

The Bellamy Manucha Rehabilitation Applied Education Research Fellowship

Rehabilitation practitioners are an under-represented and knowledge-rich community. Professionals across the Health Disciplines innovate in their rehabilitation practices daily, yet many do not have the protected time to study those innovations. Their experience with navigating long-term relationships, managing ambiguity in everyday practice, and adapting to variations in patients' goals and outcomes requires them to take nuanced approaches to provide excellent care. And that means they must learn how to learn, adapt, and reflect. Investing in Scholars in Rehabilitation sciences offers the health professions education field a unique opportunity to advance knowledge and skills.

Now in its third year, the Bellamy Manucha Rehabilitation Applied Education Research Fellowship is a new fellowship that offers funding, research mentorship, and professional development in applied education scholarship and research in rehabilitation.

The Bellamy Manucha Rehabilitation Applied Education Research Fellowship is a program of up to one year, offering funding of up to \$20,000, which can be allocated in any proportion between salary support and project support. During the fellowship, the Bellamy Manucha Fellow will complete an applied education project under the supervision of Dr. Ryan Brydges, Director of the Applied Education Research Operatives (AERO). The Fellow will also complete a bespoke curriculum in education, quality improvement, and applied education research. The Knowledge Centre at Providence provides the perfect backdrop for this exciting Fellowship program. The simulation lab and classrooms nurture an environment of collaboration and outside the box thinking. The Fellow will also have access to Unity Health Toronto's research infrastructure at the Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute, which offers professional development and networking opportunities.

The Bellamy Manucha Rehabilitation Applied Education Research Fellow will begin their project in January 2026 and base their applied education research project either at, or in close partnership with Providence Health as the central research hub. While external collaborators are permitted, the Fellowship Selection Committee requires that all data collection, data ownership, and data oversight activities occur at Unity Health Toronto. The primary focus of the project should remain centered on Providence and involve collaboration with Unity Health Toronto colleagues.

The Bellamy Manucha Rehabilitation Applied Education Research Fellowship funds can be divided differently between salary support (i.e., protected time) and project funding, depending on each applicant's unique personnel and budget needs (e.g., funding can be directed from your own salary support toward funding a research assistant to facilitate project feasibility).

Who is eligible to apply for the fellowship?

The Fellow can be a clinician and trainee from all healthcare professions, research employees (e.g., post-doctoral fellows), and other individuals involved in rehabilitation practice and education at Providence Healthcare.

Application Requirements

- Curriculum vitae / Academic resume
- Candidate Application & Statement of Interest Form (2 pages maximum, single-spaced, 12-point font)
- Letter of support from unit manager: This letter should detail the applicant's qualities and characteristics, as well as how the fellowship will contribute to their professional development. If the project involves leveraging resources, the unit manager must endorse the use of these resources in the letter.
- Letter of support from collaborator(s) (if applicable)
- Candidate declaration/manager declaration

You must submit your application to Ryan Brydges (ryan.brydges@utoronto.ca) and Judy Tran (judy.tran@unityhealth.to) before the deadline: **December 1, 2025**

Candidate Application & Statement of Interest Form

First Name:

Last Name:

Employee Status Full-Time / Part-Time / Casual
(circle/highlight one in each row): Permanent / Temporary

Profession/Job Title:

Unit/Program/Department:

E-mail Address:

Supervisor/Manager's First Name:

Supervisor/Manager's Last Name:

Hourly Rate / Annual Salary:

***Amount Requested for Salary
Support:**

***Amount Requested for Project
Support:**

**Please note: Total funding requested must not exceed \$20,000 and can be allocated in any proportion between salary and project support.*

Statement of Interest

In your 2-page document, please respond to the following questions. You can respond to them in whatever depth and sequence you feel best represents your prior knowledge and future goals relating to the Bellamy Manucha Rehabilitation Applied Education Research Fellowship.

- What clinical problem are you hoping to solve through your involvement in the Fellowship? What makes you care about the problem? What makes you curious about it?
- How would you hope to investigate the problem/curiosity further?
- Why are you interested in participating in the Bellamy Manucha Rehabilitation Applied Education Research Fellowship Program?
- What personal or professional goals will the Fellowship help you to achieve?

- How might the area that you aim to study potentially address concerns regarding one or more of: equity, diversity, inclusion, indigeneity, accessibility, and belonging?
- What prior experience or knowledge do you have relating to research or scholarly work (if applicable)?
- What are your strengths that will facilitate carrying out a project from the planning phase through to implementation?
- What are your future career goals? How do you plan to integrate research skills you acquire in your future career?

MANAGER REFERENCE AND APPROVAL FORM (2 pages)

Fellowship Candidates: Please ask your current manager to complete sections 1 and 2 below. Send an electronically signed copy as a part of your completed application.

MANAGER

Your completion of this form indicates that you have been directly involved in approving the application and acknowledge that it fits with the strategic priorities of your unit, program or department.

Please review the statements below. If you agree, please complete the signature section at the end of the form. Your signature indicates agreement to adjust schedules to enable the candidate to participate in the Fellowship program.

- I agree to meet with the candidate and their mentor regularly to support and provide feedback throughout the Fellowship program.
- I understand that _____ (*print candidate's name*) is applying for a Bellamy Manucha Rehabilitation Applied Education Research Fellowship, from **January 2026** to _____. I agree to release this employee for up to one business day per week, which will be part of her/his overall total worked hours and will not result in overtime hours.
- I agree to schedule staff to facilitate the candidate's participation in the Providence Rehabilitation Applied Education Research Fellowship program.
- I understand that replacement costs associated with release time for this individual will be reimbursed to my financial activity prior to the close of the current fiscal year. **My Activity Number is:** _____

Manager's Signature

Print Name

Date

Evaluation Criteria

A panel of researchers, leaders, and clinicians will contribute to the evaluation of all Providence Rehabilitation Applied Education Research Fellowship applications using the following criteria and scoring scheme:

1. **Capability—The candidate’s curiosity and expertise to succeed (35%):**
 - quality, quantity and significance of past experience and disseminated and/or creative outputs of the applicant and any co-applicants, relative to their roles in the project and to the stage of their career; and
 - quality and quantity of past contributions to the development, training and mentoring of students, highly qualified personnel, colleagues, and/or patients.
2. **Challenge—The aim and importance of the project (35%):**
 - clinical relevance of the stated problem;
 - originality, significance and expected contribution to knowledge;
 - potential for the project results to have influence and impact within and/or beyond the Providence Healthcare community.
3. **Feasibility—The plan to achieve excellence (15%):**
 - probability that the objectives will be met;
 - expertise of the applicant and any co-applicants in relation to the proposed research;
4. **Equity – will our selected candidate reflect engagement of diverse and under-represented groups in who they are and the proposed clinical problem they aim to solve (15%)**
 - Multi-faceted consideration of whether and how the project represents a diverse Rehabilitation professional and clinical setting, project collaborators, and diverse participant populations;
 - Does the proposed topic or the candidate's areas of interest include initiatives to support and actively engage diverse and underrepresented groups?