

# VHA Home HealthCare Junior Researcher Development Award

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Monetary, mentorship and networking supports are available for talented graduate students who are identified as a potential leader of tomorrow to develop strong links with a homecare agency while investigating research related to one of [VHA Research's three strategic priorities](#):

- **Better Care:** Transforming the care we provide
- **Safer Team:** Transforming our teams through workplace safety and professional growth
- **Connected System:** Transforming the system through strengthened relationships with our partners.

VHA Home HealthCare is committed to sponsoring promising young scientists to engage in research that will diversify research capacity and expertise in the home and community sector. VHA Home HealthCare will co-fund up to three graduate students studying topics related to our strategic priorities, including policy and advocacy activities that are a strategic fit with the vision, mission, and values of the organization. To learn more about the organization visit [www.vha.ca](http://www.vha.ca).

Eligible candidates must: be enrolled or accepted into a full-time Master's or PhD program (research based); interested in collaborating and learning about home and community care; and maintain an excellent academic record.

This co-funding opportunity is \$5000.00 from Sept 2021 – Aug 2022 and can be used as a stipend or to support study-related activities. This award also includes an opportunity to receive mentorship and support from established homecare researchers. This is a one-time award and is not renewable.

Please connect with VHA Research to learn more at [researchhelp@vha.ca](mailto:researchhelp@vha.ca).

## Application Requirements

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### 1. Plain Language Project Summary with Title (maximum 1 page)

Outline the proposed research project and the alignment with a strategic research focus: better care, safer teams or connected system. Applicants should provide an appropriate synopsis of their proposed research including research question(s), brief methods and literature review, and any preliminary results (if available). Applicants and their supervisor(s) should ensure that it provides a concise account of the subject matter which reflects the significance of the project. *Preference will be given to projects that have well-established topics and have received REB approval.*

2. **Relevance of Project and Potential impact for Homecare** (maximum 1/2 page)  
Demonstrate the relevance of the proposed research project to the strategic research priorities of VHA Research and clearly state how the research could potentially contribute to improving the health or experiences of our clients and/or families who receive their care at home.
3. **Impact of Funding** (maximum 1/2 page)  
Describe how receiving this award will benefit your project and/or professional development.
4. **Curriculum Vitae** (please include the sections listed below)
  - a. Section entitled 'Education'
    - Every degree (Bachelor, Masters and Doctorate) must be recorded in the CV whether they are complete or in progress.
  - b. Section entitled 'Recognitions & Research Funding'
    - Indicate any recognition received, including honours, distinctions, prizes, awards and citations.
    - Research Funding including the source/agency, value and length of time held
  - c. Section entitled 'Employment'
  - d. Section entitled 'Activities'
    - The activities and contributions defined in this section should include both academic and non-academic achievements
  - e. Section entitled 'Academic Contributions'
    - Presentations & Publications
5. **Letter of Support from Supervisor(s)** (maximum 1 page)
6. **Personal Essay** (maximum 1 page)

Your CV and letter of support will provide details of your commitments and accomplishments, but the personal essay gives you the opportunity to present the overarching narrative about your life, leadership accomplishments, and your professional and research goals for the review committee. Consider structuring your personal essay to include the following 2 sections: Research Experience & Relevant Activities.

**Research experience:** Describe the skills and abilities that you have gained through your past research experience, including special projects, honours thesis and co-op reports. If you have relevant work experience, discuss the relevance of that experience to your proposed field of study/research and any benefits you gained.

**Relevant activities:** Describe your professional, academic, and extracurricular activities, interactions, and collaborations that best demonstrate your communication, interpersonal, and leadership skills. Examples of these include:

- Teaching, mentoring, supervising, and/or coaching
- Managing projects

- Participating in science promotion, science/community outreach, volunteer work, and/or civic engagement
- Chairing committees and/or organizing conferences and meetings
- Participating in departmental or institutional organizations, associations, societies, and/or clubs
- Awards for papers, reports, posters, oral presentations, teaching, and/or volunteer/outreach work

An interdisciplinary review committee comprised of clients, caregivers and researchers will select the candidate(s) for funding based on the following criteria:

#### Research project

- Potential impact to homecare delivery – anticipated outcomes; clinical and/or operational
- Fit with VHA Research priorities as identified above
- Feasibility of project to deliver outcomes
- Quality and originality of research

#### Candidate profile

- Relevance of work experience & academic training
- Extracurricular activities and past collaborations
- Leadership experience
- Potential to communicate research findings clearly and logically in written & oral formats

**If you are selected by the review committee and you accept the award you must agree to adhere to the guidelines and policies of VHA Home HealthCare including, but not limited to the following:**

- Maintain 'good' academic standing in your program at a Canadian post-secondary institution.
- Be engaged in academic study/research aligned with the mission and vision of VHA Home HealthCare & the award as stated.
- Participate actively in VHA research activities including at least one presentation to the Senior Management and Research Teams and a commitment to maintain open and regular communication related to your study progress.
- Agree to share your study abstract, biography, and photo on VHA's website along with previous recipients, social media and consider additional requests from VHA Communications and participate as you are able.
- Acknowledge the support of VHA Home HealthCare in presentations, publications, and other knowledge translation activities related to research conducted during your funding period.

**Please email a completed application package in PDF format to [researchhelp@vha.ca](mailto:researchhelp@vha.ca) prior to the deadline of August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021, 11:59 pm.**