



## AllerGen Clinician-Scientist Research Fellowship

### Request for Applications

The goal of the *AllerGen Clinician-Scientist Research Fellowship* is to develop Canadian clinical investigators pursuing allergy, asthma and/or anaphylaxis academic research training simultaneously with and/or immediately following their Allergy/Clinical Immunology (A/CI) sub-specialty training in order to increase the numbers and level of academic excellence of MDs with a specialty in allergy and clinical immunology, enhance patient care and increase translational allergy and clinical immunology research and academic capacity in Canada.

Eligible Fellowship academic foci may include basic and/or clinical research related to allergy, asthma and/or anaphylaxis.

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### BACKGROUND

**AllerGen** is a member of Canada's Networks of Centres of Excellence (NCE) program with a mandate to support research, networking, commercialization, knowledge mobilization and capacity building activities that contribute to reducing the morbidity, mortality and socio-economic impact of allergic and related immune diseases. AllerGen is committed to investing in its strategic priority areas to increase the number of medical students that pursue research within the sub-specialty of A/CI.

This program is aligned with AllerGen's strategic objectives related to Canadian capacity building, which are to:

- Increase research capacity in the field of allergy and clinical immunology.
- Foster and enhance academic innovation arising from basic and clinical research for medical students and postgraduate clinical trainees that pursue sub-specialties in allergy and clinical immunology.

### OBJECTIVES and ELIGIBLE RESEARCH AREAS

The goal of the *AllerGen Clinician-Scientist Research Fellowship* is to develop Canadian clinical investigators pursuing allergy, asthma and/or anaphylaxis research training simultaneously with and/or immediately following their Allergy/Clinical Immunology Sub-specialty training in order to increase the numbers and level of academic excellence of MDs with a specialty in allergy and clinical immunology, enhance patient care and increase translational allergy and clinical immunology research and academic capacity in Canada.

Eligible Fellowship academic foci may include basic and/or clinical research related to allergy, asthma and/or anaphylaxis.

## **FUNDING INFORMATION**

### **Value of the Award:**

The *AllerGen Clinician-Scientist Research Fellowship* provides a stipend of up to \$100,000 for a maximum of two years, for health professionals who are completing their A/CI sub-specialty training or have completed such sub-specialty training within the past 18 months and have a clinical posting at an academic health sciences centre. Preference will be given to applicants whose host institution can confirm that the applicant has been identified for a junior faculty position following successful completion of the fellowship.

***AllerGen encourages applicants to secure matching funding to a level commensurate with their level of clinical training.***

### **Research Allowance:**

A research allowance of \$25,000 is provided to pay for the awardee's research equipment, materials and supplies, relocation to and from the laboratory (where applicable), travel to scientific meetings held either inside or outside Canada, and other costs directly related to their research program. These funds cannot be used to pay for health insurance. An awardee may apply receipts against the research allowance for up to three months beyond the official termination date, at which time the account must be finalized. Any unspent funds must be returned to AllerGen immediately on the last day of the three month period following the official termination date.

### **Duration of Support:**

The duration of support provided to successful applicants will be for two years: \$50,000 will be awarded the first year and the remaining balance of \$50,000 in the second year, provided there is evidence of research progress and academic career development. This award is non-renewable.

## **CONDITIONS OF FUNDING**

All conditions specified in the CIHR Grants and Awards Guide (<http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/22630.html>) shall apply to applications funded through this Request for Applications. Conditions cover areas such as Applicant and Institutional Responsibilities, Ethics, Official language policy. Successful applicants will be informed of any special financial conditions prior to the release of funds or when they receive AllerGen's funding letter.

### **Monitoring, Performance Measurement and Evaluation:**

AllerGen is committed to demonstrating results to Canadians for the public funds it invests on their behalf. Therefore, processes for monitoring progress and appropriate use of funds, as well as for performance measurement and program evaluation are in place. To this end, funding recipients must:

- Contribute to the monitoring, review and evaluation of AllerGen's programs, policies and processes by participating in networking activities at the Annual Research Conference as well as participating in evaluation studies, surveys, workshops, audits and providing data and reports as required for the purpose of collecting information to assess progress and results;
- Encourage their associates, trainees and administration to participate in the monitoring, review and evaluation of AllerGen's programs, policies and processes as required;
- Sign AllerGen's Standard NCE Agreement and comply with all of its provisions.

## ELIGIBILITY

Eligible candidates are Canadian health professionals who are completing their A/CI sub-specialty training or have completed such sub-specialty training within the past 18 months and have a posting at an academic health sciences centre. Preference will be given to applicants whose host institution can confirm that the applicant has been identified for a junior faculty position following successful completion of the fellowship.

- The fellowship must be held in Canada at a Canadian university or research institute. If funding flows to a host institution, that institution must become signatory to the AllerGen NCE Standard Network Agreement.

Should a successful applicant already hold an award valued at more than 50% of the *AllerGen Clinician-Scientist Research Fellowship*, the *Fellowship* will be reduced accordingly. Should an awardee receive a second award subsequent to this one, a similar reduction will be made. Awardees are required to notify AllerGen immediately of any and all awards received during the term in which they hold the *AllerGen Clinician-Scientist Research Fellowship*.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Candidates are requested to complete the attached application form and include at least three (3) assessments by individuals under whom the candidate has studied. Seven (7) copies of the application package are to be submitted. The supervisor and the sponsoring institution must provide a letter of support indicating assurance of adequate supervision. The application package to be used for this position is available on the AllerGen-NCE Inc. website at: <http://www.allergen-nce.ca/>.

A complete application consists of:

1. **CIHR Common CV Modules** for both the candidate (the candidate section only) and the proposed supervisor(s) (condensed form - pages 1, 2, 3, 4, 5). **Draft** copies of the CV modules will **not** be accepted;
2. Provide a **description of the research project or training opportunity**. (Maximum 2 pages, excluding references, which may be appended on a separate page);
3. **Proof** that the applicant has recently completed their A/CI sub-specialty training within the past 18 months or proof that they are enrolled in an A/CI sub-specialty training program and have a clinical posting at an academic health sciences centre.
  - Applicants providing a letter from their host institution confirming that the applicant has been identified for a junior faculty position will be given preference
4. **Sponsor's Assessment forms** from three people under whom the candidate has trained and who have had a good opportunity to assess the candidate's potential for research;
5. **Letter(s) of support** from the candidate's proposed supervisor(s) and sponsoring institution;
6. **Official transcripts** of the candidate's graduate and/or health professional training, including proof of any degrees completed, in the original sealed envelope. AllerGen will only accept an official student's copy of the transcript if submitted in the original sealed envelope from the institution.

Note that only one copy of the transcripts and Sponsor's Assessment forms need be submitted since they must be sealed at source.

**Send the original and six (6) copies of the Application by courier to:**

AllerGen Clinician-Scientist Research Fellowship  
AllerGen NCE Inc.  
MDCL 3120  
McMaster University  
1200 Main Street West, Hamilton, ON L8N 3Z5

Issue Date: 4 December 2009

Tel/tél: 905-525-9140, ext 26502  
Fax/télécopieur: 905-524-0611  
E-mail/courriel: shuker@mcmaster.ca  
Website: <http://www.allergen-nce.ca>

## **KEY DATES**

- Deadline for Applications: March 1, 2010 by 12:00 p.m. EST – full applications must be courier stamped by this date
- Adjudication: March 2010
- Notification: April 2010
- Funds: Released upon confirmation of acceptance and enrolment

## **EVALUATION PROCESS**

All eligible applications will be screened by AllerGen administrative staff. Eligible applications will then be subject to peer review by the AllerGen Advanced Education and Training Opportunities Advisory Committee, which will rank and recommend applications for final decision by AllerGen's Research Management Committee.

### **Evaluation Criteria:**

The weight given to each of these criteria below will vary depending on the candidate's level of academic performance. The quality of the research or training opportunity and the potential for a combined career in medicine and research are the principal criteria on which the applications will be judged. More specifically, points considered in the assessment of an application are as follows:

- Appropriateness of academic and research training.
- Acknowledgments of academic achievement and potential benefit from the program.
  - Publication record and contributions to published work.
  - Research accomplishments to date and evidence of independence and originality.
- Potential for translational research opportunities that contribute to achievement of AllerGen's goal of developing Canadian clinical investigators pursuing allergy, asthma and/or anaphylaxis research training simultaneously with and/or immediately following their Allergy/Clinical Immunology (A/CI) sub-specialty training in order to increase the numbers and level of academic excellence of MDs with a specialty in allergy and clinical immunology, enhance patient care and increase translational allergy and clinical immunology research and academic capacity in Canada.
- Appropriateness of the proposed research or training project to further the candidate's combined clinical and A/CI research career.
- Supervisor/mentor qualifications
- Identification of the application for a junior faculty position.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

Awardees should acknowledge the assistance given by AllerGen NCE Inc. in any publication or presentation made during or resulting from the tenure of the Award.

AllerGen NCE Inc. shall be provided a copy at the time of submission of all manuscripts and presentations submitted for publication that arise during the tenure of this Award.

## **TERMINATION OF THE AWARD**

The Award may be terminated at any time for good and sufficient reason by the Awardee, the University or AllerGen NCE Inc.

## **PROPRIETARY RIGHTS**

Awardees and their host institutions must be signatories to the AllerGen Standard NCE Agreement. As per this agreement, AllerGen NCE Inc. requires that it be informed of any commercial exploitation arising from activity supported through the Program in accordance with the terms and conditions of the agreement.

AllerGen directs that effort should be made by the award holder to maximize beneficial social and economic impacts to Canada as a result of this award.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

For questions regarding the completion of the application and the peer review process, contact:

**Melissa Shuker**

AllerGen NCE Inc.  
McMaster University  
1200 Main St. W.  
MDCL 3120  
Hamilton, ON L8N 3Z5

Phone 905-525-9140 ext. 26633

Fax 905-524-0611

Email [shuker@mcmaster.ca](mailto:shuker@mcmaster.ca)

### AllerGen Clinician-Scientist Research Fellowship

Applicant Information				
Applicant's Name:	First	Last	Date:	
Applicant's Mailing Address:	Street Address:		Apartment/Unit #	
	City	Country	Postal Code	
Work Phone :	(    )	E-mail Address:		
Home Phone:	(    )			
Date Available:	(dd/mm/yyyy)			
Of what country are you a citizen?	Country			
Are you currently a permanent resident of another country?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	Country	
Have you completed a clinical specialty in a field related to allergy, asthma, or immunology?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	If yes, from what institution and what field?	
<b>Describe below how you envision the AllerGen Clinician-Scientist Research Fellowship will contribute to your career development and accelerate your attainment of your long-term career goals. Also, how will you contribute to AllerGen's goals of translational research for patient and/or economic benefits? Maximum 3 pages.</b>				

**Provide a description of the research project or training opportunity. Maximum 2 pages, plus references appended separately.**

Relevant Work Experience				
Position held and nature of work (begin with current) Full Time – Part Time	Organization	Supervisor	Period (mm/yyyy – mm/yyyy)	
Academic Background (include only current and past degree programs)				
Degrees	Name of Discipline	Department, Institution, and Country	Month and year started	Month and year awarded / expected
Current Supervisor's Name:				
Title:				
University and Mailing Address:				
Contact Phone Number:				

**Scholarships and other awards held (start with most recent)**

<b>Name of Award</b>	<b>Value (CDN\$) or specify currency</b>	<b>Level</b> Institutional, Provincial, National, International	<b>Type</b> Academic, Research, Leadership, Communication	<b>Location of Tenure</b>	<b>Period Held</b> (mm/yyyy- mm/yyyy)

**Please attach CIHR common CV**

**CIHR Common CV Attached**

**Please attach transcripts**

Transcripts attached (# of transcripts = \_\_\_ )

**Please attach proof of enrolment or completion of A/CI sub-specialty training and junior faculty identification letter**

Proof of Enrolment in A/CI sub-specialty training attached

Proof of Completion of A/CI sub-specialty training attached

Junior Faculty Identification Letter Attached

**Please attach sponsor assessment forms**

Sponsor assessment forms attached

**Please attach letter(s) of support**

Letter(s) of support attached (# of letters = \_\_\_ )

**References**

<b>Professional Reference 1:</b>			
Name:			
Title:			
Relationship to Applicant:			
Mailing Address:	Street Address:	Apartment/Unit #	
	City:	Country:	Postal Code:
Work Phone:			
Alternate Phone:		Email Address:	
<b>Professional Reference 2:</b>			
Name:			
Title:			
Relationship to Applicant:			
Mailing Address:			

	Street Address:	Apartment/Unit #	
	City:	Country:	Postal Code:
Work Phone:			
Alternate Phone:		Email Address:	
<b>Professional Reference 3:</b>			
Name:			
Title:			
Relationship to Applicant:			
Mailing Address:	Street Address:	Apartment/Unit #	
	City:	Country:	Postal Code:
Work Phone:			
Alternate Phone:		Email Address:	

**Disclaimer and Signature**

*I hereby understand and agree that any award made as a result of this application will be subject to the AllerGen NCE Inc. conditions governing this fellowship.*

Signature of Applicant:		<b>Date:</b>
Signature of Current Supervisor:		<b>Date:</b>

**Please submit application via FAX to:**

Melissa Shuker  
 Programme Coordinator  
 AllerGen NCE Inc.,  
 McMaster University, 1200 Main Street West, MDCL 3120  
 Hamilton, Ontario L8N 3Z5

Phone: 905-525-9140 x 26633  
 Email: shuker@mcmaster.ca  
**FAX: 905-524-0611**

**Partnered Funding in Hand or Pending**

<b>Name of Organization</b>	<b>Committed Funding</b>	<b>Title of Signatory</b>	<b>Authorized Signatory for Your Institution</b>	<b>Date</b>

<b>TOTAL FUNDING ALLOCATED</b>	<b>\$</b>
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Clinician-Scientist Research Fellowship Checklist:

Completed application form	
Common CIHR CV Module attached	
Description of research project	
Proof of completed A/CI sub-specialty training or of enrolment in A/CI sub-specialty training	
Letter from host institution confirming junior faculty position	
3 Sponsor assessments	
Letter(s) of support	
Official transcripts	