KILLAM ACCELERATOR RESEARCH AWARD
Terms of reference and application process

The Killam Accelerator Research Award was established in November 2018, funded from the generous Izaak Walton and Dorothy Killam bequest, to address the needs of an under-served group of researchers that merits targeted investment. The award is granted on a competitive basis to early career faculty members who are within six (6) years of having taken up their first tenure track appointment. The Killam Accelerator Research Award is for a three-year term based on the outstanding promise shown by the faculty member in their research output and the impact of their scholarly activity.

Beginning in 2019, up to two new Killam Accelerator Research Awards will be awarded annually, and the maximum number of Killam Accelerator Research Awards at any one time in the institution shall not exceed six. The awards are funded from the Killam General Endowment and have a value of $75,000 per year. These funds may be used for any justifiable research-related expenses (e.g., salary/benefits for research personnel, research travel, direct research expenses (e.g., lab expenses), small equipment, dissemination of research results, etc.). End date extensions will not be approved; any unspent funds at the end of the award must be returned to source.

The duties of Killam Accelerator Research Award recipients are no different from those that they regularly perform as faculty members.

Eligibility

Eligibility for this award extends to those researchers within the first 6 years of having taken up their first tenure track appointment (on or after December 15, 2017), and most successful nominees are in the latter part of that spectrum, having established themselves and their research trajectories.

The Office of the Vice-President (Research and Innovation) will consider extending the eligibility period for individuals whose academic careers have been interrupted (e.g., parental or maternity leave, etc.) on a case-by-case basis.

Two principal criteria for nominee assessment are:

1. Quality of the individual's research; **and**
2. Impact of their research on the advancement of the discipline; both to date and its future potential.
3. Impact of their commitment to Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion on other University Faculty, students, and the community-at-large

Teaching shall not constitute part of the evaluation except for graduate teaching and supervision relevant to the nominee's research.

Selection process

The Office of the Vice President (Research and Innovation) [OVPRI] will review the candidate pool. If the pool is not deemed to represent the diversity of the research community at the University of Alberta, the OVPRI may choose to seek additional nominations of excellent candidates from equity-deserving groups.

The award is adjudicated by a committee chaired by the Vice-President (Research and Innovation), or delegate. The committee includes the Associate Vice-Presidents (Research) and up to five members from the University's research community who are suitably representative of the diversity that exists across the institution.

Application process

Faculties should nominate candidates keeping in mind the equity, diversity and inclusion principles in the [University of Alberta Strategic Plan for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity](#), the [Dimensions Charter](#), the [Scarborough Charter](#) and the [Indigenous Strategic Plan](#).

Each Faculty is entitled to submit one nomination. The following information must be submitted, in order, as part of the nomination:

- Statement describing procedures followed in generating the nomination, including the EDI policies followed during selection.

- Statement why nominee qualifies for the award, emphasizing their contributions to and impact on the discipline. Impact statements should include academic contributions, knowledge mobilization/knowledge transfer as well as their engagement with the community (through research focus/methodology, community outreach activities or other).

- Letter of recommendation from the Dean.

- Summary, for a multidisciplinary audience, of the nominee's three most important publications, creative works and/or scholarly contributions. In the summary, include complete citation of the publication, creative work and/or scholarly contribution, and nominee's role. Please limit each summary to a maximum of one page (for a total of three pages maximum). **DO NOT include copies of the publications, creative works and/or scholarly contributions with the nomination package**.

- Brief one page statement by the nominee describing the significance and potential impact of his/her scholarly work and immediate research plans and **how the Killam Accelerator Award would make a difference in undertaking that research and broadening that impact**.

- Brief one page statement of how this nominee's research program contributes to equity, diversity or inclusion in the discipline, University or broader community

- A short biography of each external assessor for the selection committee's information

- Reference letters from two external assessors in the nominee's field. **Assessors should be experts outside the University of Alberta with no close collegial or trainee link to the nominee**. Letters should address the nominee's suitability in terms of the Award's criteria.

- Current curriculum vitae listing publication authorship, creative works and/or scholarly contributions as the authorship appears in print (i.e., for multiple-author publications, nominee's name shall appear in the correct sequence).

Deadline and submission

The deadline for nominations is **4:30 p.m., December 15, 2023.** Please submit the nomination as a single PDF to Leslie Parsad at parsad@ualberta.ca.

Records from this competition will be managed in accordance with the Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.