

## Lawson Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Healthy Child Development (24/03/14)

### Application Process

- 1) Interested applicants will be directed to apply in writing to Michael Boyle. An application will include: the naming of a potential mentor/supervisor among faculty members at the Offord Centre; a letter of application, curriculum vitae, and three reference letters. The letter of application should detail: 1) a statement of research experience and interests; 2) learning objectives for the fellowship; 3) a discussion of 'fit' between the candidate and the Centre; 4) a statement of long-term career objectives and 5) past or current funding held.
- 2) Michael Boyle will review the application packages. A determination will be made at this stage as to whether the candidate is suitable for consideration. Unsuitable applicants will be informed, and thanked for their interest in writing.
- 3) Application packages will be forwarded to potential mentors. Mentors will decide if they are interested in supervising the candidate. If interested, mentors will carry out initial correspondence, discussions, interviews to determine the appropriateness of the candidate and adequacy of 'fit' with the Offord Centre and mentor's research program. If the candidate identifies more than one potential mentor, packages will be sent to all potential mentors who will be asked to co-ordinate their activities vis-à-vis the candidate.
- 4) Candidates successful at this first stage will be invited to give a 20-minute presentation at the Offord Centre. This will be an in-person presentation. If this is too expensive or impractical, we will use Skype. Three members of the Offord Cabinet will be asked to review the application packages and conduct a brief interview with the candidate, either in-person or by Skype.
- 5) Prospective mentors will be asked to provide a brief narrative to ensure that the resources and capacity are in place to 'take-on' the prospective candidate. This will include comments on the mentor's current operating grants and funding; plans to support the candidate's application to CIHR (or other funding body) for additional post-doctoral funds; and a statement about training objectives such as secondary data analysis studies, writing for publication; development of a grant application, etc. Prospective mentors who have not supervised post-doctoral fellows before or who do not have operating grants and funds that can be used to support the candidate are asked to identify a faculty colleague who can and is willing to provide this support.
- 6) Final decisions regarding candidates will be made by the cabinet following the presentations and interviews. Members who are absent may contribute by casting their vote, and providing feedback in advance of the meeting.

### Criteria for Selection

1. Fit between substantive area of interest, learning objectives and prospective Offord Centre mentor(s),
2. Strength and relevance of the person's academic background, training and experience and the mission/vision of the Offord Centre
3. Prospects in the first 12 months for obtaining year 2 fellowship funding from CIHR or other funding bodies.