientific and technical merit of the research question, feasibility, design and methodology;
• Significance of the proposed research on our understanding prostate cancer.
Environment and Institutional Commitment to the Applicant

- Adequacy of research facilities and training opportunities;
- Quality and relevance of the environment for the scientific and professional development of the applicant.

Section V. Submission Information

Please read all instructions before applying.

- Your application will be submitted online at:
  - **Registration deadline:** register online by **5:00 p.m. (Eastern time) on Wednesday, September 25, 2013**
    - Registration requires the following information (no attachments):
      - Applicant details, faculty of study and host institution
      - Supervisor details
      - Project title, area of research, keywords
  - **Full application deadline:** the application and all reference documents must be submitted online by **5:00 PM (ET) on Tuesday, October 15, 2013**.
  - Please ensure that your application is complete (includes all required sections and attachments) and is submitted on time.

Applications must be submitted online by completing the Graduate Studentship in Prostate Cancer Research application which can be found online at: [http://risingstar.fluidreview.com/](http://risingstar.fluidreview.com/)

Separate documents required, including letters of reference, must be attached to the application by the deadline.

Full Application Requirements:

A. Applicant
   - **Training and Experience (maximum 400 words)**
     - Discuss prior activities and academic training, and how they relate to your objectives and career plans.
     - Discuss your research efforts to date, including any publications, prior research interests and experience.
   - **CV (maximum 3 pages)**
     - Attach a free-form CV. The CV must include academic, work and volunteer experiences*, and where applicable, information on grants and awards held (sources, type, title, amount/year, duration) and a list of relevant publications.

   *Please note that Prostate Cancer Canada accepts volunteer applications through the website for assistance with events, projects and other ongoing endeavors. While participation in these activities does not ensure your receipt of a trainee award, any
volunteer experiences provide excellent opportunities for community engagement and demonstrate commitment to the cause.

B. Supervisor(s)
- The applicant must name a supervisor (one or more) who will advise on the planning, direction and execution of the applicant’s research project. The applicant may also nominate co-supervisors as appropriate.
- The supervisor should be recognized as an accomplished investigator in research and have a track record of success in training graduate students.
- The application must include a letter of reference from each supervisor.
- If more than one supervisor is proposed, each must provide a letter of reference; the respective areas of expertise and responsibility should be described. Co-supervisors should clearly describe how they will coordinate the mentoring of the applicant.
- CVs must be attached for each named supervisor. Attach a brief free-form CV (maximum 3 pages); include training and education, degrees, positions and honours, a list of relevant publications (past 5 years) and information on grants and awards held (source, type, title, amount/year, duration) (past 5 years).

C. Institution
- A letter from the Head of Department or the Graduate Studies Office confirming the applicant’s start date and status as a graduate student must be attached.

D. Research Project Information (Non-scientific summary: maximum 250 words, Scientific Summary: maximum 250 words, Research Proposal: maximum 750 words)
The Research Project Information section must include an overall description of the research project and must clearly outline the following elements:
- Central hypothesis or research question;
- Specific objectives of the research project to be undertaken;
- Background and rationale;
- Description of the importance/significance of the central hypothesis or research question on our understanding of prostate cancer and expected findings;
- Description of methods and proposed analysis, including timelines;
- Relevant experience and skills of the applicant to carry out the research proposed;
- The research environment where the project will be conducted, including supporting personnel and any specialized equipment or resources available
- Attachments accepted:
  - Reference bibliography
  - Tables and Figures (maximum 5 pages)

E. Letters of Reference (3 total required)
Applications must arrange for a total of three letters of reference to be submitted directly from referees in support of the applicant and providing evidence that the
applicant has a high potential for becoming an independent investigator. The referees must include the applicant’s supervisor(s).

F. Signature pages (Applicant, Supervisor(s) and Host Institution)
Each application must be accompanied by a document with required signatures uploaded into the application by the deadline. This form is available in the Resources section of the online application.

Contact Information

For questions relating to the Graduate Studentship in Prostate Cancer Research, please contact:

Jenna Fong, PhD          Joanne Reynolds
Manager, Research        Manager, Research Operations
416-441-2131, Ext. 243    416 441-2131, Ext. 226
jenna.fong@prostatecancer.ca  joanne.reynolds@prostatecancer.ca

About Prostate Cancer Canada

Prostate Cancer Canada is the only national foundation dedicated to the elimination of the disease through research, education support and awareness. Our goals are twofold – to fund research that will uncover better diagnostic and treatment options and to provide comprehensive support services for those living with prostate cancer.

For more information, visit prostatecancer.ca.