



The [Sociology of Health Research Cluster](#) (SHRC) aims to connect scholars from Canada and abroad who work or have interest in health research. The cluster's main goals are to foster a sense of community and information sharing among scholars and, for those who are interested, to extend this knowledge base to the media and policy makers where possible.

The Health Research Cluster is pleased to offer the following award opportunity. The CSA will provide award recipients with a \$100 prize, certificate of achievement, and promotion through the main CSA website and the Research Cluster's page.

Best Conference Student Paper / Early Career Investigator Award

For eligible papers authored by student members or by early career investigators (e.g. postdoctoral fellows without a tenure-track position) of the CSA approved for presentation at the annual CSA conference.

Award Terms and Conditions for Paper Awards

1. Award Overview

The Health Research Cluster promotes sociological research on health, illness, health care systems, and the social determinants of health. Our awards aim to recognize and support outstanding scholarly work by students and early career scholars in this field.

A minimum of two nominations must be received for the adjudication to proceed.

Equity Statement: The CSA is committed to the values and principles of equity, diversity, inclusion, and decolonization. We recognize and honour the intersectionality of equity-based identities and therefore invite and encourage the nomination (including self-nomination) of members from marginalized groups, including Indigenous / racialized, persons with disabilities, persons who identify as women, and/or 2SLGBTIQ+.

2. Eligibility Criteria

a. Nominee

- Canadian Sociological Association membership in good standing is mandatory.
- For Student Awards: Graduate Student.

b. Authorship of Nominated Paper

- Sole authored; OR
- Co-authored with another student (undergraduate, MA, or PhD); OR
- Co-authored with a faculty member (e.g., supervisor). In this case, the non-student co-author must have contributed no more than 25% to the completion of the paper. The student must be the lead author.

c. Conference Participation (for conference-linked awards)

- Presentation in a Canadian Sociological Association Conference hosted session (virtual or in-person) is mandatory.
- The paper must have been presented in a session affiliated with the Sociology of Health Research Cluster.

d. Nominated Paper Format

- Papers in English
- Font Times New Roman, 12 p., double-spaced
- Maximum length: 10,000 words (including references; excluding supplementary material).

e. Nominated Paper Status

- Unpublished and not yet approved for publication; OR
- Unpublished and approved for publication; OR
- Published within the last 12 months; OR
- Intended for Knowledge Mobilization.

3. Submission Deadline

April 30, 2026, 6 pm. EST.

4. Equity Considerations

Nominees are invited to submit a brief bio (up to 100 words) and/or self-identify as a member of an equity-deserving community. This information is confidential and will only be shared with the adjudication committee to ensure an equitable and transparent review process.

5. Adjudication

Submissions will be evaluated by an adjudication committee of at least 2 reviewers based on the following:

1. Advances our understanding of health sociology through theoretical and/or empirical innovation.
2. Contributes to the understanding of health sociology within Canada or the relevant context.
4. The object of study is situated in a relevant and current literature review.
5. The manuscript is written clearly and is understandable by a broad, sociologically sensitive readership.

6. Submission Instructions

Submit nominations or self-nominations by the deadline via email to csahealthresearchcluster@gmail.com

The submission email must include:

- Nominee name(s), email address(es), affiliation(s) (academic institution), and author level(s) (e.g., doctoral candidate; 1st year PhD, 1st year postdoctoral fellow).
- For conference paper awards: the title of the CSA Conference session in which the paper was presented.
- A statement confirming the paper's status (e.g., unpublished; intended for knowledge mobilization).
- An anonymous version of the paper (in PDF format) for blind review.

For questions, please contact: csahealthresearchcluster@gmail.com