



# CUASF Medical Student Research Grant

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE 2025-2026**

### **Supporting Medical Students' Urologic Research**

#### **Background**

The CUA is devoted to supporting research projects that will support medical student's interest in research and urology as a career. Providing research opportunities for medical students will improve urological care for all Canadians and support recruitment of talented investigators into the field of urology.

#### **APPLICATION SUBMISSIONS**

The **application deadline** for the CUASF Medical Student Research Grant is **January 31, 2026**.

Notification Date: CUA Annual Meeting

Duration of Award: 1 year.

The completed application form plus supporting documents must be submitted electronically to [marfisa.defrancesco@cua.org](mailto:marfisa.defrancesco@cua.org)

**Please make sure you receive a confirmation email that the application has been received.**

#### **Objectives and Scope**

The objective of the CUASF Medical Students' Research Grant is to support peer-reviewed research that promotes excellence and provides research opportunities for medical students in the field of urology.

Grants will be awarded to the successful applicant(s). It is anticipated that up to 10 grant(s) will be awarded in the amount of \$5,000 each for 1 year.

## **Eligibility**

CUASF will receive and process the submitted proposals. Grants will be awarded based on:

- Supporting a Medical Student 3<sup>rd</sup> year or earlier who is currently training in Canada and/or a Canadian Medical Student training outside of Canada.
- The candidate must be mentored by an Active or Associate CUA Member. (Academic or Community)
- Once awarded the grant, the successful applicant must apply for CUA Associate Membership.
- At the completion of the grant term, the applicant must agree to provide a progress report and publication plan to the CUASF for dissemination of study results.

## **Eligible Research Projects**

Research proposals must clearly outline how the project relates to investigation in the field of urology and provides a research experience for the student. The topic can address any subject within the field of urology including but not limited to:

- urologic education
- basic science
- clinical care
- The proposal must clearly state a project timeline, objectives, research methods and impact of the proposed project.

Grant funds may be used for research materials or for medical student salary support.

A letter of support from the mentor must clearly describe their planned guidance for the project, mentoring experience, the research environment, and available supports for the student such as funding, physical space, and research support staff.

Priority will be given to applicants who self-identify as a member of an equity deserving group. Please share how receiving this scholarship would support your development as a medical student. You may wish to reflect on your goals, the unique perspectives or experiences you bring to medicine, and how this award could help you contribute to a more inclusive and equitable healthcare system (250-word limit).

## **Non-eligible Research Proposals**

- Applicant does not meet the eligibility criteria listed above.
- Mentor who is not an active or CUA member
- Incomplete or late applications
- Industry sponsored projects
- Projects not related to urology.

## **Review Criteria**

The CUASF Medical Students' Grant proposals will be reviewed and approved by appointed CUASF grant review members, including a representative from the Canadian Undergraduate Urology Curriculum Committee (CanUUC). Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Scientific merit
  - Rationale
  - Originality
2. Methodology
3. Impact
  - Potential research experience for the medical student and impact of the research study.
4. Feasibility

## **Rating Scale**

Applications will be ranked on a scale of 1 to 10 based on the following:

- Quality of research opportunity for the applicant (2)
- Significance of research question (1)
- Background (1)
- Study design and methodology (1)
- Feasibility (2)
- Research team/ infrastructure (2)
- Priority will be given to applicants (or research teams) who self-identify as a member of an equity-deserving group (1).

## **Guidelines for Applications Format**

The following are suggestions for preparation of the project proposal.

- 1) Research Proposal
  - 2 pages (not including application form, references, figures and supporting documentation)

- Font: 12 Times; minimum 2 cm margin
- Avoid condensed/ narrow font sizes or type density.
- Smaller text in tables, charts, figures, and graphs is acceptable as long as it is legible when the page is viewed at 100%.
- Minimum single line spacing (do not use narrow line spacing)

#### Suggested Outline:

1. Statement of Objectives
  2. Lay Summary (approx. 250 words)
  3. Brief review of literature and background information
  4. Impact of project \*detailed description of how this study will provide a research experience for the student and how the project will benefit the urologic care of Canadians.
  5. Hypothesis
  6. Design and Methodology
  7. Analysis of Data
  8. Project timeline
- 2) Letter (s) of support from Mentor
- 2 pages (not including application form, references, figures and supporting documentation)
  - Describes planned supervisory role for the project, mentorship experience, research environment, resources including space, staff, and funding.

#### **Required Supporting Documentation**

1. REB approval or proof of submission, if required depending on project methodology
2. Current curriculum vitae of the applicant and the mentor
3. Self-identification questionnaire of the applicant and the mentor

#### **Obligations for Award Recipients**

1. Presentation of the results of the project at future CUA annual meetings and to submit their work for publications in peer-reviewed journals.
2. Acknowledgment of support from CUASF Medical Student Grant in all presentations and publications
3. Submission of a progress report and a final report by dates determined at the time of the award.

## **Financial Considerations**

The amount of each Grant will be awarded directly to the successful medical student. Grant payment will be made as a single lump sum in June of the year the grant is awarded.

## **Inquiries**

Canadian Urological Association Scholarship Foundation  
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