

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

Clinical Fellow Funding & Income Support Guidelines

Preamble

The Postgraduate Medical Education (PGME) office at McMaster University facilitates the education appointments for Clinical Fellowships. All Clinical Fellows must have a funding source and income support throughout the term of the appointment.

The purpose of these guidelines is to safeguard the McMaster learner by stipulating a minimal annual income. PGME supports a variety of funding models while maintaining a fair and equitable working environment.

General Guidelines

1. The Postgraduate Medical Education Committee has approved that Clinical Fellows must receive a minimum annual income of \$60,000 CAD (does not include benefits). These guidelines do not apply to externally sponsored gulf state learners and those who are admitted through McMaster's International Outreach program (IOP).
2. Clinical Fellowship programs are responsible to ensure funding is secured. PGME will not approve fellowship appointments at McMaster University if there is no funding source.
3. Acceptable sources of funding can include but are not limited to:
 - i. Professional Organizations
 - ii. Charitable Organizations
 - iii. Departmental
 - iv. Home Hospital
 - v. Home University
 - vi. Scholarship Awards
 - vii. Pharmaceutical Grants
 - viii. Government Organizations
 - ix. Self-funding (refer to Self-Funding Guidelines)

Self-Funding Guidelines

1. Clinical Fellows with an independent practice license can self-bill within the scope of their practice through OHIP billing providing:
 - i. Funding model is built into the fellowship curriculum of the fellowship program
 - ii. Fellowship is educationally driven with goals & objectives
 - iii. Clearly defined goals & objectives are agreed upon by both the program and the Clinical Fellow
 - iv. There is an established method of formal assessment (i.e., every 3-months, every-6-months, etc.)
 - v. Clinical Fellows cannot be the most responsible physician (MRP) for the patient population seen for the purposes of the fellowship.
2. Clinical Fellows cannot be privately funded (i.e., income from their own personal savings, spouse, or family member).

Funding Guidelines Review

Self-Funding Guidelines will be reviewed biennial by the Clinical Fellowship Committee, PGME and recommended changes if applicable must be forwarded to the Postgraduate Medical Education Committee for review and approval.

Amendment to General Guidelines & Minimal Annual Salary

Pre-existing offers specifying a minimal annual salary of \$50K will be excluded from the above General Guideline, Section 1 until the end date of the individual agreements.