

2024 Summer Fellowship Program

IMPORTANT PROGRAM INFORMATION

How do I know if I am eligible to apply?

To be eligible for the Summer Fellowship Program, at the time of applying, individuals must be currently enrolled in a post-secondary institution or have graduated within the last year (12 months) from a post-secondary institution and live within the Greater Toronto Area (GTA).

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

International students are eligible to apply if 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 employee and will not be arranged or covered by Grand Challenges Canada.

How do I apply to the Summer Fellowship Program?

A complete application includes:

- Summer Fellowship Program Application Form
- Summer Fellowship Program Short Answer Questions Form
- Resume (maximum two pages)

The Application Form and Short Answer Questions Form 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 Application Form online. Through the Application Form web page, you will be able to attach the completed Short Answer Questions Form, and your resume. Once these materials are attached, you will be able to submit your application through the Application Form web page.

Please do not submit a cover letter, reference letters or any additional application material other than what is requested.

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 an 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 Form, Resume) submitted to Grand Challenges Canada.

These are scored based on the following criteria:

- Relevance of experience and skills to position of interest
- Program-specific requirements (i.e. demonstrated interest in global health), if applicable.

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: January 10, 2024
- Application deadline: February 5, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. ET
- Successful applicants notified: March to April 2024
- Program orientation and start date: May 6, 2024
- Summer Fellowship Program ends: August 30, 2024

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 Fellowship Program varies but is typically high. There is no set number of applicants who receive interviews; this number depends on the number and quality of applicants, as well as the needs of the organization for the summer period.

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

Grand Challenges Canada strives to be an inclusive, diverse, equitable and accessible place to work. The rate of pay for all summer fellow positions will be in line with the living wage in Toronto which is currently \$25.05 per hour. The compensation is also aligned with the University Health Network regulations. Costs and arrangements for travel, accommodation and living expenses are the responsibility of the fellow and will not be arranged or covered by Grand Challenges Canada.

When do these positions begin and end?

Summer fellows should be available to work from the first week of May through to August 30, 2024.

Where are these positions located?

We are currently working in a hybrid model with time in office and working from home. With rare, approved exceptions, GCC staff are to live in or near the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) and available to travel to, and work from the Toronto main office, as business operational needs require. Any expenses related to travel and or relocating to Toronto are the sole responsibility of the employee and will not be reimbursed by GCC.

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. Staff have the option to opt-into a four (4) day work week program (with Friday as a flex/off day), excluding weeks with Statutory holidays (program reviewed annually).

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

Applicants will be notified by email of the status of their application between March and April 2024.

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

Applicants do not need to have a health background (such as a Bachelor of Science) to apply or to be competitive for the Summer Fellowship 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 will be considered an asset for most positions.

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

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 links may be particularly useful in providing background and information on Grand Challenges Canada:

- [About Grand Challenges Canada](#)
- [Discover our Innovations and Results](#)
- [Integrated Innovation](#)

We also encourage you to join our [mailing list](#) and follow us on social media ([Facebook](#), [X](#) (Formerly Twitter), [YouTube](#), [LinkedIn](#)); 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 Fellowship Program, including information on past fellows and activities, please refer to [Grand Challenges Canada's blog](#).

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

Please consult the summer fellow job descriptions for an outline of key responsibilities and activities, based on work done by the 2023 Summer Fellows. Kindly note that these are subject to change, as the actual projects and work of summer fellows will be based on the needs of Grand Challenges Canada during the summer period.

What is University Health Network and how does it relate to Grand Challenges Canada?

GCC and UHN are united in their pursuit to save and improve lives. GCC does so as an innovation platform that seeds and transitions to scale bold scientific, social, and business innovation to drive sustainable impact in the most underserved communities around the world. At UHN, they transform lives and communities through excellence in care, discovery, and learning. Above all else, our shared primary value is that the needs of our innovators and patients come first.

UHN supports GCC with business infrastructure and as such, all GCC employees are also UHN employees.