

Drug Policy Research 101: Student Training Program

Information Package

OVERVIEW OF THE ODPRN

The Ontario Drug Policy Research Network (ODPRN), established in 2008, aims to foster an innovative drug policy research program supported by a network of scientific thought leaders from across Ontario with the capacity to generate scientifically sound research for the purpose of informing drug policy decisions.

Please visit our website for more information about ODPRN and our research: <http://www.odprn.ca/>

OVERVIEW OF THE STUDENT TRAINING PROGRAM

The ODPRN Student Training Program aims to engage with students to develop capacity in drug policy research in Ontario. Trainees involved in this one-year collaborative program will work towards obtaining a drug policy training research certificate through the ODPRN. Through this program, trainees will have access to online training aimed at providing instruction around drug policy, patient-oriented research, methodological concepts and various knowledge translation strategies.

This program will also act as a networking opportunity for prospective drug policy trainees who will have a chance to liaise with scientific academic researchers and ministry representatives as well as present research findings from their projects to multidisciplinary audiences. Students who have completed the program will have continued access to all online resources and networking opportunities until the completion of their studies.

The main objectives of the program are:

1. To provide trainees with knowledge in drug policy research, pharmacoepidemiological methods, patient-oriented research and knowledge translation.
2. To establish a multidisciplinary environment that allows students to collaborate and network with individuals, including other trainees, academic researchers, clinicians, patients, and policy-makers.
3. To provide trainees with an understanding of real life policy decision-making processes.

PROGRAM COMPONENTS

Trainees involved in this program must successfully complete the following 3 pillars:

1. **Learning:** Complete all online drug training modules within first 6 months of the program
2. **Skill-building:** Attend at least 4 of the 6 bi-monthly webinars
3. **Networking:** Participate in the ODPRN networking event either in-person or via webinar where students will have the opportunity to deliver presentations on their own research.

For a detailed overview of the program outline including webinar presentation topics, information on the online drug policy modules and networking opportunities, see page 3.

APPLICATION TIMELINE	
Applications open	September 1, 2017
Applications close	November 1, 2017
Notice of final decision	December 1, 2017
Program start date	January 1, 2018
Program completion date	December 31, 2018

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. Must be enrolled in an Ontario post-graduate program (medicine, pharmacy, MSc, PhD, etc.) with strong interests in drug policy research.
2. Student engagement will be assessed throughout the course of year. Students who do not participate in the minimum number activities for each of the program components listed above will no longer be provided with continued access to available resources.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Please email the following documents to Racquel Jandoc (contact information below):

1. The completed and signed application form.
2. A detailed CV describing the following information: education, research experience, awards/scholarships, relevant presentations and publications.
3. A one-page statement of interest describing how research interests align with the ODPRN program.
4. Proof of academic enrollment.

Please submit applications and/or direct any questions to:

Racquel Jandoc, MSc
ODPRN Student Training Program Coordinator
Email: racquel.jandoc@ices.on.ca

PROGRAM OUTLINE

Learning Modules

Students will complete **all of the following** online modules **within the first 6 months** of the program:

1. Introduction **(mandatory before attending first webinar)**
2. What is a drug?
3. Life of a drug in Canada
4. Introduction to drug research
5. Patient-oriented research
6. Drug policy research case examples

Skill-Building Webinars

Students will attend **at least 4 of the following** bi-monthly webinars:

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| 1. | January | Introduction to the program and drug policy research (mandatory) |
| 2. | March | Methods I |
| 3. | May | Patient-oriented research |
| 4. | July | Methods II |
| 5. | September | Methods III |
| 6. | November | Careers in drug policy and pharmacoepidemiology |

Networking Opportunities

Students are provided the opportunity to attend the following networking events:

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| 1. | ODPRN Annual Retreat
(mandatory) | Students will present (either in-person or via webinar) in a 3-minute rapid fire session on their current studies to receive critical feedback from a panel of policy makers, clinicians, researchers, and the general public. |
| 2. | Drug Safety and Effectiveness
Cross-Disciplinary Training
(DSECT) Symposium (optional) | Opportunity to network with other students and leaders in the field of drug research.
<u>Note:</u> Registration fee not covered at this time. |
| 3. | TBD | Additional networking and/or mentorship opportunities may become available throughout the course of the year. |