



2025 NMD4C Basic Science Research Summer School Guidelines

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Overview

The NMD4C will be hosting its second basic science research summer school for neuromuscular research trainees over Wednesday May 7- Thursday May 8, 2025 at York University in Toronto, ON.

The annual NMD4C summer school will serve to provide lecture-based and hands-on training workshops to neuromuscular trainees in cutting-edge wet lab techniques, while providing an environment for trainees to present their research and network in-person with colleagues and senior investigators from across Canada. The second edition of the NMD4C summer school will be led by Dr. [Chris Perry](#), and will focus on two key themes over the two days: how to determine muscle stem cell fate decisions (led by Dr. [Anthony Scimè](#)) and force frequency analysis of muscle strength and fatigue (led by Dr. [Arthur Cheng](#)). The NMD4C basic science research summer school will be delivered in English.

Supporting preclinical trainees and scientists is a key focus of the network, and we are aiming to make this event as accessible as possible for trainees to attend from across Canada. There will be no registration fee, and support will be available for accommodation in Toronto and for travel.

York University Muscle Health Awareness Day

[Muscle Health Awareness Day](#) (MHAD) is an annual event hosted by the York University Muscle Health Research Centre. This event brings together muscle health researchers/trainees in a multitude of experimental paradigms and provides an opportunity for the presentation of their work. The 2025 event will take place on Friday May 9th, directly after the summer school and we encourage all summer school attendees to also attend MHAD!





Eligibility

Placements at the summer school are subject to a competitive application process. Successful applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- A [NMD4C member](#)
- Current full-time graduate student, postdoctoral research fellow, or other trainee* conducting neuromuscular disease-focused research at a Canadian institution**.

*Participation of other trainees will be based on placement availability; graduate students and postdoctoral fellows will be given preference.

**Placements may be restricted to one trainee per lab based on the number of applications received.

Accommodations and Travel Support

- **Accommodations:** We will provide accommodation for non-local attendees on the nights of Tuesday May 6th, Wednesday May 7th, and Thursday May 8th.
- **Travel:** We will provide financial support for all non-local attendees' travel to/from the summer school in Toronto.

Application

You may submit your application for the summer school by completing the application form available online at: <https://neuromuscularnetwork.ca/2025-basic-research-summer-school-application/>. Please complete the application in English as the summer school will be delivered in English.

Applicants will need to include the following in their application:

- **Contact information:** Applicants must include their name, email, institution, role, their supervisor(s) contact information, and neuromuscular disease(s) researched.
- **Research and Training Goals:** Applicants must provide a short paragraph describing why they would like to attend the summer school, how they anticipate this to benefit their training and career goals and how the training may be impactful for their home lab and research colleagues.
- **Flash Talks:** Attendees will give a 2-min flash talk at the beginning of summer school to introduce themselves and provide an overview of their research interests. Applicants must provide a short description of their research.
- **CV:** Maximum of 4 pages, PDF attachment. Please ensure your CV includes your education, research experience, professional affiliations and activities, publications, presentations and awards.
- **Accommodation and Travel Support:** For non-local applicants, applicants will need to indicate whether they would like university accommodation during the summer school, and if they would require travel support.
- **Supervisor Approval:** Applicants will require their supervisor's approval to attend the summer school. Supervisors must sign the following [approval form](#) to be uploaded during the application.
- **Biosafety Training:** To participate in the hands-on workshops, York University requires you to have completed biosafety training at your own institution and will require you to provide a copy biosafety training completion before the event.





Selection

- A maximum of 32 applicants will be chosen based on training and career goals, commitment to NMD research, and equity, diversity, inclusion, and indigeneity considerations.
- Priority will be given to graduate students and postdoctoral fellows.
- The number of participants attending per lab may be limited.

Deadline

- Competition Opens: December 3, 2024
- Application Deadline: January 17, 2025
- Anticipated Notice of Decision: early February 2025
- Program Dates: May 7-8, 2025

Contact

Please direct all questions to network manager Erin Beattie at ebeattie@cheo.on.ca.

