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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 and is valued at \$225,000 per project (\$75,000 per year for three years). 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 Killam Accelerator Research Awards will be awarded annually in each of the following categories:

1. Business, Education, Fine Arts, Humanities, Law, or Social Sciences
2. Sciences, Health Sciences, or Engineering

### **Eligibility**

The award is granted on a competitive basis to full-time early career faculty members within seven (7) years of having taken 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 who have taken leave (e.g. parental, illness, compassionate care, etc.)

### **Selection process**

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; to date and in the future.
3. Evidence of their commitment to the principles of [Access, Community, and Belonging](#) (ACB) in the research program.

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

The award is adjudicated by a committee chaired by the Vice-President (Research and Innovation) or delegate. The committee includes one or more 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. All adjudicators complete unconscious bias training.

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

## Grant Administration

The awards are funded from the Killam General Endowment. Eligible research expenses include 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. Ethics and environmental approval for the proposed research project, if required, must be in place prior to the release of any funding.

The award will be effective for a period of three years. Extensions will be granted only under exceptional circumstances (e.g., major illness or parental leave). If an extension is required, a request with a detailed explanation of the reason for extension, the length of extension needed, and an update on the current progress of the research activities should be sent to [parsad@ualberta.ca](mailto:parsad@ualberta.ca).

Each recipient is required to submit a one-page final report within three months of the research project end date describing how funds aided the recipient in carrying their research forward, increased their research output, and the broader academic and societal impacts of the research project. Reports should be sent to Leslie Parsad at [parsad@ualberta.ca](mailto:parsad@ualberta.ca).

## 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. For interdisciplinary researchers, please select the category that most closely aligns with your research focus and provide rationale for the category choice.
  - Business, education, fine arts, humanities, law, or social sciences
  - Sciences, health sciences, or engineering

Note: The selection committee reserves the right to change the category for consideration.

- One-page statement describing the candidate's scholarly work, immediate research plans, and **how the Killam Accelerator Award would make a difference in undertaking that research and increasing the reach and significance of their research impact**. Research impact is the demonstrable contribution of research processes and outputs to scholarship and society. See [Research Impact Definition](#) for more information.
- One-page statement of how the candidate's research program incorporates the principles of [Access, Community, and Belonging](#). Access ensures all have the opportunities to succeed and flourish, by dismantling barriers. Community emphasizes connection and shared purpose. Belonging creates an environment where individuals feel seen, valued, and supported. Principles of Access, Community, and Belonging can also strengthen research design (e.g., using Gender Based Analysis Plus) to identify and attend to disparities that your research could address.

- Two-page summary, for a multidisciplinary audience, of the candidate's three most important publications, creative works and/or scholarly contributions. In the summary, explain your choice of venues for the dissemination of research results. In addition to the more traditional peer-reviewed journals, you may also include books, chapters of books, articles, monographs, memoirs, special papers, reviews, conference/symposia proceedings and abstracts, patents, creative or artistic works, government publications, book reviews by the candidate or published reviews of their work, research reports, papers presented at scholarly meetings or conferences, and other forms of written scholarly expression, including participation in public discourse and debate, which constitute a contribution to research. **DO NOT include copies of the publications, creative works and/or scholarly contributions with the application package.**
- Letter of support (maximum 2 pages) from an academic or community referee that highlights the candidate's research impact. Research impact is the demonstrable contribution of research processes and outputs to scholarship and society. See [Research Impact Definition](#) for more information.
- Two-page letter of support 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).

- Traditional curriculum vitae (not narrative CV)

### **Deadline and submission**

The deadline for submissions is **4:30 p.m., December 12, 2025**. 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.*