

BROCHURE FOR PhD FELLOWSHIP CANDIDATES

INTRODUCTION

The Indigenous and Black Engineering and Technology (IBET) Momentum Fellowship is a collaborative effort among the [Indigenous|Black Students in Engineering and Technology \(IBET\) PhD Project](#), the [Experiential Learning in Innovation, Technology, and Entrepreneurship \(ELITE\) Program for Black Youth](#), and the [Faculty of Engineering at the University of Alberta](#) to provide financial support to Indigenous and Black scholars to pursue full-time PhD studies in any engineering discipline at the University of Alberta. Engagement, review, and recruitment of qualified candidates will be led by the Engineering-ELITE Program Nominating Committee, which consists of researchers who train PhD students or who manage administration of PhD programs.

Recipients of the fellowship will receive a **\$30,000 stipend per year for four years, which includes funding for tuition and fees, plus \$4,000 over four years to support attendance at technical conferences or workshops** where they are encouraged to present their research work. The sources of funding will include the Faculty of Engineering, the proposed PhD research program supervisor in the Faculty of Engineering, and the ELITE Program for Black Youth. **Recipients of the fellowship will also participate in the six-week ELITE Program Entrepreneurship Design Series:** a series that introduces youth to the rudiments of entrepreneurship, value proposition design, lean start-up concepts, financial and banking strategies for start-ups (e.g., venture capital funding, other private equity, debt equity, debt leveraging), and delivery of pitch presentations.

The impetus for creating this fellowship opportunity is drawn from [2016 National Science Foundation data](#) that shows that less than 1% and less than 5% of undergraduates in engineering identify as Indigenous or Black, respectively. By inference, the number of PhD candidates in these demographic groups is expected to be even lower. It is well-known that a PhD in engineering increases the likelihood of access to participate in innovation ecosystems

and be fully prepared for the [future of work](#). [Data evidence](#) shows that innovators tend to be entrepreneurs who create jobs and stimulate the economies of their communities. Currently, Black and Indigenous Canadians are underrepresented among innovators, which creates a barrier to their upward mobility and that of their communities. This Fellowship program hopes to contribute to correcting this imbalance by facilitating participation by qualified Black and Indigenous youth in Faculty of Engineering PhD programs, under the direct supervision of expert researchers, and in the ELITE Program Entrepreneurship Design Series.

AWARD RENEWAL RULES

The Fellowship award will be renewed each year, in full, for a total of four years if the following conditions are satisfied:

- All academic requirements are met.
- Full-time enrollment in a PhD program in the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Alberta.
- The primary PhD supervisor is a professor in the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Alberta.
- There are no restrictions or limitations on receiving funding from the Fellowship.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

All PhD Fellowship applicants are encouraged to review the Terms of Reference for this award. The Terms of Reference document is available for download [HERE](#).

ACCESS TO PhD FELLOWSHIP CANDIDATE APPLICATION PORTAL

STEP 1: Registration and Log-in Site

Please visit https://applyportal.eliteprogram.ca/index.php/Main_Page to login or register.

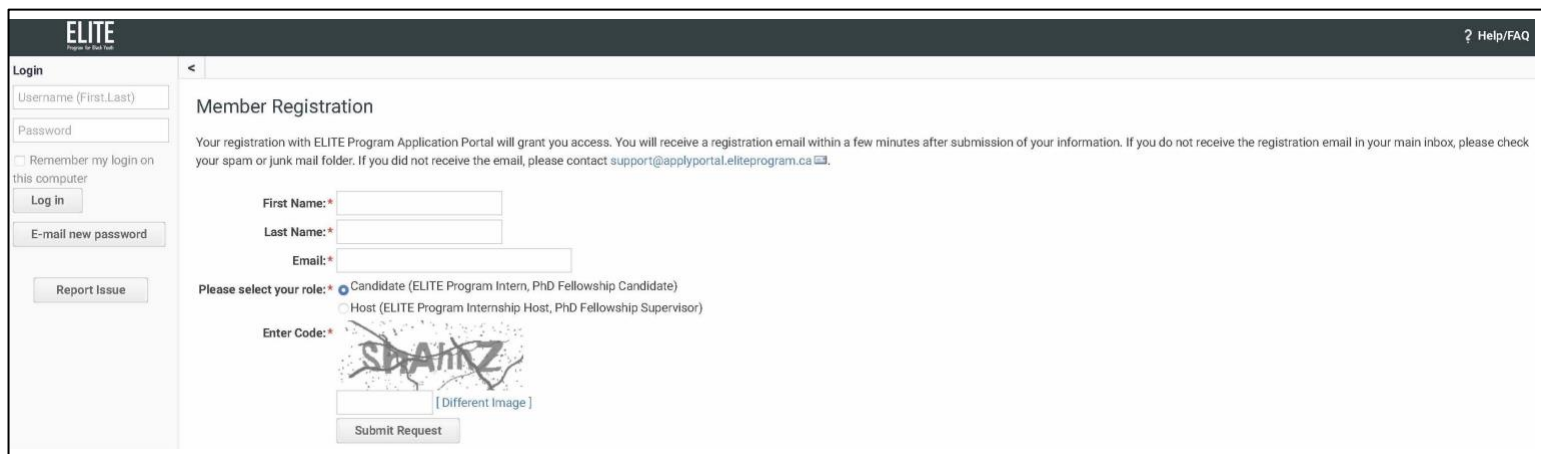
STEP 2: Registration

Please click on the “registration form” link.

Enter your personal and email information.

Choose “Candidate (ELITE Program Intern, PhD Fellowship Candidate)”.

Enter the code.



The screenshot shows the 'Member Registration' page of the ELITE Program Application Portal. On the left is a 'Login' sidebar with fields for 'Username (First.Last)' and 'Password', a 'Remember my login on this computer' checkbox, and buttons for 'Log in', 'E-mail new password', and 'Report Issue'. The main content area is titled 'Member Registration' and includes a welcome message: 'Your registration with ELITE Program Application Portal will grant you access. You will receive a registration email within a few minutes after submission of your information. If you do not receive the registration email in your main inbox, please check your spam or junk mail folder. If you did not receive the email, please contact support@applyportal.eliteprogram.ca.' Below this are input fields for 'First Name:', 'Last Name:', and 'Email:'. A role selection section asks 'Please select your role:' with two radio buttons: 'Candidate (ELITE Program Intern, PhD Fellowship Candidate)' (selected) and 'Host (ELITE Program Internship Host, PhD Fellowship Supervisor)'. An 'Enter Code:' field is followed by a CAPTCHA image showing the word 'SPARK' and a '[Different Image]' link. A 'Submit Request' button is at the bottom.

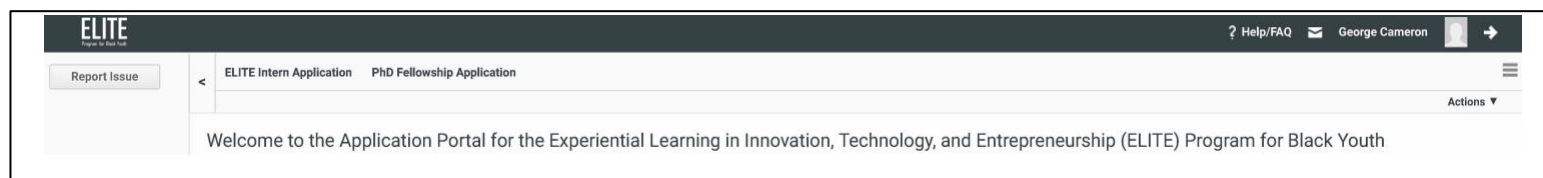
STEP 3: Receive Confirmation Email and Access Information

You will receive an email with a username based on your name and a temporary password.

Please follow the instructions in the email message, access the site, and change your password.

STEP 4: Access the Portal

Once your password has been changed, you will be directed to the intern and PhD Fellowship main portal. On the main portal, there are two panels: “ELITE Intern Application” and “PhD Fellowship Application”.



Click on the “PhD Fellowship Application”.

STEP 5: PhD Fellowship Application

Upon clicking the “PhD Fellowship Application” link, you will be routed to the application form. Proceed to complete the form. You may save your work and come back to it multiple times before final submission.

Submit your application by clicking “Submit” in the left-hand side panel of the form.

TIPS FOR SOME APPLICATION SECTIONS

Summary of Thesis or Research Project Work

Provide a summary of your Masters or Bachelors thesis work. If you did not complete a thesis, you may provide a summary of a research project. You may wish to consider this summary as an extended abstract in which you describe what was done or the problem that was tackled, how it was done, what you found, and the significance or novelty of what you found. This summary should not exceed one (1) page.

Statement of Research, Service, Community, and Leadership Activities

Provide a statement of any research, service, community, and leadership activities in which you participated in university settings or externally. You may draw from personal and lived experiences that will highlight these activities. Draw evidence from any scholarships, awards, and distinctions; your academic and research record (Bachelors and Masters levels); your

professional, academic and extracurricular activities; any collaborations with supervisors, colleagues, peers, students and members of the community; any mentoring, teaching, outreach, chairing committees, participating in organizations, and/or clubs, etc. Highlight any roles that you played, be they as a participant or as a leader or team manager.