



## **Faculty of Medicine**

### **Summer Research Program (SSRP) for non-medical students**

**Description:** The goal of this program is to increase the number of Black Maritimers/Canadians, African Nova Scotians, and Indigenous students in health and medicine by providing related research experience. The Imhotep's Legacy Academy (ILA), Keknu'tmasiek Ta'n Tel Welo'timk - We are Learning how to be Well (KW) and Promoting Leadership in health for African Nova Scotians (PLANS) have partnered with the Faculty of Medicine to create these Summer Research Studentships. Students who are confident that health or medical research will be part of their professional careers will gain valuable experience in the design, execution, and evaluation of experiments. Participating students will receive a stipend of \$9,000 over a 4-month period from May 1st to August 31st, 2024 (with 2 weeks personal vacation) during the summer. Conference-related expenses like registration fees (if any) may be reimbursed to a certain amount (pending abstract submission and acceptance to present at a national/international conference).

**The Application Process:** For students who require assistance in identifying a supervisor for this program, MRDO can help identify and match them with an available and interested supervisor(s). *Please contact [mrdo@dal.ca](mailto:mrdo@dal.ca) for any assistance.*

Completed applications must be submitted on or before **Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023**. Supervisors are asked to assist students in the completion of the application form, but it is the student's responsibility to submit the application on time.

**Selection:** Awards will be made on a competitive basis. Representatives from the Faculty of Medicine Research Advisory Committee, Imhotep's Legacy, Indigenous Health and Promoting Leadership in health for African Nova Scotians (PLANS) will review each application with reference to the goal of enabling students to have maximum involvement in a research project that will be conducted in a productive and supportive environment.

Reviewers will assess all applications against the following criteria:

1. Students must have completed at least two years of a health and/or science-related undergraduate program, other than medicine.
2. Students must be members of the Indigenous community (in particular Mi'kmaw, Wolastoqiyik, Peskotomuhkati), Black Maritime (in particular [African Nova Scotian](#)) community or Black/African Canadian and show evidence of community engagement/ interaction;
3. Students must demonstrate an interest in a future career in medicine or medical research;
4. Student GPA;
5. Student research experience and skills;
6. Potential contributions of the student to the project.

Students participating in the program are required to:

1. submit a written report of their work in October;
2. submit student and faculty evaluation forms;
3. participate and present research Virtually or In person at a local/national/international conference or research day

Students who complete all requirements will receive a notation on their transcripts "*Faculty of Medicine Summer Student Research Program non-medical students completed Summer 2024*". Students external to Dalhousie University will receive a certificate of completion.

Instructions for the written research reports are on the website. Students are urged to begin writing their paper during the summer as other time commitments place a strain on available writing time during September.

# Application Instructions

**Each application should be submitted as a single PDF document. Each application must contain the following to be considered complete. Incomplete applications will not be considered.**

1. A complete application form, signed and dated (template provided)
2. Lay summary (to be completed by the student) - An abstract summarizing the project, including a statement of what issue the project addresses and a description of why the work is important to furthering knowledge in the area. A lay description (not to exceed 250 words) of the primary applicant's research will help the Faculty provide its donors with a better overall picture of the ongoing medical research activities at Dalhousie which their financial contributions help support.
3. Students must show evidence of community engagement/interaction. The Committee will accept a summary of community engagement/interaction (approx. 250 words).
4. Maximum two-page CV from the student
5. Letter from research supervisor  
The proposed supervisor should mention the following points in the letter:
  - a) flexible work plan outlining lab access, relevant online lab training, lab work or at home research relevant work, the student will engage in. Supervisors and students will be required to follow Dalhousie return to research guidelines and policies while accessing any labs on Dalhousie campuses;
  - b) amount of time per week that you will be available to the student; amount of time you may expect to be away from the University or Hospital during the summer research period, and what plans have been made for supervision of the applicant's work;
  - c) indicate what portion of the overall project the student should be able to perform during the period of the research award;
  - d) describe the student and the benefits of this experience, including the student's role in the study;
  - e) research environment - state the number of students who will be in the laboratory concurrent with this candidate.
6. Common CV from proposed supervisor; will accept any format, but the following must be outlined: 1) pubs last five years, 2) funding, 3) supervisory experience (include summer students). To be forwarded to student to include in final application.
7. Student transcripts

8. Self-Identification Questionnaire (Template provided)
9. Ethics approval form (if applicable)

**Applications that do not adhere to the above guidelines will be returned without review**

## Application Checklist

- Application Form Pages 5 and 6
- Attach Lay Summary
- Attach evidence of community engagement/interaction
- Attach Student CV (max 2 pages)
- Attach Letter of support from proposed supervisor
- Attach Faculty Common CV **with attachments** (preferred cv) from proposed supervisor; will accept NIH biosketch. To be forwarded to student to include in final application.
- University transcripts
- Self – Identification Questionnaire
- Ethics approval form (if applicable)
- Electronic submission of application (one pdf file). Please name file accordingly:  
*LastName\_First Name\_2024 SSRP Application*

Submit complete application electronically as ONE pdf to: [mrdo@dal.ca](mailto:mrdo@dal.ca) by or before 11:59pm on **Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024.**

## APPLICATION FORM

STUDENT INFORMATION				
Date		Banner ID		
Family Name		Given Name		Initials
Telephone number			Email address	
CITIZENSHIP				
<input type="checkbox"/> Canadian citizen		<input type="checkbox"/> Canadian permanent resident		<input type="checkbox"/> International
SELF-IDENTIFICATION - * Please refer Appendix "A" below for definitions				
<input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous Canadians		<input type="checkbox"/> Black Maritimer/African Nova Scotian or Black/African Canadian		
ACADEMIC BACKGROUND (including ongoing postsecondary degree)				
Degree	Institution	Department	MM/YY started	MM/YY awarded/expected
How many academic terms will you have completed towards your degree program when this award is held?				
What are your future academic career goals?				
ACADEMIC, RESEARCH AND OTHER RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE				
Position held and nature of work (begin with current) Full time/Part time	Organization & Department	Supervisor	Period (mm/yy - mm-yy)	



## APPENDIX “A”

### Indigenous Canadians –

#### 1. First Nations Communities from the Atlantic Provinces

- a. Mi'kmaq - individuals who are Mi'kmaq and were born and/or raised in Mi'kmaqi with a substantial connection to a Mi'kmaw community in Mi'kmaqi
- b. Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) - individuals who are Maliseet and were born and/or raised in the Maliseet territory in New Brunswick with a substantial connection to a Maliseet community

#### 2. Métis/ Innu/ Inuit from Atlantic Provinces. Students who identify as *Métis*, Innu, Inuit originating from the Atlantic Provinces.

#### 3. Indigenous Students (First Nation, Inuit, Métis) born and raised outside of Atlantic Provinces.

### Black Maritimer/African Nova Scotian or Black/African Canadian –

1. [African Nova Scotians](#) – A distinct People who descend from free and enslaved Black Planters, Black Loyalists, Black Refugees, Maroons, and other Black people who inhabited the original 52 land-based Black communities in that part of Mi'kma'ki known as Nova Scotia.

2. Black Maritimer/Black Nova Scotian – born and/or raised in Mi'kma'ki or anywhere in the Maritimes without connection to a historic African Nova Scotian community.