



Invitation for supervising staff applications, due February 9

What is STAR-EM?

STAR-EM (Summer Training and Research in Emergency Medicine) is a funded summer training program for undergraduate medical students who are completing their 1st and 2nd year at the University of Toronto. The ten-week program runs from June 3rd to August 9th and seeks to cultivate future emergency medicine physicians and to support ongoing academic excellence within our department. Students participate in weekly half mornings that incorporate the STAR-EM curriculum (topics in research and EM academia), engage in project discussions, and work closely with a UHN EM faculty on a research project. Supervisors get a keen funded student dedicated full time to their academic project.

How to apply

Interested staff should submit a cv to konika.nirmalanathan@uhn.ca and complete the application form (<https://forms.gle/6cegdFzKEJBXEN7G8>) including a brief (<300 word) proposal and project timeline by February 17th. The proposal should outline the focused question to be addressed through the project this summer and the role of the medical student. The project should be largely achievable within the ten weeks of the STAR-EM curriculum. In compliance with current COVID-19 restrictions for students, the project should not require direct patient contact or attendance in the ED. Please note the deadline for CREMS submission is **February 9th, 2024**.

Role of the supervisors

- Provide close supervision to their student work with the student prior to the start of the program to ensure that any necessary REB/ QI permissions are obtained before June and to develop a clear plan for project work during the summer.
- With their student, obtain any necessary research ethics board/ quality improvement committee permissions and any electronic access required before the start of the program and develop a clear plan for project work
- Expected to attend live sessions on the following dates:
 - o April 16th 9:00am-11:00am: Project planning meeting (virtual)
 - o June 4th 9:30-12:00 pm: First STAR-EM meeting and introductions (in person)
 - o Aug 6th 9:30-12:00 pm: Final STAR-EM project presentations (in person)
 - o Student participants will have additional weekly education sessions which are optional for supervisors

Role of the students

- Full-time summer position, 10 weeks, current funding is \$5000 per student. Depending on COVID-19 restrictions, the program may need to be take place virtually
- Work closely with an EM physician supervisor, participating in a project that could lead to presentations and publication
- With their supervisor, obtain any necessary research ethics board/ quality improvement committee permissions and any electronic access required before the start of the summer and develop a clear plan for project work
- Complete the STAR-EM student agreement as well as UHN Research HR onboarding.
- Participate in weekly live education sessions about research, quality improvement, and emergency medicine, including the following (dates TBD for the remainder):
 - o June 4th 9:30-12:00 pm: First STAR-EM meeting and introductions
 - o Aug 6th 9:30-12:00 pm: Final STAR-EM project presentations

Eligibility

- Applicants must be a UHN ED physician with an academic appointment at U of T.
- Scholarly projects that would be suitable for peer-reviewed publication or presentation at a national academic meeting are eligible. In compliance with current COVID-19 restrictions for students, the project should not require direct patient contact or attendance in the ED.
- All staff applying to the STAR-EM program are expected to also submit an application to CREMS by **Feb 9th** for matching funds. For projects that do not have CREMS funding, project supervisors who receive a UHN ED manuscript publication award related to their STAR-EM project will be expected to commit \$500 from that award to STAR-EM to support the ongoing success of the program. (*Referencing STAR-EM in your CREMS application may create confusion; we suggest submitting your CREMS application as a stand-alone application. Please contact the program co-lead, Dr. Steven Friedman, if any questions*)
- CREMS application: <https://md.utoronto.ca/crems-summer-research-program>

Selection criteria

There is a limited number of STAR-EM opportunities available per year. The program leads will review all applications received by the February 9th deadline and select successful applications based on:

- Project feasibility: including likelihood of the student completing the project during the 10 week STAR-EM program
- Academic project lead experience and support: While new researchers are encouraged to apply, previous work, including other academic work and training will be considered. New researchers especially are encouraged to consider what additional supports they might seek out to support them in completing their project successfully
- Priority will be given to staff who have already identified a medical student participant, but unmatched applications will also be considered.
- Projects must not depend on outside funding decisions that will take place after the February 9th deadline.

Recent projects have included:

- *Intimate Partner Violence Screening Tools in the ED: A Systematic Review*
- *The impact of in situ simulation on quality improvement: a systematic review*
- *Developing the equity, diversity, advocacy, and cultural safety (EDACS) curriculum for cultural change in the emergency department*
- *Barrier enclosure use during aerosol-generating medical procedures: A scoping review*
- *The Impact of COVID-19 on a Large, Canadian Community Emergency Department*
- *Experiences of healthcare providers with a novel emergency response intubation team during COVID-19*
- *Effect of patient-led QI intervention on the delays of analgesia for adult emergency department patients with sickle cell pain crisis.*
- *Experience of Uninsured Patients in Toronto EDs, A Qualitative Study*
- *Experience of cancer patients transferred from PMH outpatient oncology clinics to the Emergency Department at TGH*
- *Non-legislative interventions to promote helmet use in adult cyclists: A scoping review.*
- *Artificial intelligence in the emergency department: a scoping review*

Dr. Jennifer Bryan, Co-Director STAR-EM

Dr. Steven Friedman, Co-Director STAR-EM