

# 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 information 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. There is no cost to participate in this program and partial funding may be available to a select number of students to go towards 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 the first 6 months of the program.
2. **Skill-building:** Attend at least 4 of the 5 bi-monthly webinars.
3. **Networking:** Participate in the ODPRN networking event either in-person or via webinar where students will have the opportunity to liaise with a multidisciplinary audience and 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.

<b>APPLICATION TIMELINE</b>	
<b>Applications open</b>	September 10, 2018
<b>Applications close</b>	November 1, 2018
<b>Notice of final decision</b>	December 1, 2018
<b>Program start date</b>	January 1, 2019
<b>Program completion date</b>	December 31, 2019

### **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 the 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 Emma Hahn (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, indicating start date and expected end date.

**Please submit applications and/or direct any questions to:**

Emma Hahn, BA  
ODPRN Student Training Program Coordinator  
Email: [emma.hahn@ices.on.ca](mailto:emma.hahn@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:

- |              |                                                                         |
|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. January   | Introduction to the program and drug policy research <b>(mandatory)</b> |
| 2. March     | Methods I                                                               |
| 3. May       | Patient-oriented research                                               |
| 4. July      | Methods II                                                              |
| 5. September | Methods III                                                             |

### Networking Opportunities

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

- |                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. ODPRN In-Person Networking Event <b>(mandatory)</b>                                           | 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. Mentorship                                                                                    | Opportunity to network 1-on-1 with members of the ODPRN Stakeholder Advisory Panel.                                                                                                                                            |
| 3. Drug Safety and Effectiveness Cross-Disciplinary Training (DSECT) Symposium <b>(optional)</b> | Opportunity to network with other students and leaders in the field of drug research.<br><u>Note:</u> Registration fee not covered at this time.                                                                               |
| 4. TBD                                                                                           | Additional networking and/or mentorship opportunities may become available throughout the course of the year.                                                                                                                  |