

2026 PhD/Postdoctoral-Level Fred & Mary Walsh Award

Value: \$7,500

Process of selection

Members of the Research Advisory Committee of the Alzheimer Society of Nova Scotia will review all submissions that meet the criteria stated below. Applications will be judged alongside applications from students or trainees at similar points in their research studies, and against what would normally be expected for student/trainees at that point in their career. Applicants will be notified of the Committee's decision and the awards will be officially presented at the Society's Annual General Meeting in 2026.

The Committee reserves the right to adjust the distribution of awards. If no suitable applications are received for a particular award, funds may be reallocated to qualified applicants from other levels of study. In some cases, fewer or no awards may be granted in a given year.

Eligibility

Student/trainees will be granted a maximum of one award. Please address any questions about eligibility to research@asns.ca.

- Open to any student/trainee currently enrolled in and attending PhD or postdoctoral level program of study at an accredited Nova Scotia University and undertaking a major research project or supervised independent study as a component of their coursework or certification.
- The research or independent study is focused on dementia (Alzheimer's disease or other).
- No particular discipline or type of research favoured (e.g. biomedical science, clinical research, psychosocial, policy, or quality of life).
- Recipients of any previous ASNS Research Awards are ineligible for an additional award while enrolled in the same academic program.

Criteria

The primary evaluation criteria are:

- Quality and clarity of the complete application package.
- Quality and content of the cover letter.
- Academic excellence and relevancy of the project to dementia.
- Clarity of the lay summary in communicating the project and its relevance to the general public.
- Merit of the student/trainee as indicated by reference/supervisor letters.

Société Alzheimer Society

NOVA SCOTIA

Application Process

A student/trainee applying for one of the awards must submit an application attached by email to research@asns.ca. The student/trainee's full name should be in the file name. Applications must include the following:

One document using 12 pt. Times New Roman font, single-spaced, containing:

1. **Cover letter (2pg max)** – Include a statement of career intent and personal narrative regarding working in the field of dementia research.
2. **Summary of research project to date (2pg max)** – Provide the full title of the dissertation/study and include a brief summary of background literature, research questions and hypotheses/objectives, study design and methodology, proposed data analysis, and results (if study is complete).
3. **Study implications (½pg max)** – Include a brief description of the potential implications of the study.
4. **Lay summary (½pg max)** – Include an explanation of the project and why it matters, written in a way that could be understood by people who do not have prior knowledge about the subject.
5. **Ethics statement (½pg max)** – A statement on ethical issues, including, where applicable: mechanisms to preserve confidentiality; any risks/discomforts/benefits to the participants, and any other ethical implications. Please identify whether your study has been approved by your institution's research ethics board, and if not, indicate the reason.

The following documents:

6. **Ethics approval letter** – If applicable, enclose a copy of the ethics approval from the institute's research committee.
7. **Current CV** – Includes a list of any other academic or financial awards and publications.

To be sent separately:

8. **Two letters of support** – One letter should be from the faculty advisor/professor, and the other from someone else who is familiar with the applicant's work. These letters must be sent via email by their authors.

Award recipients will be asked to provide the Alzheimer Society of Nova Scotia with a copy of their final paper or equivalent, which includes a summary of their findings. Recipients may be invited to share their work at an Alzheimer Society of Nova Scotia event, such as the Annual Provincial Conference, and/or through the Society's social media/website.

All applications must be submitted via email by 11:59 p.m. on **March 15, 2026** to research@asns.ca, subject: Fred & Mary Walsh Award 2026.