

## **SickKids Centre for Global Child Health Global Surgery Fellowship Call for Applicants – 2025/2026**

The Centre for Global Child Health (C-GCH) at The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids) — established in 2013 as the hub for global health activities at SickKids — has partnered with the Department of Surgery at the University of Toronto to launch the inaugural **SickKids Centre for Global Child Health Global Surgery Fellowship Training Program**.

**We are now accepting applications for the 2026 fellowship cohort.  
The deadline to apply is June 30, 2025 at 11:59 p.m. EDT.**

Despite growing recognition that surgical care is an integral component of health systems globally, marked disparities in access to safe, high-quality, and timely surgical care persist, particularly in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs).

### **Program Description**

This one to two-year Global Surgery Fellowship program will provide residents and fellows with the opportunity to develop leadership and scholarly skills in global surgical care, through research, capacity building, advocacy, knowledge translation, and policy development.

Salary support will be provided for the duration of the one to two-year appointment; however, successful applicants will be expected to apply to funding agencies leading up to their fellowship, and to seek out funding opportunities throughout the course of their fellowship in support of their scholarly work.

The fellowship program consists of two tracks:

**Track 1:** Individuals have completed medical school and are currently enrolled in and will have completed at least two years of a residency program in a surgical specialty by the start of the fellowship program.

**Track 2:** Individuals who are fully trained surgeons, and have completed five years of a residency program (or international equivalent) leading to successful Board/Fellowship certification or eligibility for certification in a surgical specialty by the start of the SickKids fellowship program.

### **Track 1 - Global Surgery Fellowship**

#### **Program Structure**

- Two-year duration
- Fellows will be expected to spend 100 per cent of their time leading research or capacity building projects related to global surgery. Scholarly project topics will be defined based on alignment between the candidate's interests and funded projects that are available within the

SickKids C-GCH or Department of Surgery. While fellows will primarily be based at the SickKids campus in Ontario, Canada, opportunities to travel to study sites, including in LMICs, as it relates to a fellow's scholarly project, will be encouraged.

- Fellows may pursue a master's degree at the University of Toronto (e.g., clinical epidemiology and health care research, health systems research, etc.) during the two-year fellowship; however, this is not a requirement. Applications to and financing of any master's degree program are distinct from this application process and are the sole responsibility of the candidate. You must begin your master's degree during the first year of the fellowship program to be considered eligible.
- Fellows will be expected to meet four times per year with a supervisory committee that will oversee and evaluate their scholarly progress, in addition to regular routine meetings with their primary mentor(s).

### Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for consideration in this program, fellows must:

- Be graduates of a recognized Canadian, US, or international medical school
- Have completed at least two years of a residency program in a surgical specialty by the time they begin the fellowship program
- Have shown significant interest in global health and global surgery specifically
- Have demonstrated scholarly skills within one of the following focus areas: research, capacity building, knowledge translation, advocacy or policy development

### How to apply

The following documents are required to apply for this fellowship program:

- Completed application form
- Current CV
- Copy of MD diploma (with translation into English, if necessary)
- Personal statement that highlights: 1) Your primary motivation for applying to this fellowship program; 2) What sets you apart from other applicants; 3) How you feel you will benefit from the program; and, 4) Your long-term career plans. (Maximum two pages)
- Three letters of recommendation addressed to the Global Surgery Fellowship Committee. One letter must be from the applicant's current Program Director

All documents, except reference letters, should be submitted by the applicant via email to [global.surgery@sickkids.ca](mailto:global.surgery@sickkids.ca) with a subject line reading "{First name} {Last name} – Global Surgery Fellowship". Referees should send their letters of recommendation directly to [global.surgery@sickkids.ca](mailto:global.surgery@sickkids.ca), with a subject line reading "Global Surgery Fellowship reference for {Applicant's First name} {Applicant's Last name}". **The deadline to apply is June 30, 2025 at 11:59 p.m. EDT.**

### Track 2 - Global Surgery Fellowship

#### Program Structure

- One to two-year duration
- Fellows will be expected to spend approximately 80 per cent of their time leading research or capacity building projects related to global surgery. Scholarly project topics will be defined based on alignment between the candidate's interests and funded projects that are available

within the SickKids C-GCH or the Department of Surgery. While fellows will primarily be based at the SickKids campus in Ontario, Canada, opportunities to travel to study sites, including in LMICs, as it relates to a fellow's scholarly project, will be encouraged.

- Fellows will be encouraged to spend approximately 20 per cent of their time engaged in a tailored program to build their core research or capacity building skills, clinical, policy or leadership experience. Clinical exposures may include observerships or dedicated clinical rotations. If candidates choose to practice medicine (beyond clinical observerships) during their fellowship training program, they must meet the requirements for independent licensure in Ontario, and it is their sole responsibility to obtain the necessary professional license (CPSO) and indemnity insurance (CMPA) to practice medicine in Ontario. The fellowship program will assist fellows in identifying clinical observership/placement opportunities but are unable to guarantee that these will be available.
- Fellows who choose to participate in a two-year fellowship program may pursue a master's degree at the University of Toronto during the fellowship; however, this is not a requirement. Applications and financing to any master's degree program are distinct from this application process and are the sole responsibility of the candidate. You must begin your master's degree during the first year of the fellowship program to be considered eligible.
- Fellows will be expected to meet four times per year with a supervisory committee that will oversee and evaluate their scholarly progress, in addition to regular routine meetings with their primary mentor(s).

### **Eligibility Criteria**

To be eligible for consideration in this program, fellows must:

- Be graduates of a recognized Canadian, US, or international medical school
- Be fully trained surgeons who have completed a residency program (or international equivalent) in a surgical specialty by the time they begin the fellowship program
- Have shown significant interest in global health and global surgery specifically
- Have demonstrated exceptional scholarly skills within one of the following focus areas: research, capacity building, or knowledge translation, advocacy and policy development

### **How to apply**

The following documents are required to apply for this fellowship program:

- Completed application form
- Current CV
- Copy of MD diploma (with translation into English, if necessary)
- Copy of Board/Fellowship certification or demonstration of eligibility (with translation into English if necessary)
- Personal statement that highlights: 1) Your primary motivation for applying to this fellowship program; 2) What sets you apart from other applicants; 3) How you feel you will benefit from the program; and, 4) Your long-term career plans. (Maximum two pages)
- Three confidential letters of recommendation addressed to the Global Surgery Fellowship Committee.

All documents, except reference letters, should be submitted by the applicant via email to [global.surgery@sickkids.ca](mailto:global.surgery@sickkids.ca) with a subject line reading "{First name} {Last name} – Global Surgery Fellowship". Referees should send their letters of recommendation directly to

global.surgery@sickkids.ca, with a subject line reading “Global Surgery Fellowship reference for {Applicant’s First name} {Applicant’s Last name}”. **The deadline to apply is June 30, 2025 at 11:59 p.m. EDT.**

Questions can be directed to the Global Surgery Fellowship Program Committee at:  
global.surgery@sickkids.ca.