APPLICATION FORM

# SIGA and VIDO Indigenous One Health Fellowship & Career Start Program

The SIGA & VIDO Indigenous One Health Fellowship & Career Start Program provides Indigenous students with financial support, paid summer placements, and a guaranteed job after graduation. The program is designed to reduce financial barriers and launch long-term careers in science, research, technology, animal health, and One Health fields.

## What you receive

- Financial support (see Funding Structure below).
- Paid summer employment with VIDO during your studies.
- Guaranteed employment with VIDO after graduation for a period equal to the years funded (return-in-service).

## What you commit to

- Remaining enrolled full-time in an approved program and maintaining satisfactory academic progress.
- Completing required summer work terms at VIDO each year you are funded.
- Fulfilling the postgraduation return-in-service commitment at VIDO.

## Funding Structure

- The first $5,000 is a one-time fellowship with no repayment requirement.
- The remaining funds provide up to $10,000 per academic year toward tuition as a forgivable student loan which is forgiven upon meeting all program conditions (see below).

## Payment method (tuition support)

- Tuition support is issued by direct payment to the institution upon submission of proof of enrollment, per term timelines listed below.

## Eligibility

You are eligible to apply if you:

- Self-identify as First Nations, Métis, or Inuit.
- Are enrolled full-time in a postsecondary diploma or degree program relevant to science, technology, or research (e.g., Biotechnology; Chemical/Biological Laboratory Technology; Animal Health Technology; Veterinary Technician/Medicine; Microbiology; Molecular Biology; Immunology; Biomanufacturing).
- Are currently in Year 1, 2, or 3 of your program.

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### How to Apply

1. Complete this form in full.
2. Attach your current résumé (with three references—see details below).
3. Attach supporting documents (see checklist).
4. Email your application to hr@vido.org with the subject line:
   "SIGA & VIDO One Health Fellowship & Career Start Program Application."

**Application deadline: 5:00 p.m. (local time), March 31, 2026.**

### Application Checklist (include with your email)

- Completed application form.
- Résumé with three references: one academic, one employer, and one personal who knows your accomplishments.
- Proof of Indigenous status (e.g., Status card, Métis Nation citizenship card, Inuit enrollment number).
- Transcripts (official or unofficial, as available at time of application).
- Admission letter (if applicable).

### Section A — Applicant Information

First name: _____
Last name: _____
Indigenous identity category (First Nations / Métis / Inuit): _____
Pronouns (optional): _____
Mailing address: _____
Email address: _____
Primary phone number: _____

### Section B — Education Information

Institution (current and returning to in Fall 2026): _____
Program of study: _____
Major (if applicable): _____
Current year of study: Year ☐1 ☐2 ☐3 ☐Other: _____
Expected graduation date (MM/YYYY): ____ / _____

### Section C — Career Interests (check all that apply)

☐ **Laboratory & Technical Support** — hands-on experimental work, lab maintenance, and data collection.
☐ **Veterinary Services & Animal Care** — animal care, assisting with study protocols, and supporting veterinary teams.
☐ **Facilities Support** — support the safe operation of biocontainment labs and advanced facilities.
☐ **Biomanufacturing —** contribute to vaccine biomanufacturing in VIDO's GMP-compliant Vaccine Development Centre.
☐ **Corporate Services** — support Accounting, Human Resources, Communications, and Information Technology.

## Section D — Short Essay (≤ 500 words)

Please explain why you aspire to be part of VIDO and address:

1. Your short-term and long-term career goals.
2. How this fellowship will help you contribute to Indigenous health and community well-being.
3. Why you should be selected for this fellowship and career start opportunity.

## Section E — Résumé & References

Attach a current résumé including three references:

- One academic reference (e.g., instructor/advisor)
- One employer reference (e.g., past or current supervisor)
- One personal reference who knows your accomplishments

## Terms & Conditions

1. **Program purpose:** The program supports education and employment in science, technology, and/or research careers connected to One Health.
2. **Program components:** The program combines a fellowship (non-repayable) and a forgivable tuition loan, plus paid summer employment and post-graduation employment at VIDO.
3. **Approved programs/institutions:** "Approved" means a post-secondary program and institution approved by VIDO.
4. **Academic status.** You must remain in full-time studies in an approved program. You may change disciplines or schools if you remain full-time in an approved program and keep your original graduation date unchanged.
5. **Summer employment:** You must complete summer employment with VIDO from May 1 to August 15 each funded year. Summer employment may not be declined. Wages are paid at the base salary of the position you are training for.
6. **Employment requirements:** You must meet standard employment requirements for VIDO staff (e.g., criminal record check).
7. **Funding:** The program is a combination fellowship, forgivable loan and employment program.
    a. **Fellowship:** Not repayable, one-time $5,000;
    b. **Forgivable tuition loan:** Up to $10,000 per academic year, forgiven when you: (1) remain enrolled full-time in an approved program; (2) successfully complete your diploma/degree; (3) complete required VIDO summer employment each year; and (4) fulfill your postgraduation return-in-service commitment. If any condition is not met, all or part of the loan may become repayable as outlined in the student agreement.
8. **Payment & documentation.**
    a. Provide proof of enrollment and transcripts each term before payment.
    b. Provide proof of enrollment for tuition and books by end of September (Fall) and end of January (Winter) for payment processing.

9. **Conduct:** Serious workplace misconduct may result in termination for cause, forfeiture of remaining funds, repayment of advanced funds, and loss of guaranteed employment upon graduation.
10. **Selection decisions:** VIDO has final and binding discretion regarding eligibility, awards, and administration of the program.
11. **Taxes:** You are responsible for any tax implications arising from this program.
12. **Contractual agreement:** Award recipients must sign a student agreement with VIDO detailing funding, summer employment, and return-in-service obligations.

## Acknowledgement & Authorization

By submitting this application, I certify that the information provided is true, accurate, and complete. I have read and understand the Terms & Conditions above. If selected, I agree to sign a student agreement with VIDO and to comply with all program requirements.

**Signature:** _____ **Date (MM/DD/YYYY):** ____ / ____ /____

## Submission & Deadline

**Submit this completed application and attachments to online at:**
https://vido.applytojobs.ca/internship/45504
**Deadline:** 5:00 p.m. (CST), March 31, 2026.

**Questions?**
**Jordan Hamel**, Director of Human Resources, VIDO
**Phone:** 306-966-4748 **| Email:** hr@vido.org