Faculté de médecine
Bureau de la responsabilité sociale

Faculty of Medicine
Office of Social Accountability

uOttawa

## Social Impact Funding Program: UGME Summer Studentship Stream

## Key Dates

| Supervisor application deadline | January 31, 2024 |
|---|---|
| Student application deadline | March 4, 2024 |
| Anticipated notice of decision | April 5, 2024 |

## Program Overview

The Social Impact Funding Program supports research partnerships between the Faculty of Medicine and our community stakeholders. The program is designed for learners at the Faculty of Medicine who would like to increase the impact of their research project. The purpose is to strengthen a "bench to society" approach to research by extending the relevance, reach, and impact of our work.

### 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.

### 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 first- and second-year medical students every year.

## Application Details

### Social Accountability Funding Streams

*Stream 1: Faculty Initiated*

This stream follows the normal process for the Summer Studentship Program in which the faculty member initiates the project and covers $1,750 of the of the student stipend.

*Stream 2: Stakeholder Initiated*
In this stream, stakeholders initiate projects that will address their own research priorities. The Office of Social Accountability will help support the project and cover the $1,750 faculty stipend. Faculty members with relationships with stakeholders are invited to encourage their partners to apply. Participating stakeholders in this stream 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 Merit Indicators (assessed by Research Office)**

1. **Excellence of the research project**
   - Impact
   - Innovation
   - Feasibility
   - Methods
   - SBGA+ consideration

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

**B. Social Accountability Priority Area Criteria (assessed by Office of Social Accountability)**

Project proposals must:
1. Identify a specific stakeholder who will be engaged in the research project. Stakeholders may include community organizations and partners, policy makers at the regional, provincial, and national levels, health professionals, funding organizations, certification bodies, patient advocacy groups, or members of the public.
2. Describe how the project will address a priority need of this stakeholder group.
3. Describe how the applicants will engage their stakeholders 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). We recognize that projects may be at different phases of execution.
4. Identify how the stakeholder will benefit from the results of the research through knowledge mobilization.

Proposals in this stream will also be assessed based on the student applicant's description of how their intended career path or future plans are aligned with addressing community needs.

**Project Ideas**

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

- The collection, analysis or reporting of data a stakeholder relevant 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-oriented outreach for dissemination of clinical or educational material
- Designing, implementing, or evaluating a health professional education activity related to social accountability
- Enhancing the stakeholder 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

After merit scoring through the Research Office, applications to the Social Accountability priority area will be further assessed against the criteria above by a review committee that includes community, faculty, and student representatives.

## Contact

Please contact Christine Mathew, Program Manager, at cmathew@uottawa.ca with any questions.