



Feeding Kids, Nourishing Minds School-based Nutrition Research Initiative

School-based Nutrition Graduate and Fellowship Awards

Application Form

Date:

The *Feeding Kids, Nourishing Minds (FKNM) School-based Nutrition Research Initiative* is a four-year research project that aims to provide a comprehensive overview of school food programs in Canada and identify best practices in relation to the design, delivery, and measurement of school food programs. The **School-based Nutrition Graduate and Fellowship Awards** are available to support Masters – level, PhD student stipends, postdoctoral fellows and research staff.

The Joannah & Brian Lawson Centre for Child Nutrition, which is co-led by the University of Toronto’s Departments of Nutritional Sciences, Family and Community Medicine and Paediatrics, connects scholars, health practitioners, patients, and knowledge users to improve the nutrition of children in Canada and globally.

Eligibility and Requirements:

Graduate students can come from any University of Toronto department, including UTSC and UTM and the primary supervisor does not need to be a member of the Feeding Kids, Nourishing Minds steering committee. However, a recommendation from a steering committee member is required.

Due to the primary focus of the Feeding Kids, Nourishing Minds project, it is anticipated that trainees and research staff will be primarily from the Department of Nutritional Sciences. However, supervisors with trainees and staff in other departments are eligible to apply. A recommendation from a steering committee member is required to ensure that the supervisor’s and student’s expertise aligns well with the project. For a full list of steering committee members please email child.nutrition@utoronto.ca. Additional eligibility requirements pertaining to graduate students are identified below.

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR INFORMATION:	
Name:	Title:
Department/Division:	Status:
Email:	Phone Number:
Are you a FKNM Steering Committee member? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>If no, indicate which steering committee member (s) recommended?</i>	

<p>Proposed on-the-job supervision and Support to Student: <i>It is expected that the student will communicate and be guided by the FKNM core research team (Dr. Dan Sellen, Dr. Mavra Ahmed, Chelsea McPherson) and members of the steering committee.</i></p>		
<p>TRAINEE/STAFF INFORMATION: <i>Please indicate the student you wish to nominate.</i></p>		
<p>Student Name:</p>		<p>Student ID:</p>
<p>Program of Study:</p>	<p>Degree/Credential Level:</p>	<p>Domestic/International</p>
<p>Degree Start Date:</p>		<p>Degree End Date:</p>
<p>Research Project Start Date:</p>	<p>Research Project End Date:</p>	<p>Hours per week:</p>
<p>FUNDING STRUCTURE:</p>		
<p>Financial Support from FKNM (CAD):</p>	<p>Period of Support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 4 months <input type="checkbox"/> 6 months <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year <input type="checkbox"/> 2 year <input type="checkbox"/> 2+ year 	
<p>Budget: <i>Indicate how the funds will be used (i.e., student stipends, publication fees etc.)</i></p>		
<p>If applicable, list other funding support:</p>		

PROPOSED PROJECT

(~1/2 page)

Track 1: The FKNM nutrition research initiative will landscape, describe, and analyse school food programs in Canada in ways aimed at informing best practices, guidelines and future, solutions-oriented research. This will include determining any gaps in the policies and guidelines as related to equity indicators.

A sub-component of track 1 includes development of a dashboard that requires a qualitative assessment of indicator variables as relevant to knowledge users of school food programs and stakeholder analysis of implementing school food programs in Canada to inform best practice guidelines.

Track 2: The FKNM nutrition research initiative aims to learn of impact of COVID-19 pandemic on the delivery and resiliency of school food programs nationally and internationally and the lessons learnt from the impact of the pandemic with respect to the opportunities for leveraging school food programs for food insecure and marginalized households.

Track 3: The FKNM nutrition research initiative aims to identify high quality measurement tools and related gaps to conduct assessments of school food environments in Canada, with the goal to assess the school food environment with validated high-quality measurement tools and design and pilot test a national school feeding strategy. This will include tools to assess the physical (e.g., nutritional quality, availability of food items), economic (e.g., food procurement, prices), socio-cultural (e.g., food service providers, management, nutrition education/knowledge) and policy (e.g., guidelines, regulations) environment.

Track 4: The FKNM nutrition research initiative aims to develop; design and pilot test a school feeding strategy, considering equity indicators, in a select sample of schools in Ontario and nationally, on student's dietary intakes, school achievement, and health outcomes. The goal is to pilot test a school feeding strategy in a minimum of 5 schools.

Please briefly describe the proposed project and how it aligns with one or more of the FKNM research tracks.

Application Deadline:**Application Procedure:**

Please fill out the application form and submit via email to: child.nutrition@utoronto.ca

Application documents required:

- FKNM School-based Nutrition Graduate Award and Fellowship Application Form
- Nominated student resume and transcript

Eligibility Guidelines:

1. Principal Applicant must be a University of Toronto faculty and hold a SGS Graduate Faculty Membership: <https://facultyandstaff.sgs.utoronto.ca/gfm/faculty-members-a-z/>
2. Students must have successfully completed an undergraduate program or a Master's program.
3. Students must have an average of B+ (3.3 GPA) or higher from their degree.
4. University of Toronto students, including domestic and international students, may be nominated.
5. Students must be supervised by a Department's faculty member and an assigned steering committee member.
6. Principal Applicant can submit multiple applications and supervise more than one FKNM graduate student.
7. Steering committee supervisors can be named as primary supervisor for multiple applications of this Program.
8. Graduate students must adhere to criteria set by their program and other granting agencies. As per Department of Nutritional Sciences guidelines, students are to spend no more than 10 hours per week in employment outside their degree program. For more information: https://nutrisci.med.utoronto.ca/sites/default/files/GuidelinesonEmploymentOutsideDegreeProgram_2010.pdf

The University of Toronto is strongly committed to diversity within its community and especially welcomes applications from racialized persons / persons of colour, women, Indigenous / Aboriginal People of North America, persons with disabilities, LGBTQ persons, and others who may contribute to the further diversification of ideas.

Please direct any questions to child.nutrition@utoronto.ca.