



# 2015 – 2016 Thrombosis Canada Can-VECTOR Research Fellowship

## 1. History

---

Thrombosis Canada was founded in 1991 and a fellowship was initiated for the year 1993-1994 with unrestricted funding from the pharmaceutical industry. To date, 18 worthy candidates have been supported by the Thrombosis Canada Fellowship and many are now leaders in thrombosis both nationally and internationally.

---

## 2. Purpose of the Fellowship

---

The purpose of the **Thrombosis Canada Fellowship** is to provide financial support for highly qualified, promising new clinician-investigators to allow them to pursue further training in thromboembolism at a Canadian center, focusing on basic science, clinical, and/or epidemiologic research and/or advancement in clinical knowledge.

---

## 3. Fellowship Award

---

- a. *Number of Thrombosis Canada Fellowship Awards:* One fellowship award is provided each academic year if there are suitable, outstanding applicants.
  - b. *Amount of the Award:* \$50,000
  - c. *Term of Support:* The Fellowship is awarded for one year (from July 1 to June 30 the following year), to benefit the greatest number of trainees and on the assumption that the candidate should be able to obtain alternate funding for preceding or succeeding year(s) of fellowship training.
  - d. *Renewal:* The Fellowship may, under unusual circumstances, be renewed but only if there are no acceptable first-time applicants, AND if the incumbent is exceptionally meritorious and has provided evidence of substantial progress in achieving his/her research objectives, AND if this individual has applied for other peer-reviewed fellowship support for the coming year and has been unsuccessful.
  - e. *Deferral:* The Thrombosis Canada fellowship award cannot be deferred.
- 

## 4. Candidate Eligibility

---

- a. *Citizenship:* Canadian citizen, permanent resident or landed immigrant
- b. *Prior Education:* Completed the MD degree (or equivalent), and has obtained fellowship from the Royal College of Physicians & Surgeons of Canada (or equivalent) or from the Canadian College of Family Physicians or has completed a PharmD degree. Persons who already hold a faculty position (or who obtain a faculty position during the award year) are not eligible.



# 2015 – 2016 Thrombosis Canada



# Can-VECTOR Research Fellowship

- c. *Type of Research Activities:* Eligible research activities must be in an area related to thromboembolism, which may include study of venous and/or arterial vascular disease at the molecular, biochemical or organ levels.
  - d. *Location of Fellowship:* The applicant must be enrolled full-time in a research training program at a center of excellence in the field of thrombosis at a Canadian university. Under exceptional circumstances, eligible candidates may apply to pursue their training in a foreign institution, as long as justification is provided that similar training is not available in Canada.
  - e. *Concomitant Higher Degree:* Applicants may be enrolled in a higher degree program (MSc or PhD) during the tenure of the fellowship as long as they demonstrate that they have sufficient time to also conduct substantive research.
  - f. *Supervisor:* Must be an established researcher who has agreed to be the Fellow's supervisor and who accepts the conditions of the fellowship as outlined below.
  - g. *Other Application(s):* The applicant is also encouraged to apply to other agencies for fellowship support (Canadian Institutes of Health Research, Heart and Stroke Foundation, subspecialty or disease-specific fellowships, etc.) and to provide evidence of this application.
- 

## 5. Fellowship Conditions and Responsibilities

---

Submission of an application implies acceptance of the following conditions by both the applicant and his/her supervisor:

- a. It is expected that the principal focus of the successful candidate will be to further his/her research experience in thromboembolism. Candidates must devote at least 80% of their time to research-related activities. Non-research related clinical work or teaching may be done concurrently during the fellowship but should not exceed 20% of their time (or the equivalent of one full day/week).
- b. The fellowship award may not be combined with or supplement another fellowship award.
- c. The administration of the award will be through a university department or hospital research department and not sent to the successful candidate directly. The University or Hospital will then issue the funds to the award recipient according to their own procedures and payment schedules.
- d. *Letter of agreement:* On acceptance of the Thrombosis Canada Fellowship, the successful candidate and his/her supervisor will sign a letter of agreement and submit this to the Chair of the Fellowship & Training Committee within 2 months of the offer.
- e. *Acknowledgment:* Any publication, thesis, or formal presentation resulting from the research fellowship must acknowledge the support of Thrombosis Canada and a copy of all publications resulting from the fellowship must be sent to the Fellowship & Training Committee Chair.



# 2015 – 2016 Thrombosis Canada Can-VECTOR Research Fellowship

- f. *Final report:* A brief summary of the fellowship year shall be submitted to the Fellowship & Training Committee Chair, within 3 months of the end of the fellowship year.
- g. The Fellow will be invited to present a summary of his/her research activities at the Thrombosis Canada annual general meeting.

---

## 6. Components of the Fellowship Application\*

The components of the application include:

- a. A **letter from the applicant** (2 pages maximum) with the following headings:
  - i. Background preparation for the fellowship
  - ii. List of specific objectives for the fellowship
  - iii. Plans for the research year based on the specific objectives
  - iv. Future career plans
- b. Summary of **proposed research project** (2 pages maximum). If the research proposal requires additional funds, the summary should describe the source of this funding (obtained or applied for) and should include a brief discussion of alternatives if funding is not successful.
- c. A copy of the **applicant's current CV**
- d. The applicant is encouraged to also apply to at least one **alternative agency for fellowship support** (Heart and Stroke Foundation, subspecialty fellowships, etc.). If this is done, the face sheet and summary of the alternative fellowship applications(s) should be included in the Thrombosis Canada Fellowship application.
- e. A copy of the **supervisor's current CV**
- f. A **letter of support from the proposed clinical and/or research supervisor** outlining the strengths and weaknesses of the candidate, the research facilities and resources available to the candidate as well as the proportion of time the candidate will spend on research, course work, clinical duties, and teaching. This letter is to be sent independently of the rest of the application.

***\*Please note: Applications must use a minimum of 12 point font for all submitted material***

---

## 7. Selection Process

- a. *Introduction:* A formal selection process will review each of the submissions using a ranking system that recognizes:
  - i. The quality and potential of the **candidate**, including demonstration of a sincere commitment to a career in investigative or other aspects of academic medicine related to thrombosis/ vascular medicine
  - ii. The quality of the clinical and research **environment and the supervisor**



# 2015 – 2016 Thrombosis Canada Can-VECTOR Research Fellowship

- iii. The quality and potential importance of the proposed **fellowship activities**, including its relevance to the mandate of Thrombosis Canada
- b. *Rating System:* A 10-point rating system will be used by the reviewers:

Component	Maximum Points
The candidate	5
The environment/supervisor	2.5
The research proposal	2.5

- c. *External Reviews:* The Fellowship & Training Committee may, if necessary, request **formal, written** external reviews from people who have knowledge of the candidate or his/her supervisor or who have expertise in the area of proposed research.
- d. *Conflicts of Interest:* It is possible that members of the Fellowship & Training Committee may have potential conflicts of interest in the review of applicants and in the selection of successful fellowship candidates. A set of guidelines has been developed to prevent actual or perceived, direct or indirect conflicts of interests in the selection process.

---

## 8. Fellowship Application Submission

*Deadline for receipt of completed application packages:* On or before **April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015**

**Please email completed application packages** to the Thrombosis Canada Fellowship & Training Committee Chair, Dr Sudeep Shivakumar at [sudeep.shivakumar@cdha.nshealth.ca](mailto:sudeep.shivakumar@cdha.nshealth.ca).

---

## 9. Fellowship Application Checklist\*

Please check that each of the items below are completed.

An incomplete application package cannot be accepted.

- Applicant's letter (2 pages maximum)
- Summary of research proposal (2 pages maximum)
- Copy of applicant's current CV
- Evidence of application for alternate source(s) of fellowship funding, if any (copy of face sheet and summary of applications)
- Copy of supervisor's current CV
- Letter from supervisor (to be sent by supervisor to Chair, independently from the rest of the application package)
- Complete application packages must reach the Thrombosis Canada Fellowship & Training Committee Chair by April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015

**\*Please note: Applications must use a minimum of 12 point font for all submitted material**

---