



The Department of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences  
is pleased to announce the

*Dr. R. Evatt and Rita Mathers Trainee Scholarships*  
in Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences

1. Research Fellowship in Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
2. Graduate Scholarship: PhD, Vision Sciences, Faculty of Medicine
3. Graduate Scholarship, MSc in Vision Sciences, Faculty of Medicine
4. Graduate Scholarship, MSc in Clinical Vision Sciences, Faculty of Health Professions
5. Graduate Scholarship, Concurrent MSc and Ophthalmology Residency
6. Undergraduate Scholarship

## **Introduction**

The Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences is pleased to announce the 2019 Dr. R. Evatt and Rita Mathers Trainee Scholarships in Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences.

This collection of scholarships was initiated in 2015 and comprises six separate funding opportunities including:

1. Dr. R. Evatt and Rita Mathers Research Fellowship in Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
2. Dr. R. Evatt and Rita Mathers Graduate Scholarship: PhD, Vision Sciences, Faculty of Medicine
3. Dr. R. Evatt and Rita Mathers Graduate Scholarship: MSc, Vision Sciences, Faculty of Medicine
4. Dr. R. Evatt and Rita Mathers Graduate Scholarship: MSc, Clinical Vision Science, Faculty of Health Professions
5. Dr. R. Evatt and Rita Mathers Graduate Scholarship: Concurrent MSc and Ophthalmology Residency Program [Tuition Recovery Scholarship]
6. Dr. R. Evatt and Rita Mathers Undergraduate Scholarship

The Dr. R. Evatt and Rita Mathers Trainee Scholarships in Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences are enabled by a visionary endowment to the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences from the estate of the late Peggy St. George.

The Trainee Scholarships have been established to honour the lives of Ms. St. George's stepparents, the late Dr. R. Evatt and Mrs. Rita Mathers. Dr. R. Evatt Mathers was an Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat specialist, born in Halifax in 1874. He was educated at Dalhousie and New York Universities and practiced in Halifax from 1900-1947. Dr. Mathers was affiliated with the Dalhousie Medical School throughout his professional career, including lecturing in ophthalmology. He died in 1957, while Mrs. Rita Mathers died in 1982.

## **Eligibility**

Applicants are eligible to apply for only one Dr. R. Evatt and Rita Mathers Trainee Scholarship per competition.

### Research Fellowship Applicants

Applicants must be medical graduates pursuing a full-time Research Fellowship or PhD graduates pursuing Postdoctoral Fellowship training in visual sciences. Postdoctoral Supervisors must hold an appointment with the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences at Dalhousie University.

Candidates must demonstrate their interest and potential to contribute to academic medicine at Dalhousie Medical School and its affiliated teaching hospitals and to ongoing research programs in the Faculty of Medicine.

### PhD Vision Science Applicants

Within six months of the application deadline, the applicant must be: A full-time student at Dalhousie University, registered as a PhD student in an appropriate vision sciences discipline, and have a faculty supervisor (normally at Dalhousie University Faculty of Medicine, however, supervisors in other faculties will be considered). The proposed research must be conducted at Dalhousie University.

### MSc Vision Science Applicants

Within six months of the application deadline, the applicant must be: A full-time student at Dalhousie University Faculty of Medicine, registered as a MSc student in an appropriate vision sciences discipline, and have a faculty supervisor (normally at Dalhousie University Faculty of Medicine, however, supervisors in other faculties will be considered). The proposed research must be conducted at Dalhousie University.

### MSc Clinical Vision Science Applicants

Within six months of the application deadline, the applicant must be: A full-time student at Dalhousie University Faculty of Health Professions, registered as a MSc student in an appropriate clinical vision sciences discipline, and have a faculty supervisor (normally at Dalhousie University Faculty of Health Professions or Faculty of Medicine, however, supervisors in other faculties will be considered). The proposed research must be conducted at Dalhousie University.

### Concurrent MSc/Ophthalmology Residency Applicants

The applicant must be a full-time Resident in the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, Dalhousie University Faculty of Medicine and registered as a MSc program student in a recognized institution and have a faculty supervisor (normally at Dalhousie University Faculty of Medicine, however, supervisors in other faculties will be considered).

### Undergraduate Applicants

Within six months of the application deadline, the applicant must be: A full-time student at Dalhousie University registered as an undergraduate program student (excluding Doctor of Medicine) and have a faculty supervisor (normally at Dalhousie University Faculty of Medicine, however, supervisors in other faculties will be considered). The proposed research must be conducted at Dalhousie University. Doctor of Medicine students are not eligible to apply for this scholarship.

## **Review Process and Evaluation**

All scholarship awards will be made on a competitive basis. Applications for award categories 1 to 4 (listed above) will be peer-reviewed and ranked by the Faculty of Medicine Research Advisory Committee, independent of input from the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences. Applications for the Residency and Undergraduate Scholarships (awards 5 and 6) will be reviewed by a committee comprising of members from the Residency Training Committee and the Research Committee of the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences.

The Faculty of Medicine Research Advisory Committee will evaluate each application with the goal of enabling capable students to have maximum involvement in research that will be conducted in a productive and supportive environment. Criteria for evaluation will include, but not be limited to:

1. Quality of the proposed research (scope of the research experience and its intellectual components).
2. Potential contributions of the fellow/student to the research. The scholarships are not meant to support a technical position.
3. Quality of the research environment (e.g., research and supervisory track record of the proposed supervisor, availability of research funding, etc.).
4. Quality of the fellow/student (research experience, skills, compatibility with the proposed research).

## **Terms and Conditions of Scholarships**

All Trainee Scholarships must be accepted within 15 working days of the date of offer, or the scholarship will be offered to the next fundable applicant.

With the exception of the Undergraduate Scholarship, the Trainee Scholarships are available to commence September 1, following the application deadline. Under exceptional circumstances the start date can be delayed to no later than January 1, following the scholarship offer. The Undergraduate Trainee Scholarship is available to commence May 1, following the application deadline. Start date delays for the Undergraduate Scholarship will not be considered.

### Research Fellowship Scholarship

1. The Research Fellowship Scholarship will be offered for up to two years. This award may not be combined with any other fellowship awards or scholarships. Continued support for the second year is subject to recommendation by the Faculty of Medicine Research Advisory Committee and based on successful evaluation of progress and

funding availability. Renewals will be considered on a competitive basis with new scholarship submissions. It is the responsibility of the Fellow to submit a detailed renewal application, progress report and letters of support by the application deadline. A final report at the end of the funding period is required.

2. The Fellow is expected to devote full-time effort to his/her proposed research activities. If supported by the Head of the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences on the basis of contributing significantly to the Fellow's overall training program and structured appropriately to the satisfaction of the Department's Research Committee, the Fellow may participate, to a limited extent (maximum of 20%), in teaching and/or patient care directly related to Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences.

### PhD Vision Science Scholarship

1. The Graduate Scholarship will be offered for a period of a maximum of two years. This award may be combined with a maximum of 1 other award or scholarship. Continued support for the second year is subject to recommendation by the Faculty of Medicine Research Advisory Committee based on successful evaluation of progress and funding availability. Renewals will be considered on a competitive basis with new scholarship submissions. It is the responsibility of the Student to submit a detailed progress report and letter of support by the application deadline. A final report at the end of the funding period is required.
2. The recipient of the Graduate Scholarship is expected to devote full-time to his/her proposed research activities.

### MSc Vision Science Scholarship

1. The Graduate Scholarship will be offered for a period of a maximum of two years. This award may be combined with a maximum of 1 other award or scholarship. Continued support for the second year is subject to recommendation by the Faculty of Medicine Research Advisory Committee based on successful evaluation of progress and funding availability. Renewals will be considered on a competitive basis with new scholarship submissions. It is the responsibility of the Student to submit a renewal application, detailed progress report and letter of support by the application deadline. A final report at the end of the funding period is required.
2. The recipient of the Graduate Scholarship is expected to devote full time to his/her proposed

research activities.

#### MSc Clinical Vision Science Scholarship

1. The Graduate Scholarship will be offered for a maximum of one year. This award may be combined with a maximum of 1 other award or scholarship.
2. The recipient of the Graduate Scholarship is expected to devote full time to his/her proposed research activities.

#### Concurrent Masters/Ophthalmology Residency Scholarship

1. The Graduate Scholarship Tuition Funding Recovery Program will be offered for a maximum of three years.

#### Undergraduate Scholarship

1. The Undergraduate Scholarship will be offered for a maximum of 1 year. This award may be combined with a maximum of 1 other award or scholarship.
2. The recipient of the Undergraduate Scholarship is expected to devote full time to his/her proposed research activities during the summer months.

#### **Scholarship Stipends**

Depending on availability of funds, quality of the submissions and other special circumstances, the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences Department Head may choose to fund a second scholarship in any of the award categories. This decision will be made by the Department Head, upon consultation with the department's Research and Postgraduate directors, depending on the adjudication and recommendations from the Faculty of Medicine Research Advisory Committee.

#### Research Fellowship Scholarship

1. A maximum of one Research Fellowship Scholarship of up to \$50,000 per year will be granted with the possibility of renewal for 1 additional year. Renewals will be considered on a competitive basis with new applications. This award may not be combined with any other fellowship awards or scholarships.
2. The fund will reimburse the Fellow up to a maximum of \$5,000 per year to help cover research-related expenses. Travel expenses for presenting at scientific meetings are an eligible

expense and limited to \$2,000 per year. The fellow must meet the following criteria in order to be reimbursed for travel expenses:

- The fellow must have an abstract accepted and be the first and presenting author at a recognized national or international meeting.
- The fellow wishing to apply for travel reimbursement will contact the Research Manager with ***the abstract of the presentation, and notification of abstract acceptance prior to the meeting.***
- After travel is complete, original receipts and credit card statements for proof of payment must be submitted to the Research Manager for reimbursement of funds.
- Funds are for expenses of the fellow only.
- Fellows will be permitted a per diem of \$43/day for meals.

#### PhD Vision Science Scholarship

1. A maximum of one PhD Vision Science Scholarship of \$23,000 per year will be granted with the possibility of renewal for one additional year. Renewals will be considered on a competitive basis with new applications. This award may be combined with a maximum of 1 other award or scholarship.
2. The fund will reimburse the student up to a maximum of \$2,000 per year to cover travel expenses for presenting at scientific meetings. The student must meet the following criteria in order to be reimbursed for travel expenses:

- The student must have an abstract accepted and be the first and presenting author at a recognized national or international meeting.
- The student wishing to apply for travel reimbursement will contact the Research Manager with ***the abstract of the presentation, and notification of abstract acceptance prior to the meeting.***
- After travel is complete, original receipts and credit card statements for proof of payment must be submitted to the Research Manager for reimbursement of funds.
- Funds are for expenses of the student only.
- Students will be permitted a per diem of \$43/day for meals.

#### MSc Vision Science Scholarship

1. A maximum of one MSc Vision Science Scholarship of \$18,000 per year will be granted with the possibility of renewal for one additional year. Renewals will be considered on a competitive

basis with new applications. This award may be combined with a maximum of 1 other award or scholarship.

2. The fund will reimburse the student up to a maximum of \$2,000 per year to cover travel expenses for presenting at scientific meetings. The student must meet the following criteria in order to be reimbursed for travel expenses:
  - The student must have an abstract accepted and be the first and presenting author at a recognized national or international meeting.
  - The student wishing to apply for travel reimbursement will contact the Research Manager with ***the abstract of the presentation, and notification of abstract acceptance prior to the meeting.***
  - After travel is complete, original receipts and credit card statements for proof of payment must be submitted to the Research Manager for reimbursement of funds.
  - Funds are for expenses of the student only.
  - Students will be permitted a per diem of \$43/day for meals.

#### MSc Clinical Vision Science Scholarship

1. A maximum of one MSc Clinical Vision Science Scholarship of \$18,000 per year will be granted. There are no renewals for this scholarship. This award may be combined with a maximum of 1 other award or scholarship.
2. The fund will reimburse the student up to a maximum of \$2,000 per year to cover travel expenses for presenting at scientific meetings. The student must meet the following criteria in order to be reimbursed for travel expenses:
  - The student must have an abstract accepted and be the first and presenting author at a recognized national or international meeting.
  - The student wishing to apply for travel reimbursement will contact the Research

Manager with ***the abstract of the presentation, and notification of abstract acceptance prior to the meeting.***

- After travel is complete, original receipts and credit card statements for proof of payment must be submitted to the Research Manager for reimbursement of funds.
- Funds are for expenses of the student only.
- Students will be permitted a per diem of \$43/day for meals.

#### Undergraduate Scholarship

1. A maximum of one Undergraduate scholarship of \$5,000 per year will be granted. There are no renewals for this scholarship. This award may be combined with a maximum of 1 other award or scholarship.

#### Concurrent Masters/Ophthalmology Residency

1. Tuition recovery funding will be provided to a maximum of \$7,500 per year for a maximum of 3 years. A progress report is expected after the first year.

#### ***Application Process and Deadlines***

1. The application process is guided by a Common Application Form beginning on p.6. Incomplete applications will not be eligible for review.
2. The renewal application process is guided by the Renewal Application Form beginning on p.10. Incomplete applications will not be eligible for review.

Deadline for Research Fellowship, PhD Vision Science, MSc Vision Science, MSc Clinical Vision Science and Concurrent Masters/Ophthalmology Residency Applications: **April 1, 2019 at 4 pm.**

Deadline for Undergraduate Applications: **February 18, 2019 at 4 pm.**

## ***Application Process, Checklist and Deadline***

Each application must contain the following items in order to be considered complete. Incomplete applications will not be eligible for review.

- Completed Common Application Form [attached]
- Research Proposal [directions attached]
- Lay Summary [directions attached]
- Fellowship applicants only*: Letter from applicant describing his/her expectations of what will be gained through this training experience and how this training will support and encourage his/her expected contributions to ongoing research undertaken in the Faculty of Medicine, Dalhousie University.
- Copy of academic transcripts
- Letter of support from proposed supervisor submitted directly from the referee to Andrea Titterness electronically to [ophthalmology.research@dal.ca](mailto:ophthalmology.research@dal.ca).
- Fellowship applicants only*: One additional letter of reference. This must be a confidential letter submitted directly from the referee to Andrea Titterness electronically to [ophthalmology.research@dal.ca](mailto:ophthalmology.research@dal.ca).
- Applicant CV  
[Fellowship Applicants: CIHR Project Biosketch Common CV format]  
[PhD and Masters Applicants: 2 page maximum CV]
- Supervisor CV: CIHR Project Biosketch Common CV format
- One original signed application should be submitted to:  
Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences  
2035 – 2 West Victoria Building  
Queen Elizabeth II Health Sciences Centre  
1276 South Park Street  
Halifax, NS  
B3H 2Y9  
Attn: Andrea Titterness
- One completed application in PDF should be submitted to:  
[ophthalmology.research@dal.ca](mailto:ophthalmology.research@dal.ca)
- Deadline for Research Fellowship, PhD Vision Science, MSc Vision Science, MSc Clinical Vision Science and Concurrent Masters/Ophthalmology Residency Applications: **April 1, 2019 at 4 pm.**
- Deadline for Undergraduate Applications: **February 18, 2019 at 4 pm.**



**DR. R. EVATT AND RITA MATHERS  
TRAINEE SCHOLARSHIPS  
IN OPHTHALMOLOGY AND VISUAL SCIENCES  
COMMON APPLICATION FORM**

- 
1. **TRAINEE SCHOLARSHIP APPLIED FOR**  
 FELLOWSHIP  
 PHD VISION SCIENCE FACULTY OF MEDICINE  
 MSC VISION SCIENCE FACULTY OF MEDICINE  
 MSC CLINICAL VISION SCIENCE FACULTY OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS  
 CONCURRENT MASTERS and OPHTHALMOLOGY RESIDENCY  
 UNDERGRADUATE

2. **LAST NAME** **GIVEN NAMES**

- 
3. **CURRENT MAILING ADDRESS**

- 
4. **HOME TELEPHONE - ( )** **E-MAIL**  
**WORK TELEPHONE - ( )** **CELL/PAGER**

5. **DATE OF BIRTH** 6. **PLACE OF BIRTH**

7. **CITIZENSHIP STATUS**  
 CANADIAN  PERMANENT RESIDENT IN CANADA  INTERNATIONAL

- 
8. **LOCATION OF PROPOSED RESEARCH**  
[if not Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, affiliation to it must be clearly explained]

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9. **SUPERVISOR**

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SUPERVISOR NAME /DEPT/DIVISION                      TELEPHONE                      EMAIL

10. **TITLE OF PROPOSED RESEARCH** [one line only].

## **11. RESEARCH PROPOSAL**

The Research Proposal should be developed collaboratively by the applicant and the proposed faculty supervisor.

Maximum of 3 pages with a scientific description of the current state of knowledge relating to the research work to be done by the student, including:

- Title of area of research work
- Hypothesis to be tested or series of questions addressed
- Rationale
- Experimental design or methods
- Role of the student/fellow in the research work
- Timeline for the completion of the project

### **Concurrent Masters and Residency in Ophthalmology in a non-thesis based program only:**

In lieu of a research proposal, please provide a maximum of 3 pages outlining your learning objectives for the masters program and how this program will contribute to your personal, educational and professional goals.

## **12. LAY SUMMARY**

Maximum 200 words summarizing in non-scientific terms an abstract summarizing the area of research and a description of why the work is important to furthering the knowledge in the area.

This summary should be written in lay language and may be used by the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, the Faculty of Medicine and Dalhousie External Relations in promotional materials and communications. Such information is of significant interest to donors and provides them with a background on the research activities that their financial contributions are supporting or can support in the future.

### **Concurrent Masters and Residency in Ophthalmology in a non-thesis based program only:**

In lieu of a lay summary, please provide a personal statement (maximum of 200 words) outlining the reasons why you are pursuing this masters program.

## **13. FELLOWSHIP APPLICANTS ONLY: PROPOSED DIVISION OF TIME FOR RESEARCH, CLINICAL AND TEACHING DUTIES: MAXIMUM OF 20% NON-RESEARCH**

## **14. IF OTHER SCHOLARSHIPS OR AWARDS HAVE BEEN APPLIED FOR OR AWARDED PLEASE SPECIFY**

**15. SIGNATURES**

\_\_\_\_\_  
APPLICANT'S NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
APPLICANTS SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
SUPERVISOR'S NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
SUPERVISOR'S SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
DEPARTMENT HEAD'S NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

## ***Scholarship Renewal Application Process, Checklist and Deadline***

Each renewal application must contain the following items in order to be considered complete. Incomplete applications will not be eligible for review.

- Completed Scholarship Renewal Application Form [attached]
- Research Progress Report [directions attached]
- Letter of support from supervisor emailed directly to from the referee to Andrea Titterness electronically to [ophthalmology.research@dal.ca](mailto:ophthalmology.research@dal.ca).
- Fellowship applicants only*: One additional letter of reference. This must be a confidential letter submitted directly from the referee to Andrea Titterness electronically to [ophthalmology.research@dal.ca](mailto:ophthalmology.research@dal.ca).
- Applicant CV  
[Fellowship Applicants: CIHR Project Biosketch Common CV format]  
[PhD and Masters Applicants: 2 page maximum CV]
- One original signed application should be submitted to:  
Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences  
  
2035 – 2 West Victoria Building  
Nova Scotia Health Authority  
1276 South Park Street  
Halifax, NS  
B3H 2Y9  
Attn: Andrea Titterness
- One completed application in PDF should be submitted to:  
[ophthalmology.research@dal.ca](mailto:ophthalmology.research@dal.ca)
- Deadline for Application: **April 1, 2019 at 4 pm.**



**DR. R. EVATT AND RITA MATHERS  
 TRAINEE SCHOLARSHIP  
 IN OPHTHALMOLOGY AND VISUAL SCIENCES**

**SCHOLARSHIP RENEWAL APPLICATION FORM**

1. **TRAINEE SCHOLARSHIP APPLIED FOR RENEWAL**  
 FELLOWSHIP  
 PHD VISION SCIENCE FACULTY OF MEDICINE  
 MSC VISION SCIENCE FACULTY OF MEDICINE  
 CONCURRENT MASTERS and OPHTHALMOLOGY RESIDENCY

2. **LAST NAME** **GIVEN NAMES**

3. **CURRENT MAILING ADDRESS**

4. **HOME TELEPHONE - ( )** **E-MAIL**  
**WORK TELEPHONE - ( )** **CELL/PAGER**

5. **DATE OF BIRTH** **6. PLACE OF BIRTH**

7. **CITIZENSHIP STATUS**  
 CANADIAN  PERMANENT RESIDENT IN CANADA  INTERNATIONAL

8. **PROJECT TITLE**

9. **LOCATION OF RESEARCH**

10. **SUPERVISOR**

SUPERVISOR NAME /DEPT/DIVISION TELEPHONE EMAIL

## 11. RESEARCH PROGRESS REPORT

The Research Progress Report should be developed collaboratively by the applicant and the proposed faculty supervisor. Please complete the following sections:

**a. Briefly describe both the research purpose and the underlying need for this research. (4-5 sentences)**  
*Include sufficient detail for readers to get acquainted with the project without having to refer to your proposal.*

**b. State your hypothesis(es).**

**c. List the objective(s) of the research project, as described in your approved Mathers Scholarship Application.**

*Please list objectives, rather than include them within a paragraph.*

**d. Provide a table showing the timeline and milestones for the entire project.**

**e. Describe report period progress. (1 page maximum)**

*Please provide a narrative of your activities and accomplishments during this reporting period only, being as clear and concise as possible. Organize this section by the objectives you listed above, using separate paragraphs for each objective.*

*Include samples collected, data analysis completed, any significant equipment purchased, etc.*

*If no progress was achieved on a particular objective during this reporting period, state why and, if applicable, describe how you plan to address the objective in the future.*

**f. Describe preliminary results. (1 page maximum not including tables and figures)**

*Please describe any preliminary results for this project, including tables and figures where appropriate. If no preliminary results are available, state why (e.g., "The first period of data collection has only recently been completed and data analysis has not yet begun.").*

**g. Describe any concerns you may have about your project's progress. (0.5 page maximum)**

*Indicate if any problems have arisen which have hindered, or may hinder, progress towards accomplishing objectives. Please summarize the problem, tell us how it is being addressed, and describe the impact of the problem on the scientific integrity and timeline of the project.*

*If no problems were encountered during this reporting period, provide a clear statement to that effect. Accurate descriptions of project concerns, or lack thereof, will be taken into account when considering Mathers Scholarship Renewal Applications.*

**h. Poster and oral presentations at scientific conferences or seminars**

*Please tell us about any significant scientific presentations related to this project. Please list presentations, rather than include them within a paragraph.*

**i. Future Plans (0.5 page maximum)**

*Tell us what you expect to do during the next year to move your project towards successful completion.*

**12. SIGNATURES**

\_\_\_\_\_  
APPLICANT'S NAME

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APPLICANTS SIGNATURE

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SUPERVISOR'S NAME

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SUPERVISOR'S SIGNATURE

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DEPARTMENT HEAD'S NAME

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DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SIGNATURE

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