

Graduate Studentships for Research in Schizophrenia & Psychosis

2026 Call for Applications & Guidelines



THE CANADIAN NETWORK FOR
Research in Schizophrenia
and Psychoses



EPI CANADA
Early Psychosis Intervention

The Schizophrenia Society of Canada Foundation (SSCF) along with the Canadian Network for Research in Schizophrenia and Psychoses and EPI Canada are pleased to partner in offering 10 graduate studentships, in the amount of \$15,000 each, for research in schizophrenia and psychosis; biomedical or psychosocial.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION

February 28th, 2026

OBJECTIVES

The objective of this competition is to provide a stipend for graduate students pursuing research aimed at identifying the causes of, or developing novel interventions for, schizophrenia and related psychosis. The research can focus on either biomedical or psychosocial aspects of schizophrenia and psychosis.

ELIGIBILITY

- The competition is open to full-time graduate students at the Doctoral or Master's level.
- The students must not currently have a federal (Tri-Council) scholarship.
- The students must be currently conducting the described research, or will begin conducting the research by September 2026, under the supervision of a research investigator member of the Canadian Network for Research in Schizophrenia and Psychoses or EPI Canada and affiliated to a Canadian university.
- The student and supervisor must fulfill requirements for student projects and supervision within the parent university where the student will be registered, and where the supervising faculty member will be based.
- Applications are encouraged from candidates across Canada and from institutions of all sizes.

VALUE

A total of ten studentships, in the amount of \$15,000 each, will be awarded.

- Five (5) awards are reserved for biomedical research (*biomedical research includes studies focused on biological mechanisms, genetics, neurobiology, pharmacology, brain imaging, or other laboratory-based or clinically oriented approaches*).
- One (1) award, the Jean Addington Award, is reserved specifically for a woman pursuing psychosocial research in the field of psychosis.

Starting Date: September 1, 2026

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- A student receiving the studentship will be required to supply an interim progress report on their graduate studies and research project by December 31, 2026. A final overall progress report is also required at the end of the funding period.
- A student receiving a studentship will be required to present on their research to either the Canadian Network for Research in Schizophrenia and Psychoses, or the EPI Canada Board, towards the end of the studentship (financial support for travel, up to \$500, may be provided if necessary).
- Students receiving a studentship will be required to inform EPI Canada if they receive any other external studentship or scholarship for their graduate studies during the first six months. Should they receive a full scholarship (e.g., CIHR or SSHRC), subsequent payments will be suspended to allow the next candidate on the list to obtain a stipend.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

1. Candidate:
 - Complete the online application form for Graduate Studentship for Research in Schizophrenia and Psychosis: https://www.research.net/r/2026_Studentship_Application
 - Arrange to have your university send your official* university transcripts as a PDF file directly to our office, or you may provide a scan of the official* transcripts as a PDF.
**An official transcript must be stamped with the official university seal*
 - **Send the completed application form and the transcripts to admin@epicanada.org or by mail:**
EPI Canada
118 James Street North, Suite 200
Hamilton, ON
L8R 2K7
2. Supervisor (*must be a member of Canadian Network for Research in Schizophrenia and Psychoses or EPI Canada*):
 - Provide a letter indicating:
 - a. The supervisor's agreement to serve in a supervisory capacity
 - b. How the applicant's research project aligns with overall research themes on schizophrenia and psychosis investigated in the supervisor's laboratory
 - c. The trainee's previous research experience and appropriateness for the project.
 - Provide a 2-page biosketch of the supervisor.
 - **Submit the letter and biosketch DIRECTLY to admin@epicanada.org. The letter should be signed and dated, in PDF format.**
3. Referee:
 - The candidate must ask one person familiar with his/her work and accomplishments to submit a letter of reference. This letter should be from someone other than the proposed supervisor. We ask that the referee to cover the following points regarding the student, if possible: critical thinking, independence, perseverance, originality, organizational skills, interest in discovering, communication skills, interest in schizophrenia research.

- The referee must submit the signed letter DIRECTLY to admin@epicanada.org. Please submit the letter separately and electronically as a PDF file, named as follows: **StudentLastName_FirstInitial_ReferenceLetter.pdf** (e.g. **Laos_J_ReferenceLetter.pdf**).

DEADLINE

All documents must be received by February 28, 2026. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.

EVALUATION AND AWARD ANNOUNCEMENT

Applications will be evaluated by a committee composed of researchers from the Canadian Network for Research in Schizophrenia and Psychoses and EPI Canada based on:

1. The candidate's academic background and prior research experience (commensurate with their level of training);
2. The scientific merit of the project;
3. The significance of the project in contributing to our understanding of schizophrenia and related psychosis and to the well-being of patients with schizophrenia/psychosis.
4. Feasibility and the appropriateness of the research environment to carry out the proposed project.

Candidates will be notified of the results of the competition by: May 1, 2026

For additional information, please contact Megan Connolly at admin@epicanada.org