



Network of Alberta Health Economists (NOAHE) Graduate Student Internship and Postdoctoral Fellowship Fact Sheet

Value & Term

Internship: \$7,000 for the equivalent of one full-time semester (approx. 4 months) or part time for up to a one year period as agreed upon by the candidate, supervisor and IHE. This award can support an internship opportunity that is outside of existing graduate work and payment (see * below for details), or it can support research of relevance to the goals of this award being conducted as part of a student's graduate work (see below).

Fellowship: \$55,000 for one year (includes [benefits](#) of approximately \$2000). This award can be applied as a portion of a longer postdoctoral position, dependent on commitment of funding from other sources.

Background

A need has been identified for greater development in health economics capacity, as well as greater collaboration between health economics researchers and policy makers, in Alberta. The Institute of Health Economics (IHE; www.ihe.ca), in partnership with health economists from Alberta Health and the Universities of Alberta and Calgary, are working collaboratively to create a new internship and fellowship. These traineeships will build such capacity by bringing together aspiring health economists, policy leaders, and researchers from academic, non-profit, and governmental sectors. This work is being supported financially and in-kind by Alberta Health, through the Alberta Health/IHE Partnership Grant.

The NOAHE Internship and Fellowship provide opportunities for successful recipients to gain practice-based experience working on either their own project of interest, and/or on projects identified by program sponsors as Alberta Health priorities (<http://www.health.alberta.ca/about/vision-mission.html>). To gain experience working with policy-makers, for both types of projects, this opportunity will be complemented by the mentorship of an academic supervisor from the University of Calgary (UofC), a co-supervisor from IHE, and a sponsor at Alberta Health.

Objectives - The NOAHE Graduate Student Internship and Postdoctoral Fellowship will:

- Develop highly skilled research analysts and health economists in Alberta
- Support the Intern/Fellow in developing research skills
- Engage the Intern/Fellow in broad practice-based experiences and professional development opportunities
- Advance knowledge in health research and economic evaluation through publications and presentations



Eligibility and Requirements

The NOAHE Graduate Student Internship and Postdoctoral Fellowship are restricted to applicants with training and/or experience in the area of health economics. In certain circumstances, where Alberta Health data are needed in the trainee's project, work in Edmonton may be required, and relevant Alberta Health restrictions (e.g., preapproval of publications) may apply.

Internship

Applicants will use the [Internship application form](#), and be required to:

- Be enrolled at the UofC in an accredited Master or PhD Degree program focusing on health economics
- Demonstrate the relevance of the Internship to their career goals
- Further work within their graduate studies of high relevance to the sponsor or negotiate a project topic with Alberta Health and IHE based on Alberta Health's vision and priorities. If the latter is chosen, it can either be conducted at Alberta Health or IHE
- Identify the support of a supervisor who has an academic appointment at UofC and membership within the O'Brien Institute for Public Health
- Provide 2 letters of support, including one from the UofC academic supervisor
- Commence the Internship at a time agreed upon by the sponsors and awardee
- Present Internship work to IHE Board of Directors and / or the sponsor, as requested

*Please note that for the duration of the Internship, any graduate awards/stipends held by the candidate may be suspended by Graduate Studies.

Fellowship

Applicants will use the [Fellowship application form](#), and be required to:

- Fulfill the criteria of a [UofC Postdoctoral Fellow](#) (including those related to completion of degree requirements, and length of time since convocation)
- Demonstrate the relevance of the Fellowship to their career goals
- Demonstrate that their area of research addresses a significant and long-term policy issue of interest to Alberta Health / IHE
- Identify the support of a supervisor who has an academic appointment at UofC and membership within the O'Brien Institute for Public Health
- Provide 3 letters of support, including one from the UofC academic supervisor
- Commence the Fellowship at a time agreed upon by the sponsors and awardee
- Present Fellowship work to IHE Board of Directors, Alberta Health, and other relevant stakeholders



Opportunities of the NOAHE Internship/Fellowship

Advisory Support and Mentorship

Awardees will report to a UofC Faculty member, be co-supervised by a staff member at IHE, and have a sponsor from Alberta Health. Applications need to confirm the interest of a current or proposed UofC faculty supervisor (who is also an O'Brien Institute member). Potential supervisors include some Faculty members of the Institute's [Health Economics](#) and [Health Technology Assessment](#) group, for example. The role of the UofC faculty supervisor include ongoing graduate supervision, mentorship, and primary research supervision, if the student elects to use one of their graduate student projects for the application. In situations where the student seeks an internship project at IHE or Alberta Health, then the UofC faculty will provide collaborative support during the internship only.

The sponsor (Alberta Health) and co-supervisor (IHE) will be assigned to the awardees, but applicants are welcome to indicate preferences (<http://www.ihe.ca/about/staff-directory>) and may choose to seek a formal co-supervisor at IHE or Alberta Health sponsor in advance. The role of the sponsor is to provide input into study relevance, ensuring the question is asked in a way that can best inform policy, and input into results interpretation, where appropriate. The role of the IHE co-supervisor will be to provide collaborative input (in cases where the project is part of the student's graduate work), and to serve as the primary supervisor where students seek an internship within Alberta Health or the IHE.

The goal is to build the Intern/Fellow's capacity and networks for health economics research and its application to governmental policy.

Practice-based experience

Where appropriate, awardees will have the opportunity to work on health economics projects from multiple sectors within the health care industry. As appropriate, the Intern/Fellow will be exposed to multiple aspects of health economics research and policy development processes as well as the tools, frameworks, and methods that guide work at IHE and Alberta Health.

Professional Development

Awardees will have the opportunity to participate in professional development opportunities provided by IHE and Alberta Health, as appropriate.

Applications

Submit the appropriate form for the Internship or Fellowship to iph@ucalgary.ca by 11:59pm (MT time), November 15th, 2019.

Review Process

All applications will undergo review by a NOAHE-based committee including O'Brien Institute members with expertise in health economics, and be assessed on the following criteria:

- Academic excellence of applicant
- Academic excellence of academic supervisor
- Quality of training environment
- Quality and relevance of research proposal
- Alignment of the applicants' skills and career aspirations to the objectives of the IHE Internship/Fellowship

Please contact iph@ucalgary.ca with any questions regarding these competitions.