



Richard and Edith Strauss Fellowships in Rehabilitation Science

Deadline

Completed applications must reach the Student Affairs Administrator by **May 31, 4 pm**.

Goals and Purpose of the Awards

The goals of the Richard and Edith Strauss Fellowships in Rehabilitation Science are to help ensure that a diverse pool of highly trained occupational and physical therapy scientists is available to teach and conduct research in areas that address the needs of people with chronic musculoskeletal conditions by:

- Prevention of disease and/or disability
- Reduction/amelioration of symptom impact
- Optimization of physical, social, and emotional function

The purpose of the Strauss Awards is to support the first two years of doctoral education of occupational and physical therapists (preferentially but other award worthy candidates will be considered) who have made a commitment to learn skills and focus their research on issues related to chronic musculoskeletal conditions.

Applicants must provide a convincing case that the proposed coursework, mentored research experience, and combination of other unique activities available to McGill Doctoral Rehabilitation Program students will enable them to better address the needs of individuals with chronic musculoskeletal conditions. Each student's proposed program must be tailored to meet the individual needs of the candidate. The candidate and primary supervisor are jointly responsible for the preparation of the proposed study and research plan and must discuss how the proposed research addresses the needs of individuals with chronic musculoskeletal conditions. Applicants are encouraged to take advantage of the rich and vast research resources, the training environment, graduate coursework and secondary supervisors throughout McGill and beyond who can serve as part of a supervisory team throughout the doctoral studies.

Value of the Awards

Each funding year there will be 3 new awards available valued at \$25,000 each. Awards are not renewable but awardees are allowed to reapply once.

Eligibility

- Awardees must be full-time Ph.D. students in the Rehabilitation Science Program at McGill. In PhD1 or PhD2 for students entering in PhD1 and PhD2 or PhD3 for students entering in PhD2.
- Preference will be given to students who have received an occupational or physical therapy diploma or degree from a World Federation recognized program.
- Awardees must notify the Director of the Graduate Program if offered external funding or additional internal funding.
- Awardees must accept external funds and surrender their Strauss Fellowship at the earliest instance. Awardees in receipt of **additional internal university fellowship** are not entitled to retain their full Fellowship. The Strauss Fellowship funds will be reduced by the amount of the internal award.
- Awardees are expected to maintain satisfactory academic performance throughout the tenure of their award.

Documents Required in Application

1. Statement by Candidate (maximum 3 pages)

The applicant must describe previous research experiences and accomplishments and provide information on the proposed study plan and research project. More specifically, the statement should include:

- A description of previous research experiences in relation to the Ph.D. objectives and long-term career plans
- Information on productivity to date (publications and presentations) as well as awards and distinctions received
- Your proposed study plan including didactic and research experiences and how the proposed training will provide the candidate with relevant experiences and resources, to become a productive rehabilitation investigator and teacher.
- Evidence that your proposed research will directly address the needs of individuals with chronic musculoskeletal conditions and meets the aims of the fellowship.
- A brief description of the proposed study with information on the methodology and feasibility of the project.
- A statement that you will commit at least 75% effort to the proposed training program and related career development activities. Your primary supervisor must agree and provide a statement in the application documenting that this percent of your time will be protected.
- A timeline for submission of applications for additional sources of training support, including potential funding agencies.

Please note that marks will be included as part of the review process

2. Statement by Supervisors (maximum 2 pages)

The primary supervisor, together with the applicant, is responsible for the planning, direction, and execution of the proposed study program. Additional co-supervisors and experts may be included as appropriate to the goals of the research training program.

- The application must include a statement from the primary supervisor providing: 1) information on the match between the training environment and the proposed research. 2) a mentoring plan describing in detail the nature of the supervision and mentoring that will occur and 3) a detailed timeline with milestones and plan for ensuring completion of degree requirements, including the thesis, during a reasonable time.
- The supervisors must agree to provide an evaluation of the candidate's progress

during the year as part of the required annual progress report.

Selection Committee

The selection process will be overseen by the Graduate Program Directors based on the evaluations of the Selection Committee. The Selection Committee will consist of one member of the Graduate Committee, one member internal to the School but not on the Graduate Committee and one Faculty member external to the School. All Committee members must be '*at arm's length*' with the applicant and their proposed supervisor.

Announcement of Results

Correspondence announcing the competition results will be sent by the Graduate Program Director to successful applicants and their supervisors. A formal presentation of the award will occur at the convocation celebration.

Payment of the Award

The award payment period will be from September 1 to August 31.

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Application Checklist
(Please include with application)

Required Documents:

1. Candidate's Statement

- ☐ Candidate's statement (maximum 3 pages)

2. Statement(s) By Supervisors/Experts/Collaborators (maximum 2 pages each)

- ☐ Statement by Supervisor (maximum 2 pages)

Completed applications must be received by the Graduate Student Affairs Coordinator at the School of Physical and Occupational Therapy (Davis House, Rm. 4) no later than **May 31th at 4 pm.**

Received date & time: _____ Initials: _____



School of

PHYSICAL & OCCUPATIONAL
Therapy



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Evaluation Grid

Candidates Name:	Score
1. Aptitudes and experiences of the candidate	/45
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Strength and relevance of previous research experience as it relates to Ph.D. objectives and long-term career plans.	/12
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Publications and presentations	/12
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Awards and distinctions	/10
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Academic dossier (recent marks)	/11
2. Quality and Relevance of the proposed study plan and research project	/45
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Clarity and relevance of proposed study plan (didactic and research experiences and how proposed training will provide the candidate with relevant experiences and resources to become a productive rehabilitation investigator and teacher)	/12
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Evidence that proposed research directly addresses the needs of individuals with chronic musculoskeletal conditions and meets the aim of the fellowship	/10
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Adequacy of the methodology of the proposed research project	/10
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Feasibility of the project	/10
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Timeline for submission of funding applications is appropriate.	/2
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Statement of commitment of at least 75% effort to proposed training program is present	/1
3. Quality of the Training Program and Environment	/10
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Evidence of a match between the research interests of the applicant and the training environment	/4
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Strength of mentoring plan	/3
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Appropriateness and thoroughness of milestones timelines.	/3
TOTAL SCORE	/100

Note: The evaluation should be made considering the candidate's experience and year of study in the program.

COMMENTS: