

# SGS Award Announcement

**To:** Graduate Chairs/Directors; Graduate Coordinators; Graduate Administrators  
**From:** Fong Di Caterina, Manager, Graduate Awards Office  
**CC:** Locke Rowe, Dean, Graduate Studies and Vice-Provost, Graduate Research and Education; Dean Luc De Nil, Vice-Dean, Students; Laura Stathopoulos, Director, Student Services; Lisa Haley, Associate Director, Graduate Awards and Financial Aid  
**Date:** May 31, 2017  
**Re:** **2017-18 Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships Program**

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## Award Overview

<b>Applicant deadline to Faculty:</b>	<b>Date set by Faculty Research Office</b>
<b>Faculty nomination deadline to SGS:</b>	<b>September 1, 2017</b> (list of faculty nominations due to SGS)
<b>Letter of endorsement made available:</b>	September 13, 2017 (to successful nominees)
<b>Nominee ResearchNet submission deadline:</b>	September 20, 2017 8:00 p.m. (EDT)
<b>Required Legal Status:</b>	Domestic and International
<b>Results:</b>	Mid-February 2018 directly from Banting

## Purpose

The Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships Program is intended to attract and retain top-tier postdoctoral talent, both nationally and internationally; develop their leadership potential; and position them for success as research leaders of tomorrow, positively contributing to Canada's economic, social and research-based growth through a research-intensive career.

Seventy fellowships are awarded annually, divided evenly between Canada's three federal granting agencies (CIHR, NSERC and SSHRC). There are a total of 140 awards active at any one time.

The Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships program is unique in its emphasis on the synergy of research goals and projects between the following:

- applicant – individual merit and potential to launch a successful research-intensive career
- host institution – commitment to the research program and alignment with the institution's strategic priorities

## Eligibility to Apply

Applicants and the proposed host institution must meet specific eligibility criteria within several categories. Applications that do not meet all of the eligibility criteria will not be accepted. ([view complete requirements on the Banting website](#))

1. Applicant eligibility:
  - (a) Citizenship and location of host institution
  - (b) Eligibility window for degree completion
2. Host institution eligibility
3. Other eligibility restrictions

## Endorsement Process

Given the limited number of fellowships awarded annually, universities are encouraged to carefully consider and support only the highest quality applicants from both Canada and abroad. In keeping with the aim of attracting postdoctoral fellows to Canada, units are encouraged to endorse new foreign candidates. In addition, careful consideration must be given to ensure gender equity in the endorsement process. U of T Faculty Research Offices receive allocations and are therefore limited in the number of applications they may put forth for endorsement by the School of Graduate Studies.

**Applicants must be nominated by their Faculty** (e.g. Faculty Arts and Science) to the School of Graduate Studies (SGS) to receive [the endorsement of the University](#). Supervisors wishing to support a candidate's application must contact their affiliated Faculty Research Office to inquire about the Faculty's internal deadline, application and selection process (see faculty contact info under "Contacts & Resources" section). **Applications submitted outside of the affiliated Faculty competition and therefore without the official endorsement of Dean of Graduate Studies will be deemed ineligible by the Banting Secretariat.**

## Selection Criteria

Applications received by Banting will be evaluated based on the following selection criteria. Applicants, supervisors, departments and faculties are encouraged to consider these criteria when developing their applications and when selecting nominees to be forwarded:

1. **Research excellence and leadership in the research domain** - demonstrated capacity for research excellence based on track record as defined by quality of applicant's research contributions, and demonstrated capacity for leadership in the research domain defined by the sphere of influence achieved to date by the applicant.
2. **Quality of the applicant's proposed research program** - examined in terms of the potential of the proposed research program (taking into consideration feasibility, timelines and novelty of research), executed in the proposed institutional environment, to position the applicant for significant impact through a research-intensive career (potential for significant impact).
3. **Institutional commitment and demonstrated synergy between applicant and institutional strategic priorities** – examined in terms of:
  - o demonstrated commitment of institution to support the development of the applicant's research and leadership capacity through institutional support (funding, facilities, equipment, etc.) and professional development; and
  - o demonstrated alignment and synergy between the applicant's research ambitions and the institution's potential to benefit strategically from its engagement with the applicant (alignment with institution's strategic priorities)

See the Banting Postdoctoral Fellows [selection committee guide](#) for further information.

## Application Process [\[see Application Guide\]](#)

1. The Banting application is initiated by the applicant through the [ResearchNet](#) Application System with the CV data components created using the [Common CV](#) system.

2. Applicants intending to take up the fellowship at the University of Toronto should first contact their fellowship supervisor to request the support of their application and if granted, inquire about the specific nomination/selection process and associated deadlines implemented by their Faculty Research Office.
3. Applicants must be nominated by their Faculty (e.g. Faculty Arts and Science) to the School of Graduate Studies (SGS) to receive [the endorsement of the University](#). Those nominated to SGS will be issued a [Letter of Endorsement](#) signed by the Dean of Graduate Studies necessary to complete the online application process at least one week before the ResearchNet deadline date. Only applications endorsed by the Dean of Graduate Studies will be accepted by the Banting Secretariat.
4. Nominees must also obtain (from the institution that conferred their degree) a [Fulfillment of Degree Requirements Form](#) and attach this completed document to their online application. Applicants who require this document from U of T must [request it by email](#) from the [Graduate Awards Office](#) before **Sept 8<sup>th</sup>**.
5. Candidates are responsible for uploading all required documents to ResearchNet to complete the application and submission process. Only the referee assessment forms are to be completed and submitted online by the referees. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that all components of the application are complete (including references) and the application is submitted via ResearchNet by the deadline of September 20, 2017 at 8:00 p.m. (EDT).

### **Reminder from 2016-17 - Important changes to application requirements**

In Banting's continuous efforts to improve and simplify the application and review processes, some important changes are being implemented in this competition:

1. **Window for degree completion:** The eligibility window for degree completion has been extended until the last day prior to the final allowable start date of the award (September 30, 2018). For health professionals who have engaged in post-degree non-research related clinical training (e.g. residency), the eligibility window can be extended by the duration of this training.
2. **Mandatory arm's length referee:** All applications must have at least 1 arm's length referee from among the 3 invited referees. The arm's length referee cannot be:
  - a relative or close friend, or have a personal relationship with the applicant;
  - in a position to benefit from the funding of the application;
  - affiliated with the applicant's current and/or proposed institutions;
  - professionally affiliated with the applicant, as a result of (but not limited to): being their supervisor or trainee; collaborating, publishing or sharing funding with the applicant, or having plans to do so in the immediate future.

## Contacts & Resources

U of T nomination/selection process:

See Faculty Research Office contact information (see table below)

Banting Program information: [see website](#)

Email: [banting@researchnet-recherchenet.ca](mailto:banting@researchnet-recherchenet.ca).

Banting PDF [Review Process](#) (Overview and Selection Committees Guide)

School of Graduate Studies Contact:

Fong Di Caterina, [fong.dicaterina@utoronto.ca](mailto:fong.dicaterina@utoronto.ca)

416-978-2150

<b>Faculty</b>	<b>Faculty deadline for Banting applications (Expected Month) – current as of May 2017</b>	<b>Applicants submit application directly to:</b>	<b>Point of contact for applicants and supervisors:</b>	<b>Faculty Administrative Contact</b>	<b>Additional Instructions (for applicants &amp; supervisors)</b>
Applied Science and Engineering	August	Faculty Office	Faculty Office	<a href="#">Cathy Grilo</a>	
Architecture, Landscape, and Design - Daniels	August	Faculty Office	Faculty Office	<a href="#">Shirley Chan</a>	Administrative contact info subject to change
Arts and Science	August	Faculty Office	Faculty Office	<a href="#">Research Office</a>	
Dentistry	August	Graduate Unit	Graduate Unit	<a href="#">Lisa Hutchinson</a>	
Forestry	TBD	Faculty Office	Faculty Office	<a href="#">Amalia Venziano</a>	
Information	August	Faculty Office	Faculty Office	<a href="#">Laura Lapchinski</a>	Contact the Dean to discuss proposed applications early.
Kinesiology and Physical Education	August	Faculty Office	Faculty Office	<a href="#">Marisol D'Andrea</a>	
Law	August	Faculty Office	Faculty Office	<a href="#">Carla Serpe</a>	
Management	August	Faculty Office	Faculty Office	<a href="#">Sasha Lucas</a>	
Medicine	Late July, 2017	Faculty Office	Faculty Office	<a href="#">Debbie Chau</a>	Students wishing to have their fellowship administered via affiliated hospital need to contact the research office at the hospital for their application and deadline.
Mississauga	August	Faculty Office	Faculty Office	<a href="#">Carla DeMarco</a> or <a href="#">Rong Wu</a>	UTM has an internal adjudication process to determine which applications are going forward from the UTM campus, based on their allocation.
Music	TBD	Faculty Office	Faculty Office	<a href="#">Dina Moreira</a>	
Nursing	TBD	Faculty Office	Faculty Office	<a href="#">Shefali Ram</a>	
OISE	August	Faculty Research Office	Faculty Research Office	<a href="#">Office of the Associate Dean, Research,</a>	There will be an internal adjudication process to determine

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				<a href="#">International &amp; Innovation</a>	the applicants who can apply for this fellowship. Communications will be sent out to Faculty.
Pharmacy - Leslie Dan	August	Graduate Unit	Graduate Unit	<a href="#">Tammy Chan</a>	There will be an internal adjudication process to determine the applicant(s) going forward based on departmental quotas. Communication will be forwarded to the Faculty closer to the deadline.
Public Health – Dalla Lana	August	Faculty Office	Faculty Office	<a href="#">Linda D'Souza</a>	
Scarborough	August	Office of the Vice Principal, Research	Office of the Vice Principal, Research	<a href="#">Shaun Young</a>	<p>Instructions for Supervisors:</p> <p>1) Supervisors wishing to support a candidate's application must notify the UTSC Office of the Vice-Principal, Research (UTSC VPRO) of the planned application in advance of the UTSC internal deadline.</p> <p>2) Supervisors are responsible for the preparation of the Supervisor's statement in consultation with their chair/director.</p> <p>3) The UTSC VPRO will carefully select only the highest quality applicants from both Canada and abroad within its allocation in accordance to the stated Selection Criteria.</p>
Social Work	August	Faculty Office	Faculty Office	<a href="#">Joanne Daciuk</a>	