



## **VISTA Postdoctoral Award Application Guide**

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### **Task 1: Confirm eligibility**

Confirm that you meet the VISTA Postdoctoral Award **eligibility criteria**.

To be eligible to apply:

- Your application must be supported by a VISTA core member who will supervise you;
- You must hold a doctorate in an area that falls within the VISTA mandate;
- A PhD or equivalent degree must be completed by the start date;
- The PhD degree must not have been obtained from York in the past 2 years;
- Postdoctoral candidates who are employed at York University under the category of 'Postdoctoral Visitor' are only eligible to apply to VISTA during their first 6 months of employment (or until the first available VISTA Postdoctoral Award application deadline, whichever comes first);
- You must be able to accept an offer with a start date:
  - Spring deadline: No earlier than July 1 and no later than December 1;
  - Fall deadline: No earlier than December 1 and no later than July 1;
- You must conduct research that is aligned with the VISTA program and meets award criteria.

### **Task 2: Identify and confirm a VISTA Core Member as your supervisor.**

Before applying to the VISTA award program, you must first find a VISTA Core Member who would become your supervisor and support your application. A list of VISTA Core Members can be found on the VISTA website.

### **Task 3: Identify potential academic collaborators and industry partners in discussion with your supervisor.**

The aim of these collaborations is to ensure that the research meets VISTA's mandate which is to support fundamental and applied vision research that combines biological

and computational perspectives and has translational potential for health, industry, or other applications

**Task 4: Complete the VISTA Application form.**

Complete and sign the VISTA fillable application form for Postdoctoral candidates found on the VISTA website.

**Task 5: Provide a copy of your Curriculum Vitae.**

Please submit a copy of your most recent CV along with your application

**Task 6: Provide one-page summary of proposed research.**

A one-page summary of your proposed research must be included with your application. Please refer to formatting instructions to prepare your documents:

- Page must be 8.5" x 11" inches.
- Insert a minimum margin of 2 cm (3/4 inch) around the page (top, bottom, and sides).
- Font should be Times New Roman, size 12.
- At the top of the page, indicate your name and title of the document.

**Task 7: Provide two Letters of Reference.**

Two Letters of Reference are required as part of the application. Letters of Reference should be sent directly from Referees to [applyvista@yorku.ca](mailto:applyvista@yorku.ca). Note that letters should come from Referees that do NOT include the proposed supervisor.

**Task 8: Provide Letter of Support.**

One letter of support from proposed supervisor required for all applicants.

**Task 9: Complete the Postdoctoral Supervisor form.**

Please have your proposed Supervisor and Co-supervisors complete the Postdoctoral Supervisor form and ask them to submit it to [applyvista@yorku.ca](mailto:applyvista@yorku.ca).

**Task 10: Provide Proof of external funding.**

Applications for 1-year extension must include copy of Notice of Award (NOA).

\*Moving forward, only current postdocs with contracts ending on or before Nov. 30, 2023 are eligible for the 1-year extension, provided that all other criteria are met.

**Task 11: Complete the Post-Doctoral Project Partner form.**

Please have your proposed Partner complete the Post-Doctoral Project Partner Form.

**Task 12: Complete the voluntary Self-Identification Survey.**

Please complete and submit the Self-Identification Survey along with your application.

This Personal information in connection with this survey will be used for educational, administrative and statistical purposes only and will be stored by the VISTA

Administration Staff to maintain confidentiality. **The form is completely voluntary and will not be used in the evaluation of the application.**

**Task 13: Complete application checklist.**

Please complete and review the application checklist to make sure that your application is complete and submit the checklist along with your application.

**Task 14: Submit application by deadline.**

Please submit all application documents, including application checklist, application form, letters of reference, CV, summary of research proposal, postdoctoral supervisor form, and self-identification survey by the application deadline to [applyvista@yorku.ca](mailto:applyvista@yorku.ca).