

CIHR-INMD-CASL Early Career Researcher Partnership Prize

Terms of reference

CASL, in partnership with the CIHR Institute of Nutrition, Metabolism and Diabetes (INMD), is pleased to announce that nominations are being accepted for the 2026 **Early Career Researcher Partnership Prize**, a new initiative undertaken by our organization and made possible thanks to support from CIHR INMD, as a part of CASL's commitment to fostering exceptional research relating to all aspects of the diagnosis, treatment and management of pediatric and adult liver disease in Canada.

OBJECTIVE AND SCOPE

The CIHR-INMD-CASL Early Career Researcher Partnership Prize ("the Prize") is designed to recognize exceptional young investigators with an interest specifically in some aspect of liver disease, and who are a member of the Canadian Association for the Study of the Liver.

CRITERIA

The Prize will recognize one (1) regular CASL member who meets the following criteria:

- is an early career researcher (ECR), as **defined** by the CIHR, i.e., who is less than five years from the date of their first research appointment (calculations of eligibility may be adjusted for parttime appointments and leaves of absence);
- Is a Canadian citizen or permanent resident;
- Holds an academic appointment in a Canadian university or affiliated institution; and
- Has a primary research interest in liver disease (including as a clinical investigator or basic scientist)

RECIPIENT RECOGNITION

In addition to a Certificate of Recognition, the successful recipient receives a prize of \$2,500 CDN.

Recipients will be recognized as part of the annual CASL Awards Ceremony, which takes place in conjunction with the Canadian Liver Meeting.

NOMINATION REQUIREMENTS AND PROCESS

- Nominations should include:
- The completed application form
 - A copy of the nominee's CV (CIHR Biosketch Common CV preferred)
 - A one-page (min. 10-point font) description of the nominee's research program and its potential to benefit the care of patients with liver disease in Canada; and
 - One (1) letter of support from an individual such as the nominee's department head, supervisor, mentor, or another individual who can comment on the nominee's research program and potential (2 pages max.)

Applications are **due on or before November 28, 2025**, and should be uploaded to the CASL website

The CASL Research Committee will review nominations and notify recipients regarding the results of the competition in late 2025.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The recipient will be chosen based on the following criteria:

- Previous research accomplishments (awards, publications, presentations)
- The strength of the reference letter
- The likelihood of their research program advancing the understanding of liver disease or ultimately contributing to improved patient management and care in Canada, as judged by:
 - Relevance to current and anticipated issues in liver disease research or management;
 - Potential to advance research, decrease disease burden or improve patient care; and
 - Overall novelty/innovativeness of the research program
- Details on eligibility criteria and application requirements are also available on the CASL website