



CAREER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Discover Your Potential:

Clinical, Regulatory, Medical Affairs Career Pathways

The CANTRAIN Graduate and Postdoctoral Trainee (GPT) Career Development Program is a 16-module, virtual experience where learners discover professional roles in clinical trials, regulatory affairs, and medical affairs while expanding their understanding of drug development and clinical research. Through interactive sessions led by experienced professionals, learners build their networks, gain firsthand knowledge of clinical research practices, and stay informed on current trends. The program combines live sessions with self-paced materials, helping learners enhance transferable skills and explore their next career steps with confidence.

WHO CAN APPLY?

- **Current undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral health sciences trainees** enrolled at Canadian universities.
- Learners **nearing the end of their academic programs** and preparing to **transition into professional roles**.
- Learners with **limited exposure to clinical research** but a strong interest in exploring careers in clinical trials, regulatory affairs, or medical affairs.

OUR PURPOSE & HISTORY

The CANTRAIN GPT Career Development Program was designed to expose health science trainees to the training and skills required to pursue meaningful **careers in clinical research, regulatory affairs, and medical affairs**. Its modules focus on facilitating career exploration and providing practical knowledge, professional connections, and opportunities for learners to explore career paths that align with their strengths and interests.

Building on the **highly successful** Clinical and Regulatory Affairs Experience (C&RA Exp) developed by the **Desjardins Centre for Advanced Training (DCAT)** at the Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre (RI-MUHC) in 2018, with funding from the Burroughs Wellcome Fund, this **program continues to evolve** in close collaboration with DCAT, ensuring it remains relevant and impactful for learners **across Canada**.

OUR LEARNING OBJECTIVES



Develop Knowledge in Clinical Research and Regulatory Affairs

Understand clinical trial processes, drug discovery, and regulatory frameworks, including Health Canada processes and health technology assessments.



Foster Career Development and Networking Opportunities

Explore diverse career paths and build professional networks through interactive sessions and a capstone project.

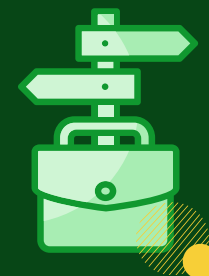


Enhance Transferable Skills

Strengthen communication, teamwork, and problem-solving through collaborative activities and projects.

Support Reflective Career Planning

Align career goals with personal strengths and identify knowledge gaps to guide next steps with confidence.



- 1 Welcome and Orientation
- 2 Advanced Pre-clinical Drug Discovery
- 3 Overview of Canadian Health Regulations
- 4 FDA Case Study: Drug Approval - Bringing a New Drug to Market
- 5 Study Designs from a Clinical Scientist Perspective
- 6 Career Exploration & Landscape of Clinical Trials Careers
- 7 Understanding the Canadian Health System
- 8 Study Protocols from the Perspective of Study Staff
- 9 Fielding Patient Questions
- 10 Study Protocols from the Perspective of a Study Monitor
- 11 Case Study: Clinical Trial Failure
- 12 Conflict Resolution and Managing Up
- 13 Capstone Project: Career Research Through Connecting with Others
- 14 Health Technology Assessment
- 15 Pipeline of Therapeutics Development in Industry
- 16 Professional Skills Toolkit: Time and Project Management

MODULE TYPES

LIVE WEBINARS & PANELS

Gain foundational knowledge on various clinical trials, regulatory and medical affairs topics.

INTERACTIVE GROUP ACTIVITIES

Practice real-world scenarios in small groups.

CAPSTONE PROJECT

Participate in organizing a career panel offering a practical and collaborative forum for applying skills and expanding networks.

SELF-PACED MODULE

An independent module to enhance time and project management skills.

WINTER 2025 IMPORTANT DATES



APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN:

January 27 - February 9, 2025

ADJUDICATION PERIOD:

February 10 - February 14, 2025

RESULTS ARE RELEASED:

February 17, 2025

ACCEPTED LEARNERS CALENDAR:

Completion of the Common Core Foundation (CCF)
February 17 - March 11, 2025

Program Duration

Tuesdays, March 18 - June 24, 2025

EST: 2-4 p.m.

AST: 3-5 p.m.

NST: 3:30-5:30 p.m.



STEPS TO APPLY

+ CHECK YOUR ELIGIBILITY:

- Enrolled in a **health or life sciences program** at a Canadian university.
- **Nearing the end of an academic program** and preparing to transition into professional role.
- Interested in careers in **clinical trials operations, regulatory affairs, or related fields**.
- Able to commit **4-6 hours per week** for the duration of the program.

+ STAY CONNECTED:

- Follow up on **LinkedIn** and visit the **CANTRAIN website** for the latest updates on application timelines and announcements.

+ SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION:

- Complete the **online form** (around 30 minutes) with your academic background, career goals, and alignment to the program.

+ ADJUDICATION PROCESS:

- **Enrollment is limited.** Applications are reviewed during the **adjudication process**.

+ PREREQUISITES:

- Accepted learners must complete the **CANTRAIN Common Core Foundation** (12 modules) within the given period before the program begins.

