
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT SUMMER FELLOWSHIP REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS 2026 COMPETITION

Timeline

- Applications due: February 27, 2026 (5:00 PM ET)
- Recipients to be notified: March 13, 2026
- Funding may commence: May 1, 2026

Background

The eight (8) Fellowships offer undergraduate university students across Canada the opportunity to pursue a Huntington disease (HD) research project that can be conducted over a 12-week period, between May and September. Fellowship recipients, working under the supervision of HD researchers with a faculty position, will undertake a project that is focused and achievable in a short timeframe, yet helpful in guiding future HD research. All information and documents related to the Program are available at: <https://www.huntingtonsociety.ca/student-fellowship/>

1) Goal

The purpose of this fellowship program is two-fold: first, to attract the brightest young scientists into the field of HD research and secondly, to facilitate meaningful HD research to clarify the biological mechanisms underlying HD pathology or to develop new treatments.

2) Eligibility

Applications are open to enrolled undergraduate life sciences students who are currently attending accredited institutions in Canada. Applications will also be accepted for the summer after graduating from their undergraduate program, the summer after the first year of medical school, or the summer after spending a maximum of 1 year as a laboratory technician. The students will conduct full-time research, under the direction of a mentor, investigating a subject relevant to Huntington disease. Applications must be accompanied by a letter of support from the mentor who oversees the laboratory where the research will be performed. The duration of each project shall be at least 12 weeks.

****Please note:** Students must identify a mentor and work with them to design a research project before applying for the HSC Undergraduate Student Summer Fellowship. HSC is happy to assist in identifying researchers across the country who work on Huntington disease, but we are not able to guarantee that each is interested in undergraduate supervision at this moment.

3) Criteria

All applications for funding through the Undergraduate Student Summer Fellowship Program are subject to review by the Society's Research Council.

The criteria for evaluating applications are:

Consider project concept; feasibility; applicant achievements relative to career stage; evidence of interest or commitment to career in research; mentor and research environment; relevance to HD research.

4) Term and Amount

The Undergraduate Student Summer Fellowship will provide funds, in the amount of \$5,000, as stipend for a student(s) who completes a 12-week summer fellowship and submits to HSC a report of their activities and findings. Awards will be paid by HSC and Brain Canada in two installments: the first (75%) payment shall be made upon written acceptance of the award; the second (25%) installment shall be made upon successful completion and fulfillment of the terms and conditions of the award. Any and all published papers, posters and abstracts resulting from research performed as an awardee must acknowledge the Huntington Society of Canada and Brain Canada and be provided to HSC when in-press.

5) Terms

i) Institutional Approvals: Institutional approvals for research involving humans, animals, and/or biohazardous materials must be submitted to the Huntington Society prior to the release of funding.

ii) HSC Open Science Policy: Our Open Access policy contains the following elements:

- a. Publications Are Discoverable and Accessible Online. Publications will be deposited in a specific repository(s) with proper tagging of metadata.
- b. Publication Will Be On "Open Access" Terms. All publications shall be published under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 General License. This will permit all users of the publication to copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format and transform and build upon the material, including for any purpose (including commercial) without further permission or fees being required.
- c. Publications Will Be Accessible and Open Immediately. All publications shall be available immediately upon their publication, without any embargo period. This can be accomplished by uploading a manuscript to a preprint server such as BioRxiv.

- d. Data Underlying Published Research Results Will Be Accessible and Open Immediately. The HSC will require that data underlying the published research results be immediately accessible and open. A 12-month embargo will be applied.
- e. It is the responsibility of the grant recipient to notify the Society prior to publication.

iii) Payment of Grants: The payment schedule will be confirmed along with notification of the award. Payments will be made to the financial officer of the principal investigator's institution or directly to the student with the PIs approval.

Please Note: The End of Fellowship progress report must be received by September 30, 2026. If the report is not received by the above date, the second payment installment will NOT be made unless provisions have been made with HSC to approve an extension. A request for an extension of the timeline must be provided in writing, with justification for the delay.

iv) Acknowledgement of Support: The Huntington Society of Canada and Brain Canada should be acknowledged in all publications, presentations, and other public information relating to research supported in whole or in part by the funders.

v) Ethics: The research that results from the Program will comply with the Tri-Agency Framework: Responsible Conduct of Research and any other applicable policy or practice.

How to Apply

Application

- i) Completed applications are due no later than 5pm ET on February 27, 2026
- ii) The application form is available at <https://www.huntingtonsociety.ca/student-fellowship/>.

Send completed applications and any questions to:

amaxan@huntingtonsociety.ca or research@huntingtonsociety.ca

About Brain Canada Foundation

Brain Canada Foundation (Brain Canada) is a national registered charity that enables and supports excellent, innovative, paradigm-changing brain research in Canada. For more than 25 years, Brain Canada has made the case for the brain as a single, complex system with commonalities across the range of neurological disorders, mental illnesses and addictions, and brain and spinal cord injuries. Looking at the brain as one system has underscored the need for increased collaboration across disciplines and institutions, and to ensure that Canada has a robust pipeline of talent to remain at the forefront in the field of brain research. Brain Canada's vision is to understand the brain in health and illness, to improve lives and achieve societal impact.

The Canada Brain Research Fund (CBRF) is an innovative arrangement between the Government of Canada, through Health Canada, and Brain Canada Foundation, designed to increase support of brain research on behalf of Canadians, and maximize the impact and efficiency of those investments. The Fund supports the very best Canadian neuroscience, fostering collaborative research and accelerating the pace of discovery, in order to improve the health and quality of life of those who suffer from brain disorders.

www.braincanada.ca

About the Huntington Society of Canada

The Huntington Society of Canada (HSC) is a not-for profit organization whose mission is to improve the quality of life for those affected by Huntington disease. We address our mission through the oversight and facilitation of excellent support services, providing access to the best and most up-to-date educational resources, increasing national and global awareness, advocacy and investing in promising research directly related to Huntington disease.

www.huntingtonsociety.ca