

2011 Information on Awards and Research



Postgraduate Medical Education Office



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Information is available on the Postgraduate Medical Education website:
<http://www.fhs.mcmaster.ca/postgrad> and on Medportal: <http://www.medportal.ca/>

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Summary

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Award/Prize:

*Deadline (2011/12):

Brief Details:

RMA Research Scholarships	August 31	\$7,500 (see details) Resident submits application.
PSIF/CSCI	May 31	5 - \$2,000 prizes (\$1,000 additional to top winner) Nomination is made by the Program.
Quality Assurance	May 31	5 - \$1,000 prizes Nomination is made by the Program.
PAIRO Senior Resident Teaching Award	Feb 9 to program Feb 28 to PG Office	\$1,000 prize Postgraduate Office will request nominations from junior residents and clinical clerks.
PAIRO Excellence in Clinical Teaching Award	PAIRO	\$1,000 prize (donation is made to the charity of the winner's choice). PAIRO will request nominations from the Residents.

* Deadline dates may vary. Please check with the Postgrad Office, ext. 22116

I Research Awards

A. REGIONAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATES RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIPS GUIDELINES FOR APPLICATION

Application forms available on the Postgraduate website: <http://www.fhs.mcmaster.ca/postgrad> and on Medportal: <http://www.medportal.ca/>.

1. Applications are invited for R.M.A. Scholarships to support original research carried out by medically qualified registered postgraduate trainees of the Faculty of Health Sciences, McMaster University. A trainee may apply for only one research project per year. A trainee may apply for a maximum of two research projects over their time within their training program and these research projects must be on two different topics. The applicant must be the principal investigator, rather than a new investigator added to an existing project.

It is important to demonstrate how much the resident is actually doing in the project in its description.

2. Successful applicants will be known as R.M.A. Scholars.
3. Allowable items in a study budget include:
 - salary costs (e.g., data entry clerk, research assistant, statistical consultation), not to exceed 50% of the total budget of the submitted proposal
 - laboratory supplies
 - mailing, courier, printing, stationery
 - software that has a demonstrated need for successful completion of the project.

The cost of capital equipment (i.e. computers) or those medical services that are normally provided by health care insurance are not eligible expenses.

Scholarships will be awarded to a maximum of \$7,500.

Applications for funding up to \$15,000 will be considered if the applicant is able to secure guaranteed departmental funding up to the total amount above the RMA scholarship maximum of \$7,500.

Research Awards

A separate request may be made within two years of the announcement of the award to fund travel costs, not to exceed \$1,500, to present research findings from the study.

4. Written applications will be considered in September and must be received by the Assistant Dean of Postgraduate Medical Education, who is the Chair of the Selection Committee, no later than AUGUST 31.
5. A typewritten application form must be completed. A detailed budget must also be included as well as supporting letters from the Programme Director and Research Supervisor. These letters should clarify the role of the trainee in the creation, design and implementation of the project.
6. The Selection Committee will be appointed by the Assistant Dean on an annual basis and will include a primary care researcher, a faculty member from the R.M.A. Board and a postgraduate trainee. The Committee may seek the opinion of internal or external referees as the need arises.
7. Under normal circumstances, it is anticipated that at least one award will be given for a project which addresses primary health care.
8. The decision of the Selection Committee shall be final.
9. Awards will be announced to the Postgraduate Education Committee, the Health Sciences Education Committee and Regional Medical Associates Board of Directors, and reported to the trainee's programme director.
10. Successful applicants must submit to the Assistant Dean, Postgraduate Medical Education by July 1 of the following year a summary of the results of the work supported by the scholarship. An abstract of the work presented at a national or international meeting or submitted for publication will be accepted in lieu of this.

A copy of the work supported will be forwarded to the RMA for their information.

It is expected that the researchers will acknowledge the research support from the Regional Medical Associates Research Scholarship Fund in abstracts, publications or poster presentations.

11. No release of funds will be made until clearance has been received from the Institutional Ethics Review Board.
12. The R.M.A. Scholarship Award must be transferred to a research account within the academic year.

B. PHYSICIANS' SERVICES INCORPORATED FOUNDATION / CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR CLINICAL INVESTIGATORS GUIDELINES

Eligible Work

Only research projects that have been completed (i.e. problem formulation to data analysis) are eligible. For the purpose of this competition completed research includes case reports and case series, reviews of the literature which are carried out according to scientific principles and completed basic or clinical research. The nominee must be registered as a resident with the Postgraduate Education Office.

Application

The application for the competition should consist of the following:

1. A summary written by the resident which must state the objectives and describe in concise fashion the methodology, results and conclusions. This summary should have a minimum of 250 words but not exceed a total of 500 words.
2. A letter from the research supervisor detailing the contributions of the resident throughout the different stages of the project including the formulation of the question, the design of the research, the conduct of the work and the data analysis interpretation and writing up. The enclosed rating form must be completed.
3. A letter from the Program Director delineating the status of the resident during the research and the amount of time devoted to it. This letter should specify how much time the resident is expected to devote to research in that programme at this stage in their training.
4. Nominations for P.S.I. prizes may be made by each Program Director\

Research Awards

Subspecialty Program Director. Each department/division may only nominate one individual. Guidelines will be circulated to all Program Director and to all residents. The completed application must be received in the Postgraduate Education Office by May 31.

Judgment Criteria

Submissions will be judged on originality, problem formulation, methodology, design and data analysis and application of findings. In the final judgement weight will also be given to: a) work which has been submitted for publication; b) work which has reached the manuscript stage; c) work which has been submitted in abstract and accepted at a National Society. Preference will also be given to junior applicants and to applicants for whom a research experience is not a mandated rotation or component of the year. The Committee to be comprised of the Chair of Postgraduate Education, the Associate Dean of Research and a resident representative.

The Committee will award five - \$2,000 prizes on behalf of Physicians' Services Incorporated Foundation. The Committee will award the top paper with an additional \$1,000 prize on behalf of the Canadian Society for Clinical Investigators.

P.S.I. AWARDS

SAMPLE RATING FORM FOR RESEARCH SUPERVISORS*

The residents performed this research during which of the following:

- Purely clinical year
- Combined clinical/research year
- Pure research year

In comparison with a representative group of residents at a similar level of training, please rate the applicant's qualities:

	Unable to Judge	Top 20%	Top 10%	Top 5%	Top 2%
Background work & understanding					
Industry/perseverance					
Motivation/initiative					
Organization					
Intellect					
Originality					

This submitted proposal has reached the following stage (e.g. submitted manuscript, abstract submitted to/accepted at National meeting).

1. _____

2. _____

Please elaborate on resident's contribution to the research question, design, performance and analysis.

* This form is available at <http://www.fhs.mcmaster.ca/postgrad> and on Medportal <https://login.medportal.ca/>.

Research Program

C. MCMASTER CLINICIAN INVESTIGATOR PROGRAM (CIP)

The goal of CIP is to help residents who are in, or who will soon complete, a Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPC) clinical training program to gain research training.

For enrollment in CIP, trainees must:

- Dedicate a minimum of 2 years (MSc) or 3 years (PhD) to research training
- Be accepted in a McMaster Graduate Studies Program to do an MSc or PhD (e.g. Health Research Methodology; Medical Sciences Program; Biochemistry Program)

Trainees enroll in CIP at different times during the course of their clinical residency training. Some enroll on completion of their residency training, whereas others interrupt residency training (e.g., after the PGY3 year) for one or more years to train in research and complete a postgraduate degree. Such interruptions must be approved by the clinical residency programs. In addition, segments (e.g., 3 to 12 month blocks) of clinical residency that are dedicated to research may count towards both clinical residency and CIP training requirements.

Before acceptance into CIP, the program helps to link future trainees with Research Supervisors and Advisors.

CIP also helps trainees, and the trainee's Research Supervisors, to secure funding for years of research training. The Ministry of Health (MOH) currently funds 6 one-year CIP positions each year, which are allocated by competition. In addition, many McMaster University Clinical Departments have provisional arrangements to contribute to funding of CIP trainees (see departmental web sites). CIP also makes a modest contribution towards the cost of Graduate Studies Program tuition and research related expenses.

CIP provides monthly academic sessions covering a broad range of research training topics that are presented by role model clinician investigators.

Trainees considering CIP are encouraged to discuss this with their Residency Program Director and should contact the CIP early to ensure optimal career planning. A detailed description of all aspects of CIP is available on the CIP Program website: <http://www.fhs.mcmaster.ca/cip/>.

Contact:

Sharon Ciralo, CIP Administrative Assistant, PGME, MDCL 3116, sciralo@mcmaster.ca

II Quality Assurance Awards

Terms of Reference

1. Five awards will be given each year to recognize the best work done in quality assurance projects (see Appendix I for definition)
2. Each award will be \$1,000. The Selection Committee will meet in June of each year.
3. The Selection Committee will be composed of:
 - Assistant Dean, Postgraduate Medical Education
 - Program Director
 - Resident Representative
 - Representative from either St Joseph's HealthCare or Hamilton Health Sciences
4. Each program director may submit TWO nomination to the Assistant Dean of Postgraduate Medical Education. The deadline date is May 31. The nomination should summarize the work done and provide sufficient detail to describe the purpose of the project, methodology used, results obtained and a discussion on the impact of this work. The submission must include a completed abstract or paper in publishable format. When work is done with a supervisor, it is important to describe the initiative shown by the resident and the proportion of the work done by the resident.
5. Supervisor and Program Director to submit covering letter describing amount of work done and seniority of resident(s).
6. An award may be given to an individual or to a group of any size who worked jointly on a project.
7. All nominees must be registered as Residents with the Postgraduate Education Office.

Quality Assurance Awards

QUALITY ASSURANCE: APPENDIX 1

The Difference between Quality Assurance and Research

Research asks the question “What...?”

Quality Assurance asks the question “How are we doing?”

Quality Assurance and Research have much in common; they share a rigorous approach to methodology in terms of design, procedure, analysis and interpretation of data.

However there are a number of major differences:

Quality Assurance	Research
Quality assurance is a systematic approach to review of practices and procedures in order to identify possible improvements and to provide a mechanism for bringing them about.	Research is a systematic investigation which aims to increase the sum of knowledge. It usually involves the testing of a hypothesis or theory.
Quality assurance raises questions that might be answered by further research	Research generates the knowledge that may be tested in Quality assurance.
Quality assurance is a test of whether things are being done as well as they could/should be. It compares current practice with current standards / best practices.	Research is the act of finding the correct thing to do and identifying the most effective form of intervention. Research may help determine what is or might be best practice.
Quality assurance does not consider a completely new treatment, but tests the adherence to a treatment that is considered to be best practice	Research may involve a completely new treatment and usually investigates an area where there is no knowledge of the best practice
Quality assurance results are “local” to the participant population/location/ time	Research results can be generalized across a wide population

Quality Assurance	Research
Quality assurance results are generally for “internal” information	Research results are generally for “external” information
Quality assurance requires the participation of site specific people and departments. The data relates only to the specific site or area	Research requires the participation of patients, and others outside of the specific site or area, so that a representative sample can be obtained and the results generalized
Quality assurance is a continuous and on-going process which includes a follow up after a period of time	Research often will have a defined “end-point” which is researched when an adequate sample size has been obtained.
Quality assurance results are disseminated at the local or internal level, to educate and publicize how to achieve best practice	Research results are published universally to share the knowledge with a wide user base of persons.

III PAIRO Awards

A. PAIRO EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD FOR SENIOR RESIDENTS

The Professional Association of Interns and Residents on Ontario (PAIRO) offers an award to honor and recognize the importance and essential nature of the role that senior residents play in the teaching of junior house staff and clinical clerks.

The award, in the amount of \$1,000 will be awarded to a senior resident who is recognized as an outstanding clinical teacher.

1. Junior residents and clinical clerks may discuss and make choices from any senior residents in their own or other programs.
2. The resident's name, with an explanation of how the individual has demonstrated excellence in clinical teaching, should be submitted to that resident's program director. The explanation should include:
 - a. The format and style of teaching.
 - b. The level of support provided to other residents and clerks.
 - c. Any unique characteristics.

Deadline for Resident/Clerk submission to Program Directors is: Feb. 9, 2011.

3. The Program Director will then select the best choice from that program Education Office.

Deadline for Program Director's submission to the Assistant Dean, Postgraduate Medical Education is: Feb. 28, 2011.

4. Nominations will be reviewed by the Selection Committee and a final recommendation will be made to PAIRO. An announcement of the winner will appear in the Postgraduate Newsletter.

B. PAIRO EXCELLENCE IN FACULTY CLINICAL TEACHING AWARD

This award was established by PAIRO in 1982. Nominations are made by residents from across the province and six winners are selected by PAIRO (two in Toronto and one in each of the other four university centres). By establishing this award, PAIRO publicly acknowledges the essential role that good clinical teachers play in residency education. An award dinner is held each spring, in Toronto, to honour recipients and a donation of \$4,000.00 is made, on their behalf, to the charity of the award winner's choice.

