



# FishCAST Graduate Trainee Application

The FishCAST Program supports interdisciplinary natural- and social scientists that hope to address biodiversity loss and food security issues in freshwater fisheries, fish culture, and fish conservation.

FishCAST is not a degree-granting program and there is no minimum amount of funding guaranteed. FishCAST Trainee Expectations are listed on page 2 of this application. Be sure to review them and carefully consider whether you are willing and able to complete the mandatory training and professional development opportunities that FishCAST offers.

Applicants interested in the FishCAST program must also apply for entrance or have already been accepted into a graduate program at one of our participating universities with a FishCAST supervisor. Please speak with your current or prospective FishCAST supervisor about the fellowship program and funding before applying.

Participating universities include University of Windsor, Western University, Carleton University, University of Waterloo, Université du Québec à Rimouski, University of Manitoba, and University of Toronto.

The Program Coordinator, Kendra Thompson-Kumar, can answer any questions about the FishCAST program at [fishcast@uwindsor.ca](mailto:fishcast@uwindsor.ca)

Trainee Name (Last, First):			
Trainee Email Address:			
Research Proposal Title:			
Supervisor(s) Name(s):			
Host University:			
University and FishCAST Program Enrolment:		Program of Study (Env. Science, Bio):	
<input type="checkbox"/> Canadian Citizen <input type="checkbox"/> Permanent Resident	<input type="checkbox"/> Student Visa <input type="checkbox"/> Study Permit	<input type="checkbox"/> Master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD Other (specify):	<input type="checkbox"/> Country of Citizenship (if other than Canada): <input type="checkbox"/> NSE <input type="checkbox"/> Non-NSE
Current Semester in Program:		Time Left in Program:	
Mentored Career Stream (see below):			
Supported FishCAST Research Theme(s) (see below):			
Confirmed Internship (Collaborator Name, Organization, Location):			
Proposed Start Date or Semester:			

FishCAST Research Themes
Theme I: Ecosystems/Habitat Assessment
Theme II: Fisheries Ecology/Exploitation
Theme III: Fish Health & Fitness
Theme IV: Fish Culture

FishCAST Mentored Career Streams
I: Applied Research (e.g., Industry)
II: Policy/Applied Research (e.g., NGO, Government, Industry)
III: Pure Research

We acknowledge the support of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC).

Nous remercions le Conseil de recherches en sciences naturelles et en génie du Canada (CRSNG) de son soutien.



Natural Sciences and Engineering  
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en sciences  
naturelles et en génie du Canada





## Program Expectations for FishCAST Trainees

As part of the FishCAST Program offered through the University of Windsor, HQP are expected to fulfill program requirements in addition to their university requirements. These mandatory program requirements are meant to be seen as advantages to Trainees becoming job ready and should be taken advantage of at every opportunity.

<b>FishCAST Internships</b>			
<b>Internships required for MSc &amp; PhD</b>	MSc	PhD	Undergrad/Post Doc
	ONE 8-week internship	TWO 8-week internships	Voluntary
<b>Internship Requirements:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Internship Partner must be FishCAST approved.</li> <li>2) Duration and location of internships are flexible; meaning that not all 8 weeks need be at the same location, and virtual internships may be possible.</li> <li>3) Trainees must inform Program Coordinator (Kendra) when they start AND when they finish their internship.</li> <li>4) Keep your Supervisor and the Program Coordinator notified of any changes/conflicts/positive stories regarding your internship.</li> <li>5) Partners &amp; Trainees must BOTH complete Internship evaluations and send to fishcast@uwindsor.ca</li> </ol>			
<b>Professional Conduct during Internship Requirement:</b> Full Code of Conduct can be found here. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) It is expected that Trainees will conduct themselves in a professional manner and as ambassadors of FishCAST and their Host University.</li> <li>2) Keep emails, introductions, and messages formal and respectful</li> <li>3) Remember to be punctual to all appointments, including virtual meetings (these also take preparation and planning)</li> <li>4) If conflicts do arise, please bring them to the attention of your Internship Supervisor, your Academic Supervisor, or FishCAST administration.</li> </ol>			
<b>FishCAST Seminar Series</b>			
FishCAST hosts virtual seminars in the Fall and Spring of each year. Dates and times will vary, but usually September-November and March-June. The day of the week and time will remain consistent for each semester. Seminar structure will also remain consistent with a 30-minute lecture followed by a short audience Q&A. Trainees only will then meet with the presenter for a more detailed discussion. You are expected to attend when possible or to complete follow-up questions based on the recording that will be posted to the FishCAST YouTube channel.			
<b>Micro Credentials</b>			
The FishCAST Micro Credentials components are meant to provide Trainees well-rounded exposure to the various aspects of working in and managing Fisheries. Four Micro Credential offerings are mandatory for all Trainees. However, one offering from each Component is required to earn the full FishCAST Micro Credential.			
<b>Micro Credential Components</b>			
How to Prepare for Fisheries Research	How to Plan and Analyze Fisheries Research	How to Apply and Share Fisheries Research	How to Use Field Methods in Fisheries Research
<b>Professional Conduct through Micro Credential Process:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Only register for badges/offerings that you plan on attending; each offering is tailored to FishCAST Trainees and takes a good deal of preparation.</li> <li>2) Email the Badge Administrator or Program Coordinator if you are unable to attend.</li> </ol>			
<b>Other Requirements</b>			
Annual Conferences / Annual General Meetings Attendance is mandatory	Annual JEDI Workshops Participation is mandatory	Outreach Project Participation in one is mandatory	



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## **Additional Required Application Materials**

\*Applicants evaluated based on the clarity, thoroughness, and merit of the criteria listed below for each Statement.

\*Also Include References (for any works cited in the text)

### Confirmation of Internship

Applicants can upload a Confirmation of Internship Form from the FishCAST website Apply Now page that can be given to their Internship Provider. Alternatively, the applicant may obtain a letter describing the nature of their internship from their intended Internship partner.

This description in the letter should include:

- 1) the nature of the work
- 2) hours of work
- 3) location of work
- 4) alignment of the internship with the proposed research and/or career pathway of the trainee
- 5) additional value-added experience the trainee will experience during their internship.

### Personal Research Statement

**1 page/500 words for Graduate students and PDFs**

In this statement applicants must describe

- 1) their research question and approach
- 2) how their research question aligns with their indicated research stream
- 3) how their research question aligns with their identified career pathway(s)
- 4) how they will achieve societal impact through their research and FishCAST.

*Remember the 'FISH' in FishCAST! Your Personal Research Statement must highlight how your research impacts fish, fish health, and/or fish conservation.*

### **Career Pathways Statement (length 0.5 page/250 words)**

In this statement applicants should identify

- 1) their intended/desired career pathway(s) at this time,
- 2) their potential transferable skills,
- 3) their community and stakeholder partnerships (places you've volunteered/interned/worked), and
- 4) their direction for potential growth, including any supports and/or training that FishCAST can offer.

This statement is intended to highlight applicants' desired training, to identify any barriers/enablers to the applicant's future success. This information will help the REMEDIC Committee and FishCAST Admin to gear training and micro credentials toward each cohort of students.

### **JEDI Statement (length 0.5 page/250 words)**

In this statement applicants will demonstrate their awareness of JEDI (Justice, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion) dimensions and can share self-reflection. However, we do not wish you to disclose any personal or sensitive information. The JEDI Statement gives the applicant the opportunity to discuss:

- 1) their current awareness of JEDI issues,
- 2) where they are on their own individual journey and development, including any training they would like to see offered, and
- 3) how they see JEDI issues intersecting with their own professional and personal development in FishCAST and beyond.

The JEDI Statement is intended to understand the lived experience of the applicant and the mentorship they may need throughout the FishCAST program.