Geoff Carr Lupus Fellowship

2027 / 2028

Members of Lupus Ontario established a Fellowship in memory of their colleague, the late Geoff Carr. The annual Fellowship is designed to provide advanced training to a rheumatologist specializing in lupus at an Ontario Lupus Clinic. The Lupus Fellow will follow patients at an accredited lupus clinic, supervise patient care and education, and become involved in clinical research. The stipend attached to the Geoff Carr Lupus Fellowship will be $75,000 CAD for one year. Candidates must arrange their own place of training at an accredited Lupus Clinic in Ontario.

The successful candidate will likely have completed their core training in Internal Medicine or Pediatrics and have completed a minimum of two years in rheumatology.

Applications for the academic year 2027 / 2028 must reach Lupus Ontario no later than **5 PM on December 1, 2026.**

General

- This research opportunity is enabled by the support of Arthritis Society Canada by reviewing the competition documents, establishing a peer review panel and adjudicating the applicants. Awards are made on the recommendation of Arthritis Society Canada's review panel. Lupus Ontario reserves the right to approve or decline awards without stating its reasons.

- Geoff Carr Lupus Fellowships are awarded for a period of 12 months only. These awards are not renewable, but a previous Fellowship awardee may re-apply once after one year.

- Tenure of this Fellowship will normally commence on July 2, but Lupus Ontario may, on request, authorize a different date of commencement.

- Awardees are expected to devote themselves for a period of 12 consecutive months wholly to the objectives of the Fellowship: (a) for half their time they will assess and follow patients with SLE in an accredited lupus clinic, participate in patient education, as well as physician education, and (b) for the other half of their time they will be involved in clinical research.

- During that time, awardees are not permitted to receive remuneration or any other work or hold a second major scholarship, except that, with the approval of their

supervisors, they may engage in and accept remuneration for such departmental activities that are conducive to their development as clinicians, teachers or investigators. If the Fellowship is held for less than 12 months, Lupus Ontario should be notified. A pro-rated reduction in the stipend will be made.

Eligibility

1. Candidates for a Geoff Carr Lupus Fellowship will have completed their core training in Internal or Pediatric medicine, and at least two years of rheumatology.

2. This award is open to both Canadian and international applicants. Preference will be given to candidates willing to stay and practice in Ontario or Canada.

3. Awards can only be held at accredited Lupus Clinics as defined by Lupus Ontario criteria:
   - availability of at least 100 patients, associated with an Arthritis or Rheumatology Centre at an Ontario medical school,
   - available data accumulation - retrieval system to follow patients,
   - appropriate academic and administrative personnel, and
   - designated clinical area and access to laboratory and in-patient facilities.

4. The following are accredited Lupus Clinics (as of October 2026):
   - The Ottawa Hospital: Arthritis Centre, Lupus Clinic in Ottawa, Ontario
   - The Hospital for Sick Children: Division of Rheumatology, Lupus Clinic in Toronto, Ontario
   - Sinai Health: Rebecca MacDonald Centre for Arthritis and Autoimmune Disease, Young Adults SLE Clinic in Toronto, Ontario
   - Hamilton Health Sciences: McMaster University Medical Centre – Boris Lupus Clinic in Hamilton, Ontario
   - University Health Network/Schroeder Arthritis Institute: Toronto Western Hospital, Department of Rheumatology, Lupus Clinic in Toronto, Ontario
   - Rheumatology Centre: St. Joseph's Health Care Centre, Lupus Clinic in London, Ontario

Stipends

1. The stipend attached to the Geoff Carr Lupus Fellowship is $75,000 CAD for one year. It will be paid directly to the Fellow by Lupus Ontario. Alternatively, if benefit issues arise then Lupus Ontario will pay the hospital hosting the GCF and they will pay the Fellow.

2. Awardees may be subject to personal income tax in Canada or in accordance with the applicable law of their country of origin. Fellows are responsible for reporting the stipend on their income tax filings.

3. Fellows are considered Post Graduate Trainees, and not employees of Lupus Ontario. Their status with respect to hospital insurance and other social security measures is that of a Fellow. Fellows are advised to ascertain and take advantage of the medical and other insurance benefits for which they may be eligible at the institution of tenure.

4. Geoff Carr Lupus Fellows will receive their payments monthly directly from Lupus Ontario or through the hospital administrator.

Travel to Meetings

Geoff Carr Lupus Fellows will be eligible for a travel allowance up to $1,000 CAD to meet their out-of-pocket expenses to attend one or more professional or scientific meetings where the Fellow is presenting the results of their research. In order to be reimbursed, the Fellow will submit a Lupus Ontario Expense Form countersigned by their supervisor. The expense form can be requested from the Lupus Ontario office (905-415-1099 or 1-877-415-1099 or email admin@lupusontario.org.)

Immigration and Licensure

1. Geoff Carr Lupus Fellows engaged in clinical activities who are not licensed to practice medicine within the jurisdiction in which their Fellowships are held, will need a work-study visa to enter Canada. This will require the assistance of the Canadian supervisor and the help of the supervisor's Dean's office. To obtain an educational license in Ontario, a work-study visa from Immigration Canada is needed.

2. Ordinarily, an awardee who is not a graduate of a North American medical school must take the Medical Council of Canada Evaluating Examination to obtain the Medical Council of Canada certificate before an educational license can be issued. Medical Council of Canada Evaluating Examination is the Canadian equivalent of the ECFMG examination and certification. Examinations in our two official languages are held twice a year in Canada and various parts of the world. For more information visit the Medical Council of Canada https://mcc.ca/examinations.

3. Once the Medical Council of Canada certificate has been obtained, then the

awardee's Canadian supervisor, with the help of the Dean's office, should apply to the Ontario licensing authority for an educational license by contacting The Registrar, College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario https://www.cpso.on.ca/Physicians/Registration/Apply-for-Registration. If the awardee already holds a faculty position and/or has a faculty position to return to, then on the recommendation of the Dean of the host medical school and the approval of the Ontario licensing body, an 'Exchange Visitor' educational license or 'Courtesy Registration' may be issued without the awardee having to take the evaluating examination of the Medical Council of Canada. The awardee's supervisor should consult the licensing body to see if the awardee might qualify for this type of educational license.

4. Once the Provincial Ministry of Health has authorized a work permit for the Geoff Carr Lupus Fellow, Canada Immigration will send an enabling certificate to the awardee for presentation to Canada Immigration in his/her home country. This enabling certificate allows a work-study visa to be issued to the awardee by Immigration Canada at the Canadian Embassy or Consulate in his/her home country. In most provinces, a work-study visa is a prerequisite for an educational license.

Applications

1. Applications for the Geoff Carr Lupus Fellowship must be submitted on the application form attached to the website **no later than 5 PM on December 1, 2026. Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted.**

   Lupus Ontario has a virtual office. The original application (and all supporting documents) should be sent by email:

   Lisa Bilodeau
   President, Lupus Ontario
   Email: lbilodeau@lupusontario.org

   Candidates are advised to retain a copy of their application for their own records. If the application is mailed, then along with the mailing of the application and documents an electronic copy should be emailed to the email addresses noted above.

2. Together with the application form, the applicants must provide:
   - letters of recommendation (**emailed directly** to lbilodeau@lupusontaro.org) from three references, one of whom should be the current or most recent

supervisor; it will be to the candidate's advantage if one or more of these references are academic rheumatologists or medical educators,
- a letter of acceptance from their proposed supervisor(s) at the institution at which the candidate has arranged the training,
- a list of papers published, as well as where, when and with whom. A link to the publication if available.
- an outline of the proposed research and training program to be undertaken by the applicant,
- a certified transcript of the undergraduate record, if available, and
- a current CV.

Reports and Publications

On completion of the Geoff Carr Lupus Fellowship training year, awardees must submit a report no later than February 1st of the following year to Lupus Ontario covering the educational, clinical and research activities during the Fellowship year.

In addition, awardees may be requested to speak to the lupus community at a meeting, webinar or conference, or to submit an article geared to the lay person for the Lupus Ontario newsletter or website.

For more information

Should you require any additional information on the adjudication process, please contact: Arthritis Society, Research by email: research@arthritis.ca.

For all other inquiries please contact:
Lupus Ontario at (905)-415-1099 or 1-877-240-1099 or by email to admin@lupusontario.org.