

16 February, 2024  
Application ID: 181456

**GLOBALINK RESEARCH INTERNSHIP (GRI) AWARD LETTER  
DISBURSEMENT INFORMATION AND PLACEMENT TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

Dear YIQIANG WEN,

Congratulations! You have been selected by Mitacs and Professor Adam Mott from University of Toronto to receive a 2024 Globalink Research Internship award. You are therefore invited to participate in a research project at University of Toronto. **Pursuant to an agreement with University of Toronto, Mitacs will administer will administer your funding grant.**

Mitacs Globalink Research Internship is a competitive program that pairs top-ranked international students with specific research expertise with faculty at Canadian academic institutions for a twelve (12) week research project of mutual interest between May and October 2024. You have been selected by your Canadian host faculty project supervisor due to your background and skills in the research area and the unique contribution you will be making to the research during your stay. **The skills required for your role (as described in the research description below) were found to clearly match your skills set, education, and research experience.**

**Research internship details**

**University/Institution:** University of Toronto

**Host professor:** Adam Mott

**Research project title:** Searching for plant cell surface receptor function

**NOC code:** 41201 Post-secondary teaching and research assistants

**Research description:** Plants use a large family of cell-surface receptors to sense environmental cues, most of which have no demonstrated biological function. One of the main aims of our lab is to assign function to these orphan receptors, using classical methods in addition to high-throughput screening and network analysis. We currently have a collection of about 200 mutant lines of the experimental plant *Arabidopsis*, each of which lacks a single member of this large gene family. To identify candidate functions for these receptors we will screen these mutants for abnormal responses to pathogen signals or other stresses. When a mutant shows an altered phenotype or response, we can infer that the missing receptor plays a role in the biological pathway that relates to the applied stress. The receptors that you identify will then be carefully analyzed to determine how the receptor functions as well as identifying the other plant molecules involved in that pathway.

**During your internship, you will:** This project is an independent role within our lab, which is a real opportunity for the student to take ownership of the research. If the project progresses well, there will be the opportunity for the student to be part of a publication on the work. The goal of the project is to identify novel mutants that show altered phenotypes in response to stress conditions. These candidate receptors will be used to feed into the characterization work in the plant laboratory to determine the mechanism of action. Any results that are used as the basis for further research will be credited to the student.

The successful applicant will be expected to work as an independent researcher within a supportive team. In addition to proper data archiving in the lab, the student is expected to give a short presentation at the end of the project to describe the project and the progress made. In addition, the student will take an active part in all lab meetings and journal clubs.

**Start date:** Any time between May 1 and July 31, 2024 (unless otherwise approved by Mitacs)

**End date:** No later than October 31, 2024 (unless otherwise approved by Mitacs).

Thanks to our funding partners.



Merci à nos bailleurs de fonds.

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<b>Duration of research:</b>	12 weeks - Exact dates must be decided by intern and host professor. Shortened durations must be agreed upon with the host professor and Mitacs. Durations of more than twelve (12) weeks will not be permitted.
<b>Hours of work:</b>	Forty (40) hours per week.

Your award covers the full twelve (12) week period of your internship unless you fall short of the full twelve (12) weeks, in which case the award amount will be prorated according to time actually spent contributing to the internship project.

As an intern, pursuant to Canada's *Immigrant and Refugee Protection Regulations* sA25.2, you are entering Canada to undertake activities classified as "work". As such, you may apply under a work permit exempt category called the [Global Skills Strategy](#).

**In order to participate in this program, you are required to request a Visitor Record at the first Canadian port of entry and ask them to add a remark stating: "120-day short term work permit exemption – Public policy". You must obtain a visitor record at the border so that it is well documented that you are allowed to work in Canada. Otherwise, you may face issues like being unable to open a bank account or apply for a Social Insurance Number (SIN).**

By accepting this internship and agreeing to this Award Letter, you will follow all clauses as laid out in *Appendix A: Terms and Conditions — Obligations of the Globalink research intern*.

You will need to follow all travel and public health requirements as mandated by the Public Health Agency of Canada, your host province, and your host institution in Canada. The following requirements are subject to change at any time; please ensure you keep yourself updated regularly: <https://travel.gc.ca/travel-covid/travel-restrictions/covid-vaccinated-travellers-entering-canada#entry-vaccinated>.

Upon arrival at the Port of Entry in Canada, you should have supporting documents, including (but not limited to):

- a printed copy of this Award Letter in its entirety
- your valid passport (at least 6 months validity) and any other document required to enter Canada (see <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/visit-canada/entry-requirements-country.html>)
- proof that you meet requirements for the internship being offered and that you will play a significant role in the research project (such as proof of work experience in that research field), your IRCC approved medical exam (if applicable) and education (certified translations of your transcripts, diplomas and or corresponding certificates)
- necessary immigration documentation (i.e., letter of introduction, biometrics, visitor visa, eTA, if applicable)
- A printed copy of this webpage: [Short-term \(120-day\) work permit exemption for researchers - Canada.ca](#)

*We look forward to welcoming you as a temporary member of the research team at University of Toronto.*

Mitacs Globalink gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Government of Ontario through the Ministry of Colleges and Universities, the Government of Canada as well as the members of our partner in China, China Scholarship Council.

**Mitacs Globalink is delivered by Mitacs on behalf of the following Academic partners:**

Acadia University	Ontario Tech University	Université du Québec en Outaouais
Algoma University	Polytechnique Montréal	Université Laval
Athabasca University	Queen's University	University of Alberta
Brandon University	Royal Military College of Canada	University of British Columbia
Brock University	Royal Roads University	University of Calgary
Cape Breton University	Saint Mary's University	University of Guelph
Carleton University	Saint Paul University	University of Lethbridge
Concordia University	Simon Fraser University	University of Manitoba
Concordia University of Edmonton	St. Francis Xavier University	University of New Brunswick
Dalhousie University	St. Thomas University	University of Northern British Columbia
École de Technologie Supérieure	Toronto Metropolitan University	University of Ottawa
Emily Carr University of Art + Design	Trinity Western University	University of Prince Edward Island
HEC Montréal	Thompson Rivers University	University of Regina
INRS	Trent University	University of Saskatchewan
Lakehead University	Trinity Western University	University of the Fraser Valley
Laurentian University	Université Bishop	University of Toronto
MacEwan University	Université de Moncton	University of Victoria
McGill University	Université de Montréal	University of Waterloo
McMaster University	Université de Sherbrooke	University of Windsor
Memorial University of Newfoundland	Université du Québec à Chicoutimi	University of Winnipeg
Mount Allison University	Université du Québec à Montréal	Vancouver Island University
Mount Royal University	Université du Québec à Rimouski	Western University
Mount Saint Vincent University	Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières	Wilfrid Laurier University
OCAD University	Université du Québec en Abitibi-Témiscamingue	York University

Sincerely,



Eva Reddington  
Director, Implementation & Experience  
Programs & Skills

Enclosure:

- Appendix A: Terms and Conditions
- Appendix B: Letter to CBSA officer

Thanks to our funding partners.



Merci à nos bailleurs de fonds.

## Appendix A: Terms and Conditions

Please note that your funding is provided in accordance with China Scholarship Council (CSC).

### Obligations of the China Scholarship Council (CSC)

The China Scholarship Council (CSC) will be responsible for providing:

1. Airfare from China to Canada and back by the most economical route
2. Reimbursement of immigration permit application fees (as required to participate in the research internship)
3. A stipend of Can\$1800 per month (2 months) that covers the costs of your accommodation and living expenses

### Obligations of Mitacs

#### a) Financial arrangements

Mitacs will be responsible for providing the following:

1. A stipend of Can\$175 to contribute to the cost of transportation from the Canadian airport to accommodation, unless otherwise arranged by your host institution
2. A stipend of Can\$2,200 per month for 1 month that covers the cost of your accommodation and living expenses
3. Payment of student or administrative fees charged by your Canadian host institution, if applicable
4. Ensuring that you receive Canadian medical insurance for your internship dates, as long as you have provided Mitacs these dates when requested. You may or may not receive this before you arrive in Canada.

Under Mitacs's funding policy, we are unable to provide you with funds in advance of your internship start date. In order to receive funding, all interns must:

- possess a valid visitor record indicating that they are authorized to work in Canada for the duration of their internship; and
- open a Canadian bank account.

Funds will be disbursed in three (3) installments to the intern; dates and exact amounts will be provided via email to the intern in April 2024.

#### b) Local arrangements

**You are responsible for finding and booking your own accommodations for the duration of your stay in Canada. Mitacs will provide you with tools to assist you with your search.**

Mitacs will assume responsibility for the following aspects of your local arrangements:

1. Provision of emergency medical insurance to cover you for the duration of your research internship plus 2 days before and 2 days after
2. Professional skills courses and/or networking opportunities to enhance the experience of your research internship
3. Provision of a Mitacs-approved Globalink Mentor for you to consult with about issues and questions that arise during your stay in Canada and act as your emergency contact. (Please note that the University of Alberta provides their own mentors.)
4. Other activities at the sole discretion of Mitacs.

Thanks to our funding partners.



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## Obligations of the Globalink research intern

### Conditions of the award

1. You are required to participate in the program for 12 consecutive weeks, working 40 hours per week for your host supervisor on the research project, unless otherwise arranged with the Canadian supervisor and approved by Mitacs. You are also required to report any absences to your supervisor, whether due to illness or other obligations including attending Mitacs courses or events. Mitacs may terminate your internship at our discretion if you do not adhere to these guidelines. If the duration of your internship needs to be shortened, contact Mitacs at [helpdesk@mitacs.ca](mailto:helpdesk@mitacs.ca).
2. This award is contingent on the permission of Canadian governments, the host institution, as well as the government of your home country for free movement of interns across borders for research purposes. In circumstances where you are not able to travel to Canada, this Award Letter will be terminated. Please note that you will not be reimbursed any costs if you are not able to travel to Canada to carry out your internship. Please ensure you follow Mitacs's instructions in preparation for your internship and that such costs have not been incurred against the advice of Mitacs.
3. Upon your arrival in Canada and throughout your stay, you are required to follow all public health protocols and guidelines of the federal government, the province in which you are hosted and the Canadian institution at which you are performing research (as applicable). You must also comply with all instructions provided by Mitacs including, but not limited to, arrangement of flights and housing, arrangement of immigration documentation, dates of travel, etc. Mitacs will not cover any costs incurred where the intern has not complied with instructions delivered through Mitacs.
4. You are required to complete a mid-term survey and a final survey administered by Mitacs to rate your experience of the program and to receive a final certificate of completion.
5. You are required to check with your home institution regarding any conditions or actions involved with participating in the GRI program.

### Immigration

6. Please be advised that Mitacs is not your immigration representative and cannot provide advice on your immigration case. Mitacs will provide you with information as available on the public government of Canada immigration website so that it may help you navigate through the immigration process, but Mitacs cannot guarantee nor make any representation regarding positive immigration outcomes.
7. Please be advised that immigration requirements vary depending on your profile and country of origin. Therefore, all wait times listed on the Canadian immigration website: <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/application/check-processing-times.html> are subjective. It is your responsibility to start your process as soon as possible and to research all immigration requirements when applying as these can change at any time.
8. It is your sole responsibility to fully comply with all immigration, travel and customs requirements of any country/region through which you may travel on your way to and from Canada.

## Appendix B: Letter to Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) officer for Globalink Research Internship intern upon arrival in Canada

8 February 2024

RE: Issuance of the visitor record for **YIQIANG WEN** participation in the Mitacs Globalink Research Internship program

Dear Officer,

This applicant is applying under the 120-day short-term work permit exemption category for the Mitacs Globalink Research Internship researcher position. **Please see attached Award Letter for full details of the research and host faculty supervisor at the Canadian university.**

As required by the 120-day short-term work permit exemption category, the applicant:

- is coming to perform work as a researcher for 120 consecutive days or less and has not been granted an exemption under the public policy facilitating entry into Canada for short term work in the last 12 months.
- has an offer from a Canadian institution which is a publicly funded degree-granting institution (at the university level) or its affiliated research institution.

**Kindly provide the applicant with a visitor record and please add the remarks: “120 day short term work permit exemption – Public policy”. Failure to obtain this may prevent the applicant from applying for a SIN and/or opening a Canadian bank account. Both of these are requirements for the intern to participate in the Mitacs Globalink Research Internship program.**

More details about the 120-day short-term work permit exemption can be found here:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/corporate/publications-manuals/operational-bulletins-manuals/temporary-residents/foreign-workers/researcher-exemption.html#conditions>.

Kind regards,



Pearl Vas  
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