



**NOTICE OF GRADUATE RESEARCH
INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES IN INDUSTRY
AVAILABLE THROUGH THE ACCELERATE
CANADA INITIATIVE OF THE MITACS NCE**

**FOR ALLERGEN RESEARCHERS AND TRAINEES INTERESTED IN
DEVELOPING PROPOSALS FOR FUNDED GRADUATE INTERNSHIPS IN
AREAS ADDRESSING VITAL RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES**

As the first Network of Centres of Excellence (NCE) to accept an invitation from MITACS Inc. (Mathematics of Information Technology and Complex Systems NCE) to commit to cooperate on the ACCELERATE Canada graduate research internship initiative, AllerGen is pleased to announce to its Network investigators and trainees the availability of opportunities through this initiative.

ACCELERATE Canada is a cross-disciplinary initiative launched recently by MITACS Inc., providing unique research and training internship opportunities in industry for graduate students across Canada, in all fields, thanks to funding received by MITACS from the Government of Canada through the Industrial R&D Internship Programme and from a number of provincial governments.

ACCELERATE Canada:

- connects businesses with university researchers (supervising professors), in all disciplines, who have advanced levels of expertise in areas that address vital research opportunities;
- places graduate students, from across all disciplines, social and economic sectors (i.e., not solely in MITACS' area of endeavour), and regions of Canada, in short-term internships in industries and organizations relevant to their studies.

Some basics of the initiative:

- Targeted at graduate students and postdoctoral fellows

- Four-month long research projects (units: Masters students can complete up to two units; PhD students and postdoctoral fellows up to three units)
- Industry and MITACS contribute to the costs. No funding is available from AllerGen.
- \$15,000 (co-funded normally, \$7,500 from ACCELERATE programme funds held by MITACS, \$7,500 from the partner company) to the supervising professor per unit. The intern stipend amounts to at least \$10,000 of this figure.
- ~\$5K (from the per unit amount above) for costs associated with the internship research project, e.g., equipment, travel and accommodation, conference fees
- MITACS has 17 business development officers across nine offices in Canada, providing advice in meeting programme requirements.
- Robust system for scientific evaluation of proposals. Proposal stages are:
 - Proposal development (MITACS business development staff ensure basic programme requirements are met)
 - Internal review at MITACS, through a Research Review Committee
 - External review (College of Reviewers, whose members provide recommendations with respect to proposals in their area of expertise).

Benefits of the initiative include:

- *For Graduate students and post-doctoral fellows:* gain exposure and apply skills to industrially-relevant research; connect with potential employers; develop valuable professional relationships with industry and other non-academic organizations; secure increased graduate stipends.
- *For Network investigators:* Apply their expertise to challenging business issues; expand research projects with industry; develop new research projects resulting from internship research; obtain new research funding.

On invitation from MITACS, AllerGen will contribute to the MITACS scientific review process around internship applications within the scope of AllerGen's mandate. While no AllerGen funding is available to support ACCELERATE Canada proposals, MITACS-approved internship proposals within the scope of AllerGen's mandate will, subject to a case-by-case review by AllerGen, be branded as "to be delivered in partnership with AllerGen and MITACS".

All Canadian post-secondary institutions that offer graduate programmes are eligible to take part in the ACCELERATE Canada programme. For further information on the initiative and/or to apply for an internship, please visit the ACCELERATE Canada Website at www.acceleratecanada.ca.