

UPEI Mitacs Research Training Award

The UPEI Mitacs Research Training Award (RTA) program complements and broadens other graduate research programs and is intended to support graduate students without restriction to any academic discipline at UPEI. Projects must be designed and led by students. Priority will be given to students whose program and/or financial status has been negatively impacted by COVID-19.

The primary goals of the program are to:

- Enable students to develop connections/collaborations with faculty members/researchers
- Provide students with hands-on research and training experience
- Build students' research skills, project management skills and subject/ technical knowledge
- Increase awareness of potential educational and career pathways for students
- Identification of new research connections or directions, potential for further collaboration, or project continuation through other Mitacs programming

To be eligible, graduate student applicants must:

- not be an active participant in another Mitacs project,
- have completed at least 1 full semester in a thesis-based graduate degree program at UPEI by May 2020 in any UPEI Faculty, be registered in this program as of the deadline date for applications, and remain registered in the program for the duration of the award,
- not have completed more than 12 semesters (Masters) or 15 semesters (PhD) of full time study,
- be available to participate in a research project 12-16 weeks in duration, and projects must begin by August 31, 2020,
- propose a research project that will enhance their skills through an interaction with academic faculty at UPEI,
- submit a research proposal to UPEI and, once pre-approved as an UPEI nomination, the student's proposal will be submitted as an application to Mitacs,
- participate in other Mitacs research training activities as required, including (but not limited to) agreeing to participate in an exit survey at the end of the project,
- identify a primary supervisor who is a UPEI faculty member eligible to hold Tri-Council funding and who is willing to supervise the project and participate in Mitacs exit survey at the end of the project,
- be able to complete the entire project within the public health guidelines of UPEI,
- submit a final report to UPEI and Mitacs, and
- provide a final presentation to an audience including their supervisor, graduate students, and graduate coordinators

The supervisor must have a primary academic appointment at UPEI and be eligible for Tri-Council funding. The award of \$6000 must go to the graduate student and cannot be used to reduce any other personal supports for the student. The award will be considered by UPEI as a scholarship.

Application process

1. Go to the Faculty of Graduate Studies website (<https://www.upei.ca/graduate-studies/current-students/mitacs-summer-2020>), download and complete the Mitacs Application Template (graduate student) and Supervisor's Application Form (supervisor).

2. Students must attach a copy of all graduate and undergraduate transcripts (transcripts can be unofficial).
3. Students must attach a letter (maximum one page) describing how they have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, e.g., loss of stipend or TA-ship support, disruption to their program timeline or capacity to complete their degree, etc.
4. Submit all documents to the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (cgallant@upei.ca). These documents must be received by the deadline of **July 21, 2020 (4:00 pm)**. Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted.

Evaluation Process

Applications will be evaluated by an internal committee consisting of members of the Graduate Studies Advisory Committee. Projects will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

1. Quality of student research description (25%)
2. Skills enhancement (25%)
3. Interaction and deliverables (25%)
4. Impact of COVID-19 on the student's program completion &/or financial status (25%)