

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING TECHNOLOGIST BURSARY PROGRAM

Program Overview

The Magnetic Resonance Imaging Technologist (MRI Tech) Bursary Program is designed increase the number of MRI Tech graduates in BC in an accelerated timeframe. The Ministry of Health (the Ministry) has made funding available to support current BCIT MRI Tech students who are also BC health authority employees to finish up to the final two theory courses and the clinical component of their program, for BCIT terms beginning in April, 2022.

The program will be available to all BCIT students who meet the application criteria through the academic term ending in December 2024, or until Ministry funding runs out (which ever comes first). Current BCIT students with more than two theory courses remaining are encouraged to continue with the MRI Tech program so that they may take advantage of the bursary program during this period.

Application Criteria

Applicants must meet the following criteria to be eligible for funding:

- Current student enrolled and in good standing in the BCIT MRI Tech program;
- Current BC health authority employee with an average of 0.5 FTE hours or greater over the past six months;
- Having completed a minimum of the first four theory courses of the BCIT program (with either two, one, or only the clinical component remaining);
- Willing, able, and employer approved to take a leave of absence (stipend provided to cover a portion of lost wages) from their current health authority position in order to complete the program – a timeframe of one or two academic terms, based on courses remaining;
- Willing and able to take a clinical placement at one of three health authority MRI placement sites (three preferred sites identified by the applicant).

Commitment Timeframes and Funding Details

Successful applicants will be eligible for the following funding and must commit to the following leave of absence/completion timeframes:

Courses Remaining	Leave of Absence Required	Funding Provided	Commitment Details
2 Courses + Clinical Term	2 consecutive terms	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tuition costs• Stipend for 2 terms• Exam fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 full-time theory term (2 courses)• 1 full-time clinical term (consecutive with theory term)
1 Course + Clinical Term	1 term	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tuition costs• Stipend for 1 term* (clinical term)• Exam fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 part-time theory term (1 course)• 1 full-time clinical term (consecutive with theory term)

Clinical Term Only	1 term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuition costs • Stipend for 1 term • Exam fee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 full-time clinical term
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*Students with one theory course remaining will be expected to finish that course on a part-time basis, and therefore will not be required to take a leave of absence during that term. A commitment of 2 consecutive terms is still required to finish the program in an accelerated timeframe. The cost of tuition will be provided for the final theory course.

The following stipend amounts are available to eligible applicants:

Employment Status	Stipend Amount (4-week period)	Theory Term Total (2 courses only)	Clinical Term Total
Full-Time	\$4,068.00	\$12,204.00	\$16,272.00
Part-Time and Casual	\$2,034.00	\$6,102.00	\$8,136.00

Students who are not successful in completing their theory or clinical terms will not be eligible for bursary funds in subsequent terms.

Application and Payment Timelines

SPRING 2022 TERM				
	BCIT Term Dates	Application Deadline	Clinical location confirmed	Funding Distributed*
Theory Term	April 4 – June 24 (12 weeks)	March 30	N/A	<u>Tuition</u> : Waiver (or reimbursed if paid) <u>Stipend</u> : Last week of every month by cheque
Clinical Term	May 2 – Aug 19 (16 weeks)	March 30	April 15	<u>Tuition</u> : Waiver (or reimbursed if paid) <u>Stipend</u> : Last week of every month by cheque
FALL 2022 TERM				
	BCIT Term Dates	Application Deadline	Clinical location confirmed	Funding Distributed*
Theory Term	Sept 6 – Nov 25 (12 weeks)	Aug 19	N/A	<u>Tuition</u> : Waiver (or reimbursed if paid) <u>Stipend</u> : Last week of every month by cheque
Clinical Term	Aug 29 – Dec 16 (16 weeks)	July 29	Aug 12	<u>Tuition</u> : Waiver (or reimbursed if paid) <u>Stipend</u> : Last week of every month by cheque

*Stipend payments are contingent upon continued active status in the BCIT MRI Tech program.

Exam fees will be provided to students with their final stipend payment in the clinical term.

Application timelines for subsequent terms will be based on the BCIT academic term dates.

Clinical Sites

In the application process, applicants must identify three MRI clinical sites in order of preference. Any of these sites may be selected, based on staffing and other factors, and students must be prepared to relocate to one of those sites as required. If none of the three MRI clinical sites identified by the applicant can accommodate a placement during the required term, the applicant may choose another site or the clinical term may be postponed. If the clinical term is postponed, there is no guarantee that funding through the bursary program will be available when a preferred placement is offered.

Coordination with Employers

BC health authorities have agreed to support employees who wish to take advantage of the MRI Tech Bursary Program by supporting leaves of absence from existing positions, except where operationally unfeasible. Employees who have been declined for their leave of absence yet wish to take advantage of the bursary program should reach out to BCIT with that information.

Health authorities will support employees who are on leave for the MRI Bursary Program who wish to continue to pick up casual shifts to supplement income and support ongoing patient care needs if the students are maintaining their grades/studies.

Benefit status and seniority accrual while on leave are subject to the terms of the employee's collective agreement.