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## **KILLAM ACCELERATOR RESEARCH AWARD**

### Terms of reference and application process

The Killam Accelerator Research Award was established in November 2018, funded by the generous Izaak Walton and Dorothy Killam bequest, to address the needs of an underserved group of researchers that merits targeted investment. The award is granted on a competitive basis to early career faculty members within six (6) years of having taken up their first tenure track appointment. The Killam Accelerator Research Award is for a three-year term based on the outstanding promise shown by the faculty members in their research output and the impact of their scholarly activity.

Two new Killam Accelerator Research Awards will be awarded annually in two distinct fields of research: Business, Education, Fine Arts, Humanities, Law, Social Sciences and Sciences, Health Sciences, or Engineering.

The awards are funded from the Killam General Endowment and are valued at \$225,000 (\$75,000 per year for three years). These funds may be used for any justifiable research-related expenses (e.g., salary/benefits for research personnel, research travel, direct research expenses (e.g., lab expenses), small equipment, dissemination of research results, etc.). Any unspent funds at the end of the award must be returned to the source. No-cost extensions will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

The duties of Killam Accelerator Research Award recipients are no different from those they regularly perform as faculty members.

### **Eligibility**

Eligibility for this award extends to researchers within the first 6 years of taking up their first tenure track appointment (on or after January 1, 2018). The Office of the Vice-President (Research and Innovation) will consider extending the eligibility period for individuals whose academic careers have been interrupted (e.g., parental or maternity leave, etc.).

Three principal criteria for nominee assessment are:

1. Quality of the individual's research
2. Impact of their research on the advancement of the discipline; both to date and its future potential
3. Impact of their commitment to Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion and/or Indigenous Initiatives on other University Faculty, students, and the community-at-large

Teaching shall not constitute part of the evaluation except for graduate teaching and supervision relevant to the candidate's research.

## Selection process

The Office of the Vice President (Research and Innovation) [OVPRI] will review the candidate pool. If the number of applicants is not representative of the UofA research community, OVPRI can seek broader participation.

The award is adjudicated by a committee chaired by the Vice-President (Research and Innovation) or delegate. The committee includes one or more of the Associate Vice-Presidents (Research) and members from the University's research community who are suitably representative of the diversity that exists across the institution and who conduct research in the designated award categories.

The OVPRI will confirm that the selected recipients are members of good standing in their Faculty prior to notification.

## Application process

The following information must be submitted as part of the application:

- Statement of the category in which the application is to be considered and rationale for the category choice. The selection committee reserves the right to change the category of consideration.
- For a multidisciplinary audience, a two-page summary of the candidate's three most important publications, creative works and/or scholarly contributions. In the summary, include a complete citation of the publication, creative work and/or scholarly contribution, the applicant's role, and a brief description of the stature of the contribution in its field.

**DO NOT include copies of the publications, creative works and/or scholarly contributions with the nomination package.**

- A brief one-page statement describing the significance and potential impact of the candidate's scholarly work, immediate research plans, and **how the Killam Accelerator Award would make a difference in undertaking that research and broadening that impact.**
- A one-page statement of how the candidate's research program incorporates equity, diversity, inclusion, and/or Indigenous Initiatives in the discipline, university, and broader community. Statements should include information on how the candidate incorporates principles into their research, including (but not limited to) research team composition, research environment and culture, training and development, and research design/methodology. Candidates can refer to the [University of Alberta Strategic Plan for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity](#), the [Dimensions Charter](#), the [Scarborough Charter](#) and the [Indigenous Strategic Plan](#) for more information.

- One letter of support (maximum two pages) from an internal or external assessor that outlines why the applicant qualifies for the award, emphasizing their contributions to and impact on the discipline. Impact statements should include academic contributions, knowledge mobilization/knowledge transfer as well as their engagement with the community (through research focus/methodology, community outreach activities or others).
- One letter of support (maximum two pages) from an external assessor in the applicant's field. **Assessors should be experts with no close collegial or trainee link to the applicant from outside the University of Alberta.** Letters should address the applicant's suitability in terms of the criteria for the award and not be a reiteration of the candidate's CV. The letter should also include a brief biography of the assessor for the selection committee's information.

The University of Alberta will receive and maintain letters of support in confidence, except under limited and specific circumstances. Please request to have letters of support emailed directly to Leslie Parsad, Coordinator, Internal Research Awards and Funding, Office of the Vice-President (Research and Innovation) at [parsad@ualberta.ca](mailto:parsad@ualberta.ca).

- A current curriculum vitae

### **Deadline and submission**

The deadline for submissions is **4:30 p.m., December 13, 2024**. Please submit the application as a single PDF to Leslie Parsad at [parsad@ualberta.ca](mailto:parsad@ualberta.ca).

*Records from this competition will be managed in accordance with the Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.*