

## Overview

BioCanRx has a mission to foster a network that will accelerate Canada's most promising biologically based cancer therapies into clinical trials. The Network is committed to growing the Canadian cancer biotherapeutics sector. One way to do this is by providing the next generation of highly qualified personnel (HQP) with work experience in this exciting research field. BioCanRx Summer Studentship Awards will provide funding for up to **15 undergraduate or college students** to work with BioCanRx Network investigators conducting novel cancer biotherapeutics research.

## Eligibility

- Applicants must be working towards their undergraduate degree at a Canadian university/college and have completed at least two semesters. Awardees cannot be enrolled in a graduate program at any point while holding this award.
- Candidates' proposed supervisors for the work term placement must be a BioCanRx Network Investigator (BioCanRx PIs) – [click here](#) for the list of currently funded and founding PIs that qualify. Note: A BioCanRx PI can host an undergraduate student from a different institution other than his/her own. (If you have any questions about PI eligibility, please contact Megan Mahoney, Manager of HQP Training Programs at [memahoney@biocanrx.com](mailto:memahoney@biocanrx.com))
- BioCanRx PIs may only submit one application. A BioCanRx PI may only train one recipient of a Summer Studentship Award at any one time.
- Summer students cannot simultaneously receive funding from any of the tri-council research agencies (NSERC, CIHR, SSHRC) while receiving a stipend from BioCanRx.
- Past BioCanRx summer students are eligible to re-apply, but preference will be given to new students.
- Research projects must clearly fall within the [BioCanRx mandate](#) and be collaborative in nature.

## Program Deliverables

The objective of the BioCanRx Summer Studentship Award is to provide undergraduate students with the opportunity to obtain meaningful hands-on experience in cancer biotherapeutics research through work placements in the laboratories of BioCanRx PIs. An additional intent is to prepare undergraduate students, with a demonstrated interest in cancer research, for post-graduate training in cancer biotherapeutics research.

### The schedule of this program will be:

January 7, 2019 – Applications open  
February 15, 2019 – Applications deadline  
March 8, 2019 – Awardees notified  
May 1, 2019 – Placement begins  
August 30, 2019 – Placement ends  
September 16, 2019 – End of term report deadline

### Specific Terms of the Award

- The BioCanRx Summer Studentship Award provides **\$6,000 CAD in salary support** for an undergraduate student to work on a cancer biotherapeutics research project in the lab of a BioCanRx-funded PI over a **14-week work term**.
- Acceptance of the BioCanRx Summer Studentship Award is conditional upon a commitment from the BioCanRx PI and the student co-applicant that the student will complete a 14-week work term.
- The value of the Award is paid out to the Supervisor's institution.
- At the conclusion of the placement, the student will be expected to submit a short report on the experience and its impact on his/her career choice by completing the **End of Term Form** (sent to the trainee towards the end of his/her work term). In the event that the award has to be terminated in advance of the award end date (e.g.; student left the undergraduate program), the student will be expected to complete the **Terminating Award Form** (sent to trainee on request by the BioCanRx PI) and any remaining BioCanRx funds will have to be returned. Supervisors will be eligible for future awards only after BioCanRx has approved the trainee's final report.

### Application Procedure

- **Complete the Application Form (separate document)**
- **Attach your curriculum vitae (no page limit) AND most recent undergraduate transcripts.**  
Should be prepared by the trainee. NOTE: Please include details on degree being pursued, University attended, any research experience, awards/scholarships held, and any publications or scientific abstracts published/presented. The original transcript is not required - a legible copy or e-mail print-out is acceptable, so long as it shows every grade received from all undergraduate courses taken.
- **Provide a support letter from your proposed supervisor.** NOTE: this letter should be confidential and sent directly by your supervisor to BioCanRx by email (to Megan Mahoney, Manager of HQP Training Programs at [memahoney@biocanrx.com](mailto:memahoney@biocanrx.com)).
- Include complete contact address, phone number and email address. This letter should provide an evaluation of the applicant's capacity to perform in the laboratory and his/her career potential. The letter should include an explanation for anything unusual in the application (low grades, year off, etc.).

All letters should be signed either electronically or by hand. **All documents should be converted to .pdf files.** All correspondence, **including application submission**, should be addressed to Megan Mahoney, Manager of HQP Training Programs at [memahoney@biocanrx.com](mailto:memahoney@biocanrx.com).

### Evaluation Criteria

Applications will be reviewed by the HQP Development Committee, according to the following criteria:

1. Does the proposed research project align with BioCanRx's mandate and is it collaborative in nature?
2. Is the project scope realistic for the studentship timeline? Will it be a beneficial learning experience for the student candidate?
3. Is the student candidate of top quality, according to:
  - a. Investigator's letter of support
  - b. Student's academic background