Faculty of Arts & Science Postdoctoral Fellowship Program

Award Overview

Nomination deadline: December 1 (20:00 EST)
Note: When a deadline falls on a weekend or holiday, the next business day will be considered the deadline date.

Value and Duration: $48,000 per year for two years
Required Legal Status: Domestic or International
Results: March

Purpose

The Arts & Science Postdoctoral Fellowships are designed to provide outstanding recent doctoral students advanced training in their field of study. These fellowships are not discipline specific, but rather can be held in any department or research unit across the Faculty of Arts & Science (A&S) at the University of Toronto. Applicants must secure sponsorship of a supervisor, or supervisors, from the professoriate within the Faculty of A&S (St. George Campus).

Value and Duration

Each award will provide $48,000 per year for a maximum of two years. There are two types of funding for the fellowships. One is fully-funded, where A&S contributes the full stipend of $48,000 and benefits. The other is match-funded, where supervisors and/or units contribute half the stipend ($24,000) and benefits, the second half of which is matched by A&S. A section of the Supervisor Postdoctoral Fellowship Form requires the supervisor to specify which funding type applies to their application.

Eligibility to Apply

The award is open to both domestic and international post-graduates. Successful international candidates must meet all Canadian immigration requirements.

Fellowships are only tenable within A&S at the University of Toronto. Proposed supervisor(s) must have a tenure-track or tenured appointment in A&S (i.e., fully appointed at the St. George campus).

Nominees must:
• Demonstrate academic excellence and high potential for success in their chosen fields;
• Have completed all requirements for their doctorate degree no earlier than May 1, 2020;
• Not hold a faculty position or be on leave from such a position;
• Not hold concurrently another major fellowship;
• Begin the fellowship between May 1 and December 1 in the year of award;
• Be associated with a supervisor appointed to the Faculty of A&S, St. George campus.

Application Process

Applications should be submitted to the A&S Research Office: research.artsci@utoronto.ca
Email subject line (for both applicant and supervisor): APPLICANT NAME: A&S PDF APPLICATION
Postdoctoral Applicant Components (please submit as one PDF file):

- A&S Postdoctoral Fellowship Application Form
  Note: The form includes a one-page research proposal where you should describe your proposed research project, highlighting the importance and impact of the research and how this research fits into your academic goals. *Reference lists or bibliographies are not necessary for the proposal.
- Applicant's CV

Supervisor Application Components: Proposed supervisor(s) must have a tenure-track or tenured appointment in A&S (i.e., fully appointed at the St. George campus).

- A&S Postdoctoral Fellowship Supervisors Form (submitted by the supervisor)
  Notes:
  o This form must be signed by the Chair or Director of the supervisor’s unit before being submitted. Co-supervision requires signatures of the Chairs and/or Directors from the units of all supervisors.
  o In the space provided please comment on the applicant’s research potential, the quality of the proposed research, the research environment and resources that will be available to the applicant, and how the fellowship will advance the applicant’s career development.

Evaluation and Selection Process

The Vice Dean Research Chairs the A&S Postdoctoral Fellowship Selection Committee, which meets each competition year to evaluate and recommend top candidates. The Selection Committee reflects the broad diversity of individuals and disciplines within the Faculty of Arts & Science, St. George and includes equal representation by academic leaders from the Humanities, Social Sciences and Science sectoral units in Arts & Science. Members of the Selection Committee are expected to reinforce standards of rigor, fairness, respect and equity, diversity and inclusion throughout the adjudication process. The OVPRI Best Practices in Peer Review Guide found here serves as a resource for members of the Selection Committee.

The single criteria for A&S Postdoctoral Fellowship applications is demonstrated academic excellence and high potential for success in the chosen field. The multidisciplinary selection committee members assess this through their evaluation of each applicant’s 1) proposal, 2) CV, and 3) the postdoctoral fellowship supervisor’s statement.

Important Information

- Please consult the information regarding postdoctoral fellowships at the University of Toronto on the website of the School of Graduate Studies.
- Canadian citizens and permanent residents must have completed their PhD requirements no later than six months after their start-date of an A&S Postdoctoral Fellowship. International applicants must have completed their PhD requirements before the start date of an A&S Postdoctoral Fellowship. In each instance, proof of PhD completion must be provided within three months of completion if the applicant did not have it in hand at the time of application. Degree completion does not mean convocation, but rather the completion of all the requirements necessary for the PhD.
- A&S Postdoctoral Fellows may not concurrently hold another post-doctoral fellowship. Canadian citizens and permanent resident applicants, however, are strongly encouraged to apply for the appropriate CIHR, NSERC, or SSHRC postdoctoral fellowships in addition to their Arts & Science Postdoctoral Fellowship. To provide further incentive to apply to such funding agencies, if an applicant is awarded both an A&S Fellowship and a CIHR/NSERC/SSHRC Fellowship, A&S will provide an additional $8,000 stipend to the CIHR/NSERC/SSHRC stipend for each year of the fellowship.
Employment as a Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Toronto is covered by the terms of the CUPE Unit 5 Collective Agreement. The normal hours of work are 40 hours per week for a full-time postdoctoral fellow (pro-rated for those holding a partial appointment) recognizing that the needs of the employee’s research and training and the needs of the supervisor’s research program may require flexibility in the performance of the employee’s duties and hours of work.

The University of Toronto is strongly committed to diversity within its community and especially welcomes applications from visible minority group members, women, Indigenous persons, persons with disabilities, members of sexual minority groups, and others who may contribute to the further diversification of ideas.

At the University of Toronto, we strive to be an equitable and inclusive community, rich with diversity, protecting the human rights of all persons, and based upon understanding and mutual respect for the dignity and worth of every person. We seek to ensure to the greatest extent possible that all students and employees enjoy the opportunity to participate as they see fit in the full range of activities that the University offers, and to achieve their full potential as members of the University community.

Contact & Resources

For information regarding the selection process, please contact:

Faculty of Arts & Science Research Office
research.artsci@utoronto.ca