

Part-time Post Doc Job Posting

Postdoctoral Fellow – Refugee Youth Transitions, Belonging, Education and Service Navigation

SSHRC-Funded Project: “UnborderEd Knowledge”

Host Organization: Access Alliance

Location: Toronto, ON

Term: 1-Year Part-Time Appointment

Salary/Pay Range: (0.6 FTE) \$33,000 + Benefits

Submit Applications to: Hiring Committee, Post-Doc Researcher, Access Alliance Multicultural Health and Community Services at research@accessalliance.ca

Position Overview

We invite applications for a Postdoctoral Fellow to contribute to the SSHRC-funded **UnborderED Knowledge**. This part-time position is designed in alignment with SSHRC guidelines for postdoctoral training and knowledge mobilization and is grounded in community-engaged, equity-centred research. The role will focus on leading a one-year national Participatory Arts-Based project with current university students in Canada who have a forced migration background (i.e., who entered Canada as resettled refugees or refugee claimants).

The Fellow will be embedded in one cluster of the UnborderED Knowledge grant, and both housed and working closely with Access Alliance Multicultural Health and Community Services. Given the national character of the work, however, the research project will be undertaken virtually. The Fellow will lead research efforts at all stages, from participant recruitment, design of an arts-based participatory action research study, training of student participants, applying for ethics and/or additional grants, data collection and analysis, and knowledge mobilization.

This fellowship supports:

- advanced postdoctoral training and career development
- interdisciplinary and community-engaged research
- knowledge mobilization beyond academia
- equity, inclusion, and lived-experience-informed scholarship
- policy and practice innovation in systems affecting displaced students and researchers

Project Focus

The successful candidate will lead a focused study on:

- experiences in post-secondary education among current students who arrived in Canada through a humanitarian pathway
 - belonging and participation, barriers and facilitators to accessing and completing education, and future pathways for displaced students
 - actionable recommendations for post-secondary education systems to improve access and support for students who have entered Canada through humanitarian pathways
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Core Responsibilities

1. Research Leadership (Postdoctoral Level)

- Co-lead design and implementation of qualitative arts-based method research.
 - Training of student participants in arts-based methods for creation of data (participatory- action research)
 - Apply trauma-informed, anti-racist, and equity-centred research strategies
 - Ensure ethical research practice consistent with SSHRC, Access Alliance, and York U (institutional) standards.
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2. Scholarly Outputs

- Complete manuscript for publication based on the research in collaboration with cluster partners and institutional partners.
 - Contribute to conference presentations and cluster-wide scholarly outputs (as appropriate).
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3. Policy & Practice Knowledge Mobilization

- Develop accessible knowledge products, including briefs, slide decks, and infographics.
 - Present findings to service providers, institutional partners, and community audiences.
 - Contribute to SSHRC reporting and cluster-wide synthesis activities.
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4. Organizational & Sector Engagement

- Collaborate with Access Alliance and Cluster 2 team members.
 - Deliver student workshops or presentations to support participatory action research needs
 - Engage with post-secondary and community partners relevant to refugee student transitions.
 - Participate in advisory meetings involving service, policy, and research stakeholders.
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Required Qualifications

Education

- Graduate degree (PhD preferred).

Essential Criteria

- Lived experience of forced migration (required).
 - Legally entitled to work in Canada at the time of the application and must be resident in Canada for the duration of the employment contract
 - Demonstrated experience in arts-based research
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Asset Qualifications

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- Experience volunteering or working within or alongside community-based immigrant/refugee-serving organizations.
 - Demonstrated experience in qualitative research methods, especially community-based or participatory action research.
 - Strong scholarly writing record (published or publishable work).
 - Commitment to equity, anti-racism, and trauma-informed approaches.
 - Strong interpersonal skills and ability to work collaboratively in interdisciplinary and community settings
 - Comfort and experience conducting virtual workshops or related activities
 - Multilingual capacity.
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Lived Experience as Research Expertise

This fellowship recognizes the lived experience of forced migration as foundational knowledge. Lived experience is not treated as supplementary to academic qualifications, but as central to the design, interpretation, and ethical conduct of research within Cluster 2.

Applicants will be invited to describe how their lived experience informs their research approach, ethical commitments, and knowledge mobilization strategies.

Mentorship & Professional Development

The Fellow will receive:

- Direct mentorship from Access Alliance's Dr. Akm Alamgir
 - Direct mentorship, where appropriate, from the academic sponsoring institution and faculty member (Dr. Michaela Hynie)
 - Engagement with an interdisciplinary advisory committee, including government representatives and sector leaders.
 - Opportunities to co-author and lead publications.
 - Academic and Career development.
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Application Requirements

Applicants must submit:

- cover letter (maximum 2 pages) outlining research interests and fit with this project
 - statement describing the lived experience of forced migration, as relevant to the role
 - curriculum vitae
 - writing sample (academic or policy-oriented)
 - contact information for three references
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Important Timelines

- Last date for application: July 17, 2026
 - Position begins on: August 10, 2026
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