

# POGO Trainee Funding Grant Information Package

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## Our Mission

We partner to achieve the best childhood cancer care system for children, youth, survivors, and their families in Ontario and beyond.

## Our Vision

A valued partner.  
An excellent childhood cancer care system.

# POGO Trainee\* Funding Grant

- POGO is offering a Trainee Funding Grant to support trainees in a program affiliated with childhood cancer in completing research projects. These projects should aid in career development and launching of the trainee's career in pediatric oncology. Projects should also align with [2024-2029 Childhood Cancer Care Plan](#).
- Funding can be used for statistical support, open access publication costs, travel expenses for project presentations, etc. **The funding must be specific to support the trainee and must be clearly justified in the budget justification.** The application must be accompanied by an invoice/bill for the cost to be covered.
- Recognizing that training periods may often be short, the grant applications will be open 4 times per year (deadlines of: January 1, April 1, July 1, October 1) with 1 to 2 grants being awarded at each time point.
- Trainees can apply only once during their training period.

If you are unsure if your project qualifies for the grant, please email [research@pogo.ca](mailto:research@pogo.ca) prior to submission.

\*Trainee is defined as:

- An individual who is enhancing their research skills through actual involvement in research and who works under the formal supervision of an independent researcher;
- or
- An independent researcher who has taken a leave of absence from their academic or research position.

Examples include:

- Undergraduate students engaged in research at an academic institution
- Graduate students enrolled in a graduate course of study at an academic institution
- Postdoctoral fellows (post-PhD) at an academic or research institution
- Post-health professional degree fellows (nursing, physiotherapy, medicine, pharmacy, etc.) at an academic or research institution

This list of examples is not exhaustive. Applicants are encouraged to email [research@pogo.ca](mailto:research@pogo.ca) for more information.

## Funds Available

The total amount available for this funding opportunity is **\$5,000 per trainee**. There is a total amount of \$25,000 per fiscal year available. All awards will be paid to the institution of the Primary Investigator.

## Eligibility to Apply

While the competition is open to all applicants, primary consideration will be given to Ontario citizens and landed immigrants within the province. Projects must be conducted at a hospital, research institute or university in Ontario, although applicants do not have to be permanent residents of Ontario.

The Trainee's supervisor should be on staff at an Ontario university, teaching hospital, or equivalent institution and be able to hold research funds or be affiliated with an Indigenous non-governmental organization operating in Ontario with a research and/or knowledge translation mandate.

## Application Deadline

Recognizing that training periods are often short, applications will be accepted four times per year, with deadlines on January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1 with 1 - 2 grants awarded at each cycle.

Hardcopy applications are not accepted and incomplete applications will not be considered.

## Notification

Successful applicants will be notified within approximately 6 weeks of submitting their application.

## Policy on Deferring Awards

Deferrals are not supported for this grant.

## Review Process and Evaluation

Applications will be adjudicated by the Project Funding Grant Review Panel which consists of established researchers in pediatric oncology who are not in any way involved with the project.

Applications will be evaluated based on:

- The extent to which the application will further a career in pediatric oncology for the trainee and how likely the project will positively impact children, youth and their families affected by childhood cancer or improve the childhood cancer system
- The extent to which the application aligns with the [Childhood Cancer Care Plan](#)
- Feasibility of the proposed research approach, timelines and deliverables
- Consideration of potential barriers or difficulties that may be encountered in the research and the inclusion of strategies to manage them

## Expectations of Successful Applicants

Successful applicants will be required to:

- Provide POGO with a brief, one page update on the work related to this project by the end of February
- Acknowledge funding from POGO on all outcomes (publications, presentations, posters, etc.) relating to the project, including affixing POGO logos to abstracts, posters and presentations
- Prepare and present a poster or presentation on the project at the annual POGO Symposium (held annually in November)
- Be available for donor stewardship purposes
- Provide copies of all publications resulting in whole or in part from the POGO research funding (at least 60 days prior to publication)
- Submit a final report (up to three pages) no more than two months after the project's completion. The report should include the results of the project and how the funding was used.

## About POGO

POGO works to ensure that everyone affected by childhood cancer has access to the best care and support. We partner to achieve an excellent childhood cancer care system for children, youth, survivors, their families, and healthcare teams in Ontario and beyond. POGO champions childhood cancer care and as the collective voice of this community, is the official advisor to Ontario's Ministry of Health (Ministry) on children's cancer control and treatment. POGO provides leadership and support for regular, province-wide consultations, resulting in long-range system plans that have been enormously effective in shaping and coordinating childhood cancer care in Ontario, including the current [Childhood Cancer Care Plan](#), endorsed by the Ministry.

POGO ensures access to high quality, coordinated care and support through various activities including:

- A unique database on childhood cancer (POGONIS - Pediatric Oncology Group of Ontario Networked Information System)
- Satellite Clinics bringing patient care closer to home in communities across Ontario
- Interlink Nurses providing excellent nursing support to young cancer patients and helping families identify useful resources and services in the community, including the POGO Financial Assistance Program;
- Development of clinical practice guidelines which provide a way to translate scientific evidence into clinical practice and help optimize outcomes and improve patient quality of life
- The POGO Financial Assistance Program\* which provides much-needed financial support to families for out-of-pocket costs while their child is in cancer treatment
- AfterCare Clinics across Ontario monitoring survivors regularly for long-term effects from cancer treatment
- School and Work Transitions Counsellors\* who help survivors get the support and assistance they need to finish high school and move on to post-secondary education or work
- Education events\* providing educational opportunities for health care professionals, including the annual POGO Symposium, Satellite Education Days, AfterCare education days, webinars, and more
- An analytic centre, POGO Research,\* with a mandate to stimulate and promote pediatric oncology research; engage in collaborative multi-disciplinary investigations of childhood cancer; conduct research in the areas of tracking and forecasting within the childhood cancer population; undertake program evaluations (including utilization of health care resources); and assess the burden of illness in the form of long-term health status and health-related quality of life

*\*Funded in part or in full by private donations*