Key Dates

<table>
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<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Supervisor application deadline</td>
<td>February 1, 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student application deadline</td>
<td>March 8, 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anticipated notice of decision</td>
<td>April 6, 2023</td>
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Overview

**Social Accountability Mandate at the Faculty of Medicine**

Social Accountability is our commitment to meeting the priority health needs of those we are meant to serve. It reflects our promise to work with our community to share knowledge and resources in a mutually beneficial manner. We fulfill this commitment through the medical education of future health professionals, biomedical and health research, and community-oriented clinical service. We recognize that medical students who learn in and with communities are more likely to practice in ways that enhance the quality, equity, relevance, and effectiveness of care in response to patient, community and population needs upon graduation.

The Office of Social Accountability at the Faculty of Medicine offers a unique grants and awards program to medical students, trainees, residents, and fellows. The Ottawa Greater Engagement Towards Health Equity Research (TOGETHER) grants and awards program aims to provide learners the opportunity to conduct scholarly activities through meaningful stakeholder and community engagement.

**Summer Studentship Program: Social Accountability Priority Area**

The competitive Summer Studentship Award Program offered by the Research Office at the Faculty of Medicine provides adjudicated summer research positions for up to 54 first- and second-year medical students every year.

In 2023, eight summer studentships will be allocated to Social Accountability priority areas:
- Four to faculty members working in collaboration with community stakeholders, and
- Four directly to community stakeholders themselves.
Application Details

Social Accountability Funding Streams

*Stream 1: Faculty Initiated*
This stream follows the normal process for the Summer Studentship Program, where the faculty member initiates the project and covers $1,750 of the student stipend. Faculty members must clearly state the community or stakeholder group involved in the research project during the application process.

*Stream 2: Stakeholder Initiated*
In this stream, community stakeholders may apply for projects that will address their own research questions. The Office of Social Accountability will help support the project and cover the $1,750 faculty stipend. Faculty members with relationships with community stakeholders are invited to encourage their partners to apply. Participating community organizations in *Stream 2* are eligible to receive a research stipend of $500 to help off-set part of the cost of participation.

Application Assessment Criteria
Applications will be assessed on the following criteria:

A. **UGME Summer Studentship Assessment Criteria**

1. **Excellence of the research project**
   - Innovation, originality, and clarity
   - Feasibility
   - Rigorous methodological approach (conceptualization to analysis plan)
   - Impact
   - SBGA+ consideration

2. **Excellence of the training opportunity**
   - Developing skills and experience
   - Training plan
   - Fit with career goals

B. **Social Accountability Priority Area Criteria**

3. **Relevance of stakeholder group**
   Project proposals should clearly identify a stakeholder group and describe how the project will meet their priority needs. Stakeholders may include community organizations, policy makers, health administrators, health professionals or members of the public. For-profit organizations do not meet the stakeholder criteria. The stakeholder should have specific needs or questions that can be answered through the completion of a research or scholarly project.

4. **Stakeholder engagement process**
   Project proposals should describe how they will engage their stakeholder in their project. We encourage applicants to consider how stakeholders might be involved in as many stages of the
project as possible (i.e., research question, design, analysis, interpretation, knowledge dissemination). However, we recognize that projects may be at different phases of execution. Applicants should also identify how the stakeholder will benefit from the results of the research.

**Project Ideas**

Proposals may vary in how they address the relevance, equity, quality, and effectiveness of improving social accountability through research, education, quality improvement and clinical service activities. Project ideas may include the following:

- The collection, analysis or reporting of data relevant to a stakeholder priority health concerns
- A literature review or environmental scan related to social accountability in your program or research discipline
- Focus groups or key informant interviews to inform quality improvement initiatives
- Stakeholder/community-oriented outreach for dissemination of clinical or educational material
- Designing, implementing, or evaluating a social accountability education activity
- Enhancing the community involvement of your planned or in-progress research studies
- Engaging people with lived experience in the planning and/or implementation of project initiatives
- Creative or unique approaches to address community health concerns (e.g., through service delivery, engagement of community partners, role of community members, etc.)

**Adjudication process**

Adjudication for the Merit Indicators is established by the Research Office. In addition, applications made to the Social Accountability priority area will also be assessed against the criteria set out above by a review committee that includes community, faculty and student representatives. Supervisors and students will be notified of the committee’s decision by email. Upon receipt of the award notice, both student and supervisor must confirm they accept the award.

**How to Apply**

If the project is led by an eligible faculty member, you will apply using the [application link](#). If you are a stakeholder or community organization interested in applying, please contact Christine Mathew at [cmathew@uottawa.ca](mailto:cmathew@uottawa.ca) for more information.

**Contact**

Please contact Christine Mathew, Project Coordinator, at [cmathew@uottawa.ca](mailto:cmathew@uottawa.ca) with any questions.