

Fall 2026

Graduate Student Traineeship in Patient-Oriented Research

A mandate of NL SUPPORT and Quality of Care NL is to foster an atmosphere of learning, capacity development and sustainability within patient-oriented research. Under this mandate, we endeavor to nurture the next generation of methodologists and researchers, as well as provide career development for the current cohort of researchers and staff. To that end, NL SUPPORT and Quality of Care NL have created the year-long Graduate Student Traineeship in Patient-Oriented Research.

The NL SUPPORT Educational Funding selection committee is responsible for publishing a call for students at both the master's and doctoral study levels. The selection committee aims to hold two rounds of the graduate student traineeship competition in Fall 2026 and Spring 2027.

The role of the selection committee will be to review the applications to determine their value in helping grow the culture of patient-oriented research and to select successful applicants. Applications will be reviewed by the committee, and a decision will be made by majority vote. Applicants will be informed of the committee's decision by email (such notification will also be copied to applicants' supervisors).

Eligibility

This traineeship is open to current trainees doing translational, applied or other patient-oriented research. Graduate student applicants must be accepted as full-time students at Memorial University before the funding can be made available. The applicants' theses must pertain to [NL SUPPORT](#), [Quality of Care NL](#) or [Health Accord NL](#) priorities; applicants are not required to have already engaged patients/members of the public in their research, but a focus on [patient-oriented research](#) including active [patient/public engagement](#) is a requirement. Applicants must be able to apply the learnings from the required training to their thesis work. If you are nearing the completion of your thesis work, you may not be able to make changes based on what you learn in this Traineeship and would therefore not be eligible to apply.

One traineeship award per funding call will be designated for an Indigenous student and/or a student whose thesis research is being conducted in partnership with an Indigenous community or communities. When conducting research that involves or may impact Indigenous communities, researchers must follow Memorial University's [Policy on Research Involving Indigenous Groups](#).

Tenure and Value of Fellowship

Funding will be available to successful applicants starting in January 2027 and will run until the end of December 2027. The value of this funding will be up to \$16,000 (pro-rated) for master's students and \$20,000 (pro-rated) for doctoral students. While successful candidates can hold their traineeship concurrently with other awards, total stipend funding – including other personal awards and baseline funding – cannot exceed \$35,000 for master's students and \$50,000 for doctoral students. This traineeship will be adjusted during its duration to ensure it remains at these funding caps.

Successful applicants will be required to:

- Complete the 5-week Foundations in Patient-Oriented Research Course (delivered virtually in five 2.5-hour sessions; dates TBD based on cohort schedules)
- Attend workshops/networking events to grow their knowledge of patient-oriented research and obtain related competencies throughout the tenure of their traineeship
- Report on the learning outcomes and applications to their thesis work at the end of the traineeship
- Present their thesis research findings at the Quality of Care NL and NL SUPPORT **Science, Health, and Research Education (SHARE) Summit** and/or other public events or through other NL SUPPORT/Quality of Care NL knowledge mobilization products such as [Practice Points](#)
- Disclose any publications/knowledge translation products related to their thesis to NL SUPPORT/Quality of Care NL
- Acknowledge this funding opportunity in knowledge translation products arising from their thesis project

How to Apply

Please submit your application package in an electronic format to Georgia Skardasi (funding@nlsupport.ca). We will send an email acknowledging receipt of your complete application within five business days following the competition deadline. If you do not receive this email, please contact Shanna Goobie (sgoobie@mun.ca).

Applications must be received by 5:00 p.m. Newfoundland Time on October 14, 2026.

Applications must be approved by the applicant's faculty/school prior to submission. Memorial University applicants should contact their academic departments regarding internal deadlines. If you do not know who to contact in your faculty/school, please contact the team for advice. Please ensure you contact your faculty/school for approval well in advance of the submission deadline. Applications that have not been approved by your faculty/school, are late or incomplete will not be accepted. You may be required to submit your application through the [Researcher Portal](#) to obtain faculty approval. Please reach out to your [Grants Facilitator & Research Officers](#) for more information.

Application Package Checklist		
	Section	Item
☐	Part 1: Applicant Information Form Page 6	Completed applicant information form with supervisor's signature
☐	Part 2: Table of Available Funding Page 7	Details of any additional funding you may hold or is available to you, including amount of funding, source of funding, and date funding expires.
☐	To be attached	Curriculum vitae (education, employment, published papers/abstracts, honors/awards)
☐	To be attached	A copy of all undergraduate and graduate university transcripts (unofficial transcripts are acceptable)
☐	To be attached	Letters of reference from two individuals familiar with the applicant's research experience/potential (these must be included in the application package and/or electronically forwarded directly to the email address listed above). A letter of reference template is available on the Graduate Student Traineeship webpage . Supervisors are not required to provide a reference letter, but a supervisor letter is considered an asset.
☐	To be attached	Curriculum vitae of the applicant's supervisor. If the applicant's supervisor has previously been named on an NL SUPPORT/Quality of Care NL (previously TPML) Educational Funding Application, no CV is required. Please indicate if this is the case in your submission email.

continued on next page

Application Package Checklist continued		
☐	Part 3: Faculty Approval Form	Signed department/faculty approval form (page 9 of this package). If the applicant's department/faculty has its own approval form, you may submit that form instead.
☐	To be attached	Description of thesis project and training program (letter size, single-spaced, Arial, 12-point font, 1-inch margins). Please write your project information in plain language as members of the NL SUPPORT/Quality of Care NL Patient and Public Advisory Council will be reviewing this material. For information about how to write in plain language, please contact our team at funding@nlsupport.ca. Please include the following headings: 1. Project Title and Description (4 pages maximum). Must include the following subheadings: a. Patient/Public Identified Priorities Please outline how your project addresses patient/public identified priorities. b. Patient/Public Impacts Please outline the projected patient/public impacts of your project. c. Patient/Public Engagement Plan Please outline how you intend to engage patients/the public as partners in your research process/on your research team. d. Knowledge Mobilization Plan Please outline how you intend to engage knowledge users throughout your research process. 2. Considerations for Inclusion, Diversity and Equity and Sex- and Gender-Based Analysis Plus (IDE/SGBA+). For example, how will you remove barriers to the recruitment and full participation of individuals from underserved groups in your research project? For more information about IDE/SGBA+ in research, please visit our Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility (IDEA) toolkit and CIHR's Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in the Research System and Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+). 3. Training Program and Career Goals (1 page maximum) 4. Research Involving Indigenous Groups (if applicable) Please indicate if community approval has been obtained and provide any relevant details, including Evidence of Community Engagement, on an additional page. See Memorial's Policy on Research Involving Indigenous Groups for more information.
☐	Self-Identification Questionnaire	An optional self-identification questionnaire is accessible via a link on page 10 of this package.

Please note:

- We highly encourage the evaluation of patient/public engagement in all work funded by NL SUPPORT and Quality of Care NL. Please review [Learning Together: Evaluation Framework for Patient and Public Engagement \(PPE\) in research](#) for information about indicators to consider when evaluating patient/public engagement. Following completion of the research project, we will ask successful applicants and their supervisors to report back on patient/public engagement using a standard survey to outline how patients/people with lived experience were involved in the project.
- NL SUPPORT also encourages all successful applicants to meet with the Unit's Patient/Public Engagement and Knowledge Translation leads throughout the duration of their project for support and guidance. Please contact Georgia Skardasi (gs0667@mun.ca) to set up a project support meeting

For further information or clarification on the application guidelines, please contact our team at funding@nlsupport.ca.

Part 1: Applicant Information Form

Fall 2026 Graduate Student Traineeship

Name of Applicant	
Student Number	
Department	
Faculty	
Degree Program	
Year Started (Proof of enrolment required if awarded)	
Thesis Project Title	
Email	
Phone Number	
Name of Supervisor	
Email of Supervisor	

I hereby confirm that all the information above and in the attached documentation is accurate:

 (Applicant's Signature)

Primary Supervisor (print):

Department:

Faculty:

I have read and support this application:

 (Supervisor's Signature)

Part 2: Table of Available Funding

Please note that this table refers to your current personal awards and stipend funding and excludes funding you may be receiving for specific research projects. If you have accepted a teaching assistantship, please include it here.

Funding Source (e.g. SGS baseline supervisor, external)	Funding Amount (if annual award, please indicate amount per annum)	Annual or One-time Award	Expiry Date
Currently Held			
School of Graduate Studies/Memorial University Baseline Funding			
Supervisor Funding			
External Awards			
Applied For			
School of Graduate Studies/Memorial University Baseline Funding			
Supervisor Funding			
External Awards			

Total Funding Amount	\$	
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Use and Disclosure

All information requested by the Newfoundland and Labrador Support for People and Patient Oriented Research and Trials Unit (NL SUPPORT) will be used solely for the administration and management of the awards program and is collected under the general authority of the Memorial University Act (RSNL 1990 Chapter M-7). Questions about this collection and use of personal information may be directed to our team at funding@nlsupport.ca.

By submitting this application to NL SUPPORT, you are certifying that all statements included in it and in all its attachments are accurate to the best of your knowledge.

Part 3: Faculty Approval Form (If the applicant's department/faculty has its own approval form, you may submit that form instead).

Fall 2026 Graduate Student Traineeship

Name of Applicant	
Faculty	
Division/Discipline	
Funding Sponsor	NL SUPPORT
Funding Application Deadline	October 14, 2026
Program	
Supervisor	
Title of Proposal	

The signatures below confirm:

- that the applicant (and supervisor) accept responsibility for ensuring completeness of the submitted application and that it follows the funding guidelines;
- that the applicant (and supervisor) confirm that all participants named on the application have agreed to participate in the roles as defined and that they have informed their respective units/institutions of their participation in the application.

Applicant/Co-Applicant

Print Name

Date

Supervisor

Print Name

Date

Discipline Chair/Division Head

Print Name

Date

Dean/Vice-Dean

Print Name

Date

Self-Identification Questionnaire

All applicants are encouraged to complete our Self-Identification Questionnaire, accessible via the following link:

https://mun.yul1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eXusHWo0UGF3wc6

The information collected in this questionnaire will not be shared with the selection committee, nor will it be used in the evaluation of this application. We are collecting this information as part of the NL SUPPORT Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility (IDEA) plan to better understand the composition of the trainee cohorts we are supporting.