McMaster MD/PhD Admissions Process

Scientific Materials Submission

Please collate the following components into a single PDF document. Use the last page of this instruction document as the first page (cover page) in your PDF. Add your name to the top left corner of each page. Add page numbers to the bottom right corner of each page. [Adhere to CIHR guidance for preparing and formatting attachment documents](https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/29300.html). Include this document as part of your submission on McMaster’s School of Graduate Studies application portal, submitted before the deadline of November 1 at 11:59PM.

You will note that many of our requested elements align closely with the application components for the [CIHR Doctoral Research Award](https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/50513.html#details-panel2). We have done this for several reasons, including to encourage applicants to apply for this scholarship, which may be held at any eligible Canadian University.

*Components and Instructions*

1. Cover page (1 page limit- use template provided in this document)
2. Statement of Research Interest (1 page limit)
   1. Describe your area of research interest. We do not expect you to outline a doctoral dissertation plan. Rather, help us understand what kind of research you want to pursue and how those interests fit with the PhD program and potential supervisors you have identified.
3. Vision for a career as a physician scientist (1 page limit)
   1. In one page, please describe why you want to pursue this academic program and outline your ultimate career goals.
4. Preparation and areas for development (2 page limit)
   1. A successful career as a physician scientist requires a breadth of knowledge, skills, and experiences. Please describe how your professional, academic, and extracurricular experiences to date have prepared you for this career and will contribute to your future training success (one page limit). Then, outline your plan for further development (one page limit). Your development plan should include an identification of strengths, weaknesses, and areas for growth. Where possible, indicate your plan or ideas for achieving this growth and development. This requirement closely aligns with the “Training Expectations” section of the [CIHR Doctoral Award scholarship application](https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/38887.html). You may also wish to use the prompting questions in the [CIHR Individual Development Plan](https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/50516.html) as a guide; there is no need to answer all of them.
5. Canadian Common CV – CIHR Academic CV Format (no page limit)
   1. The Canadian Common CV (CCV) is a web-based application that provides researchers with a single, common approach to gathering CV information required by a network of federal, provincial, and not-for-profit research funding organizations. This CV system and format is identical to the requirements to apply for a CIHR Doctoral Research Award. When you have questions about what content to include, please follow the [instructions for producing that document](https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/38887.html).
      1. Start by accessing the [Canadian Common CV platform](https://ccv-cvc.ca/indexresearcher-eng.frm). After logging in, under “CV” select “Funding” then select “CIHR” and then the appropriate CV type “CIHR Academic” from the dropdowns. Then click “Load”.
      2. After entering relevant and necessary data, click “Done”. A validation will automatically be performed and errors, if any, will be displayed. The validation rules are specific to CIHR and the selected CV type.
      3. Review the CCV data online via the “Preview” function to access the PDF.
      4. When satisfied, include the PDF in your application.
6. Sample of your scientific work (no maximum) + Explanation of the sample (150 words).
   1. Provide an example of your scientific work applicable to the scientific discipline you are applying to. This could include a previous course paper, study protocol, lab report, conference submission, or first draft of manuscript. This should be an example of your own, original work before editing or revision by colleagues or professional editors. We do not intend for you to complete new work for this submission, please instead provide an example of previously-created work. The “Explanation of sample” text is an opportunity to briefly explain the work you are submitting, e.g. “This is a research protocol submitted as the final assignment in HLTHRES 777 ‘Advanced Research Methods’, completed in Spring 2024 at McMaster University”. The sample work will provide evidence of clarity of communication, originality of thought, and reasoning abilities.

**MD/PhD Admissions Scientific Criteria - Cover Sheet**

**Applicant name:**

**PhD Program applying to:**

**Potential supervisors:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Have you contacted them? | Notes re: relevance to research interests, response from supervisor |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

**External funding you have applied to (e.g. CGS-M, CGS-D, Vanier):**

*Applicants are encouraged to apply for external funding; details on the* [*School of Graduate Studies Website*](https://gs.mcmaster.ca/current-students/scholarships/)[*or through the funding agency.*](https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/50513.html#details-panel2)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Agency/Competition | Date of last cycle applied/will apply | Result (if known) |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

**Table of Contents (add page numbers after assembling document)**

1. Statement of research interest ………………………………………………………..
2. Vision for a career as a physician scientist……………………………………………..
3. Preparation and areas for development ………………………………………………..
4. CCV – CIHR Academic Format………………………………………………………….
5. Sample of scientific work………………………………………………………………