

**NSERC CREATE in Engineering Health Equity
Supervisor's Acknowledgement Form**

Applicant's Name:	
Supervisor's Name(s):	
<p>The mission of the Engineering Health Equity (EHE) training program is to establish and sustain a continuously evolving learning environment in which faculty mentors, trainees, and external partners collaboratively develop a coherent, functional understanding of the criteria, methodologies, and outcomes that define frugal biomedical innovation and put that understanding into practice. The program will be implemented through a system of five interlocking communities of practice (CoPs), an annual retreat, and a field research placement in a low-resource setting for each graduate student. The topics of the CoPs are: (1) Application of frugal innovation principles to medical devices; (2) Appropriate and effective implementation of open-source hardware; (3) Enablers and barriers to diffusion of frugal medical technologies; (4) Contemporary issues in remote and global health; and (5) EDID considerations in frugal biomedical innovation.</p> <p>All components of the EHE program (<i>i.e.</i>, the communities of practice, annual retreat, and field research placement) are mandatory for all funded graduate trainees. We are accountable to NSERC to deliver the program structure proposed in our CREATE application.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduate students will typically participate in two CoPs per term throughout their enrollment in the program. Students will rotate through the five CoPs according to a schedule coordinated by the program and then will have some freedom (constrained by program policies) to focus on the CoPs that most interest them during later terms. Supervisors should expect a pair of CoPs to require a student to attend four to six hours of meetings per month and to complete readings and reflections outside of meeting times as preparatory activities and formative assessments. • The annual retreat will take place over two to three days during each summer term and will include keynote presentations, poster and three-minute thesis competitions for the trainees, and educational workshops addressing EHE themes for all attendees. • A student's field research placement will last a minimum of eight weeks, will be hosted by an external partner, and will contribute to their thesis research. Therefore, it will be necessary very early in the student's training to plan for their project to lead to a field research deliverable. Funding for students' travel and living expenses during field research is included in the EHE program budget. The Frugal Biomedical Innovations and EHE programs can assist with identifying a partner for a project if needed. <p>Supervisors are expected to be active participants and contributors to EHE's continuously evolving learning environment. These expectations include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation, to the extent your other commitments permit, in one or more CoPs. Please consider volunteering to assist with organizing and leading some CoP meetings. • Serving on the program operation or trainee selection committee for one or more years of the program. • Attendance at the EHE annual retreat. • Encouraging your trainee's full participation in EHE program activities and mentoring them on incorporating the EHE program themes into their thesis research. <p>I acknowledge that I have read and agree to the above expectations regarding my trainee's and my participation in the Engineering Health Equity program. <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
Supervisor's Signature(s):	
Date:	

**NSERC CREATE in Engineering Health Equity
Application for 2024-25 Graduate Fellowship**

Applicant's name:	
Western e-mail:	
Graduate degree and program:	
Supervisor(s):	
First term of graduate studies:	
Research discipline:	<input type="checkbox"/> Natural sciences or engineering <input type="checkbox"/> Health, social sciences, or humanities
Project title:	
Research Proposal (Maximum 3,500 characters including spaces) Note: Applicants are strongly encouraged to organize their proposal using appropriate section headings such as "Background and Motivation", "Objectives", "Methods", and Expected Outcomes/Impact".	
Describe the low-resource setting for your project, including some characteristics of that setting that will be accounted for in the technology design and/or research protocol. If your project already has one or more external partners, identify the partner(s). (Maximum 1,500 characters including spaces)	
What is the current state of development of your project's frugal biomedical innovation? If possible, assess its status according to the Technology Readiness Level definitions. (Maximum 1,000 characters including spaces)	