



**UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA**  
**FACULTY OF MEDICINE & DENTISTRY**  
Department of Laboratory Medicine & Pathology



**ALBERTA PRECISION  
LABORATORIES**  
Leaders in Laboratory Medicine

**CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM**  
**IN**  
**CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY**

Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology  
Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, University of Alberta  
and  
Alberta Precision Laboratories

# **CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY FELLOWSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM**

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### **PURPOSE**

The Clinical Microbiology Fellowship Training Program is designed to train and mentor post graduate Ph.D.'s in clinical microbiology. Persons with an understanding of microbial pathogenesis and who are interested in pursuing a career in diagnostic, clinical and research aspects of clinical microbiology are desirable applicants as trainees. The purpose of the training program is to obtain the skills necessary to undertake a position as a clinical microbiologist in a laboratory where both medical microbiology and applied research activities are conducted.

### **LOCATION**

The Clinical Microbiology Fellowship Training Program is located within the Division of Diagnostic and Applied Microbiology in the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, University of Alberta. The Division is primarily housed within the Provincial Laboratory of Public Health (ProvLab). Fellows will spend most of their program within either the Provincial Laboratory, University of Alberta Hospital or the acute care Microbiology Laboratory, Enterprise Square, Downtown Edmonton.

### **DURATION OF PROGRAM**

The Clinical Microbiology Fellowship Training Program is designed as a three-year clinical post-doctoral program with the majority of the first two years spent in clinical laboratory rotations, including mentorship in all aspects of clinical microbiology (bacteriology, virology, mycology, parasitology, molecular diagnostics). The third year would allow the fellow to continue practicing clinical microbiology through on-call service while focusing on performing a clinical research project and continuing to prepare for the Canadian College of Microbiologists board examination.

### **ETHICS**

During the course of the program, Trainees will be expected to conduct themselves in the workplace in an ethical and respectful manner and an emphasis will be placed on effective communication in partnership with laboratory technologists, physicians and allied health professionals, patients, and the community.

## **PROGRAM OBJECTIVES**

The program will prepare trainees to direct and develop an accredited clinical laboratory service, both operationally and financially; generate, disseminate and interpret data from microbiological investigations as they apply to the diagnosis, management, and treatment of patients and of public health scenarios involving infectious diseases, educate clinical/medical professional and technical personnel; establish applied research programs that advance the field of infectious diseases; and act as microbiology consultants to support clinical and public health programs/initiatives at the local, national and international level.

The clinical microbiology fellow will be evaluated on medical knowledge, communication and collaboration, leadership skills, health advocacy and professionalism. The Fellow will conduct him/herself in a professional manner, according to the Code of Conduct, Privacy and Confidentiality agreement and other related policies of the University of Alberta and Alberta Precision Laboratories, and of the ethical standards set out by the Canadian College of Microbiologists. The Fellow will be cognizant of professional limitations and accepting of guidance and direction from supervisory staff and mentors

## **PROGRAM CURRICULUM**

The curriculum for the Clinical Microbiology Fellowship program is structured according to specific learning objectives within each of the major training sections which are available upon admission to the program and in consultation with the Program Director. The curriculum is designed based on the Fellow of the Canadian College of Microbiologists syllabus (<https://www.ccm.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/FCCM-Syllabus.2023.pdf>). At the completion of training, fellows are eligible to sit for the Canadian College of Microbiologists (FCCM) exam.

## **EVALUATION**

The Training Program Committee will be responsible for overseeing the interim and final evaluation of the Fellow using the established program learning objectives, evaluation reports from mentors of each rotation, and written, practical and oral examinations. The Fellow will also be expected to submit an evaluation of their training at the completion of each rotation. Ultimately, the Training Program Committee is responsible for directing the learning needs of the Fellow and their preparation for the Board certification examinations.

## **RESOURCES AND PERSONNEL**

Fellows will receive an annual stipend plus benefits as an Alberta Precision Laboratory employee.

## **APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

Applicants must have educational qualifications in microbiology or related life sciences and earned a Ph.D. or equivalent from a university belonging to the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, or from an equivalent institution in the USA. The program will consider applicants in the final year of their Ph.D., but entry into the program is contingent on completing all Ph.D. requirements prior to the start date of the fellowship program.

The application requirements include a completed application form (available on the program website when applications are being accepted), curriculum vitae, a letter of intent, three letters of reference, and copies of academic transcripts.

Credential assessment for a university degree outside Canada or the USA is available through consultation with the Government of Canada Foreign Credentials Referred Office (1-888-854-1805). Applicants must show proof of Canadian citizenship or landed immigrant status.

**PLEASE NOTE: NEW APPLICANTS ARE NOT ACCEPTED EVERY YEAR. PLEASE CONSULT THE PROGRAM WEBSITE OR CONTACT THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR TO DETERMINE IF NEW APPLICANTS ARE BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR.**

## **ACCREDITATION AND CERTIFICATION**

Upon completion of training, the fellow will be issued a certificate from the office of Post Graduate Medical Education, Faculty of Medicine, University of Alberta, affirming that the subspecialty training program has been successfully completed. The successful candidate will be eligible to then proceed to examination for Fellowship by the Canadian College of Microbiologists (FCCM) or the American Board of Medical Microbiology (D(ABMM)).