

Canada Excellence Research Chair Posting – SickKids

Monday, June 9th

The Hospital for Sick Children invites applications for a full-time research leader to be Head of the Program in Cell & Systems Biology. The successful candidate will be appointed as a Senior Scientist in the Research Institute and is expected to qualify for an appointment at the Associate or Full Professor level (status only) in an appropriate department at the University of Toronto. The appointment will start, at the earliest, March 19, 2026 and no later than January 1, 2028.

The Cell & Systems Biology Program is one of seven highly productive flagship [research programs](#). The Program Head leads 30 independent investigators and approximately 200 graduate and postdoctoral trainees and staff. Research in this program has a strong focus on both discovery and translational research in multiple areas to advance precision medicine including cancer and infectious diseases. Visit our [site](#) to learn more about the Cell & Systems Biology Research Program. Broadly, researchers in the Program use cutting-edge methods in cell and molecular biology, biochemistry, and multimodal imaging, combined with proteomics, combinatorial chemistry, high through-put robotics and deep learning to examine cell physiology and metabolism, inter- and intracellular signaling, organelle function and connectivity, protein traffic, and cell death and inflammation. It is expected that a candidate will have already established an international reputation as a researcher in one of these areas.

Successful candidates, upon formally accepting the offer of a full-time position, may also be nominated for a [Canada Excellence Research Chair](#) (CERC) in Cell & Systems Biology. The Canada Excellence Research Chairs Program is intended to support world-class researchers and their teams in establishing ambitious research programs at Canadian institutions. Nominees to the Canada Excellence Research Chairs opportunity will be internationally leading researchers whose proposed research program aligns with one or more of the [Government of Canada's Science, Technology and Innovation priority areas](#). Canada Excellence Research Chairs are appointed for eight years, with award values of either \$1 million or \$500,000 per year; these two award values recognize the varying costs of research within different disciplines.

The Hospital for Sick Children requires that applicants have a PhD, MD or equivalent, and a demonstrated track record of increasing leadership experience in research. To practice as an MD, the successful candidate will have to obtain an appropriate Certificate of Registration from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario (license to practice), and appropriate Visa (if applicable), by the job start date. We seek candidates whose research and teaching interests complement and enhance our existing strengths <https://www.sickkids.ca/>. The successful candidate will be an internationally recognized research leader in Cell & Systems Biology whose accomplishments have made a major impact on the field and/or societal impact. Candidates will be expected to sustain and lead innovative research that will advance the global frontiers of knowledge in the field, and to maintain an outstanding, competitive, and externally funded research program, with a particular focus on the Canadian federal Tri-Agencies.

Candidates must provide evidence of research excellence, which can be demonstrated by a record of sustained high-impact contributions and publications in top-ranked and field relevant journals, the submitted research statement, presentations at significant conferences, distinguished awards and accolades, evidence of impact on the field and/or societal impact, and other noteworthy activities that

contribute to the visibility and prominence of the discipline, as well as strong endorsements from referees of high standing.

Candidates must also possess a strong demonstrated record of service to the research community (e.g., service on peer review committees, faculty recruitment committees, advisory committees) and a demonstrated record of attracting and mentoring a diverse group of students, trainees, and research personnel, and establishing an equitable and inclusive research environment. Nominees to the Canada Excellence Research Chairs Program will be expected to develop and implement a plan for establishing and maintaining a diverse team and an inclusive research and training environment.

Salary and rank will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

The Hospital for Sick Children recognizes the legitimate impact that leaves (e.g., parental leaves, slowdowns due to illness or disability, impacts of COVID-19) can have on a nominee's record of research achievement. These leaves will be taken into careful consideration during the review and assessment of application materials. The Cell & Systems Biology Research Program is in the state-of-the-art Peter Gilgan Centre for Research and Learning, located in the Discovery District in the heart of downtown Toronto. The Program leads 30 independent investigators and approximately 200 graduate and postdoctoral trainees and staff. The Program offers a unique environment for medical science discoveries with nine teaching and research hospitals and the University of Toronto, Canada's largest university, in proximity. SickKids is fully affiliated with the University of Toronto, and SickKids researchers benefit from the extensive research facilities of the University and other affiliated institutions.

Application Process

All qualified candidates are invited to apply online by clicking the link in this posting. Applicants must submit their Curriculum Vitae, detailed research plan, leadership experience and vision, and equity, diversity and inclusion statement) in PDF format. A separate process will follow to solicit reference letters, for qualified applicants. All application materials must be received by **Wednesday, July 9th**.

If you have any questions about this position, please contact the Faculty Office at faculty.office@sickkids.ca.

In order to meet the Canada Excellence Research Chairs Program timelines, The Hospital for Sick Children must select and confirm the nominee in advance of November 2025, register the candidate by January 21, 2026, and submit a full nomination package to the Program by March 18, 2026.

The Canada Excellence Research Chairs Program does not impose any restrictions regarding nationality or country of residence of the nominee. However, given the Program's focus on the attraction of outstanding researchers to Canada, The Hospital for Sick Children will prioritize the nomination of those candidates who currently hold an academic appointment outside of Canada.

Our Commitment to Diversity

SickKids is strongly committed to diversity within its community and especially welcomes applications from racialized persons, persons of colour, women, Indigenous/Aboriginal Peoples of North America, persons with disability, 2SLGBTQIA+persons, and others who may contribute to the further diversification of ideas. If requested, SickKids is proud to make available accommodations to support applicants with disabilities during the interview and assessment process. Informed by the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA), the Ontario Human Rights Code, and our Access and

Accommodation Policy, we will accommodate the needs of applicants. Please email faculty.office@sickkids.ca of your accessibility needs during the recruitment process. Information received relating to accommodation will be addressed confidentially. The Hospital for Sick Children also recognizes that scholars have varying career paths. Candidates are encouraged to explain any personal circumstances to allow for a fair assessment of their application. As part of the application process, you will be asked to complete a brief voluntary diversity survey. Any information directly related to you is confidential and cannot be accessed by either the search committee or human resources staff. Results will be aggregated for institutional planning purposes. The self-identification information is collected, used, disclosed, retained and disposed of in accordance with the Privacy Act and the Access to Information Act.

For further information on the Canada Excellence Research Chairs Program, including eligibility criteria, please consult the [Program website](#).