
CRA LEAdership Program (LEAP) Guidelines

CRA LEAP is a mentorship program designed for rheumatologists at an early career stage who are likely to become leaders in research, education, and/or advocacy in Canada.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

This program seeks to identify and promote leadership in rheumatologists early in their career (within 5 years post fellowship in rheumatology or pediatric rheumatology). It is comprised of a variety of initiatives identified via a needs assessment conducted with participants, and a collaboration with Canadian mentors and expert advisors. It is designed for future leaders in academic and community practice.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- Provide aspiring young Canadian rheumatologists with the opportunity to participate in a needs-based, high-quality, innovative, multi-faceted 2-year program
- Build personal and professional contacts with thought leaders and peers
- Develop insights into career building, publications, promotion, and advocacy

PARTICIPANT OUTCOMES

- Gain insight into maintaining a balance between academic work and other work
- Gain insight into successful grant funding, paper writing, needs for promotion
- Increase knowledge into success with research
- Maintain an educational dossier
- Enhance presentation or advocacy skills (media training)
- Gain experience and guidance with interaction among peers, colleagues, the community & the pharmaceutical industry

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

In order to be eligible for this program, candidates must be a CRA member in good standing, have completed their Royal College or core rheumatology training and have an affiliation with a Canadian university or be considered a potential future leader in the community. They must also adhere to at least one of the following:

- Demonstrated commitment to a higher level of education and expertise in rheumatology and show promise of becoming a future thought leader (academic appointment or a community 'rising star')
- Actively involved with organizations such as the Canadian Rheumatology Association and/or provincial/local organizations
- Actively involved in clinical or basic research
- Actively involved in education

EVALUATION CRITERIA

A review committee comprised of CRA members will review and select the successful applicants based on the following criteria:

- CV (3 points)
- Statement of current and future interests in research, education, advocacy, community leadership, etc. (4 points)
- Letter of support (3 points)
- Total score 10 points

APPLICATION PROCESS

This is a joint application process that requires application to be completed by the candidate and their supporter.