



Grand Challenges Canada®
Grands Défis Canada

2015 Summer Student Program

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do I know if I am eligible to apply?

To be eligible for the Summer Student Program, at the time of submitting an application, individuals must be currently enrolled in a post-secondary institution *or* have graduated within the last year (12 months) from a post-secondary institution.

I am an international student; am I still eligible to apply?

International students are eligible to apply as long as they meet the standard eligibility criteria (above) and are authorized to work in Canada. Costs and arrangements for travel, visas, accommodation and living expenses are the responsibility of the student and will not be arranged or covered by Grand Challenges Canada.

How do I apply to the Summer Student Program?

A complete application includes:

- Summer Student Program Application Form (online)
- Summer Student Program Short Answer Questions Form
- Resume (maximum two pages)
- Copy of Academic Transcript (required for applicants to the Legal Summer Student position only)

The online Application Form and Short Answer Questions can be accessed through the [Careers page](#) on Grand Challenges Canada's website. Begin by downloading the Short Answer Questions Form. Once you have completed the Short Answer Questions Form, you must fill out the online Application Form. Through the online Application Form, you will be able to attach the completed Short Answer Questions Form, a Resume and a copy of your transcript, if applicable. Once these materials are attached, you will be able to submit your application through the online Application Form.

Please note that once your application has been submitted it will no longer be possible to make changes to it.

What if my current or most recent academic institution does not use the Grade Point Average (GPA) system?

Only in the case where your current or most recent academic institution does not use the GPA system, you may self-report your academic average as a letter or numeric value (e.g. as average of B+ or 80%).



What does the application process entail?

The first-round of applications consists of a written application package (Application Form, Short Answer Questions, Resume) submitted to Grand Challenges Canada. These are scored on the basis of the following criteria:

- Relevance of experience and skills to position of interest
- Demonstrated interest in global health
- Program-specific requirements, if applicable.

The top-scoring applicants will be invited for an interview at Grand Challenges Canada's office in Toronto, Ontario. Other arrangements may be made on a case-by-case basis for interviewees located outside of Toronto.

What is the timeline for the application process?

Please consult Grand Challenges Canada's website for exact dates. For reference, a general timeline is as follows:

Application request launch:	Early December, 2014
Application deadline:	Late January, 2015
Successful applicants notified:	March, 2015
Summer student orientation and start:	First week of May, 2014
Summer Student Program ends:	End of August, 2015

Please note this timeline is subject to change. Any changes will be announced through our website and social media platforms.

How many applicants typically apply? How many do you interview?

The number of applicants that apply to the Summer Student Program varies but is typically high, given the interest in the program. There is no set number of applicants who receive interviews – this number depends on the number and quality of applicants and the needs of the organization for the summer period.

Are these paid positions? If so, how much can I expect to be compensated?

Compensation is aligned with the University Health Network regulations. Costs and arrangements for travel, accommodation and living expenses are the responsibility of the student and will not be arranged or covered by Grand Challenges Canada.

When do these positions begin and end?

Summer students should be available to work from the first week of May through to August 28, 2015.

Where are these positions located?

Summer students work with the Grand Challenges Canada team at our office in the MaRS Centre, 101 College Street, Toronto, Ontario.

What is the typical work schedule?

This is a full-time position (37.5 hours per week) following regular business hours, Monday to Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

When and how will I be notified about the status of my application?

Applicants will be notified by e-mail of the status of their application between March and April, 2015.

Do I need to have a health background to apply or to be competitive? Are there any specific pre-requisites?

Applicants do not need to have a health background (such as a Bachelor of Science) to apply or to be competitive for the Summer Student Program. In line with the principles of [Integrated Innovation](#), Grand Challenges Canada values the experiences and perspectives of diverse disciplines. A demonstrated interest in global health is considered an asset.

Some positions may require applicants to have specific pre-requisites (such as skill sets or academic backgrounds); in these cases, expected pre-requisites will be clearly specified in the application.

What is the best way to learn about Grand Challenges Canada?

The best way to learn about Grand Challenges Canada is through our website. The following documents may be particularly useful in providing background and information on Grand Challenges Canada:

- [What is Grand Challenges Canada?](#)
- [What is a Grand Challenge?](#)
- [Meet our Innovators](#)
- [Integrated Innovation](#)

We also encourage you to [join our mailing list](#) and follow us on social media; in addition to our website and social media platforms, we use the mailing list to announce new programs, job opportunities, events and other news.

To learn more about the Summer Student Program, including information on past students and activities, please refer to [Grand Challenges Canada's blog](#).

If I am offered a position as a summer student, what kind of projects can I expect to work on?

Please consult the summer student job descriptions for an outline of key responsibilities and activities, based on work done by the 2014 summer students. Kindly note these are subject to change, as the actual projects and work of summer students is based on the needs of Grand Challenges Canada during the summer period.

What is the Sandra Rotman Centre, and how is it related to Grand Challenges Canada?

The Sandra Rotman Centre is based at University Health Network and the University of Toronto. The Sandra Rotman Centre develops innovative global health solutions and helps bring them to scale where they are most urgently needed. The Sandra Rotman Centre hosts Grand Challenges Canada. More information can be found at www.srcglobal.org.



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What is University Health Network, and how is it related to Grand Challenges Canada?

University Health Network (UHN) is a clinical healthcare and scientific research organization in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Summer students of Grand Challenges Canada are hired through UHN.