TERRY KLASSEN YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD GUIDELINES

The Terry Klassen Young Investigator Award is presented every second year at the PERC Annual Scientific Meeting. It honours an early-career investigator within the PERC network who demonstrates excellence in clinical research, embodies collaborative research values, and shows promise as a leader in pediatric emergency medicine research.

The award was created in recognition of Dr. Terry Klassen's legacy as a founding member of PERC and a champion of mentorship, collaboration, and scientific excellence.

SELECTION CRITIERIA & ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible, the nominee must be a PERC member who is within 7 years of their first staff investigator appointment at a clinical or academic institution. The term "staff investigator" refers to the first clinical faculty appointment, and not a research institute-only appointment (to account for institutional variation). Leaves of absence (e.g., parental, medical, or caregiver leave) do not count toward the 7-year limit.

The nominee will be expected to:

- Demonstrate a track record of novel, original, and high-impact clinical research
- Be actively involved in the development or execution of PERC research projects
- Embody the spirit of collaboration and mentorship
- Serve as a role model for other junior investigators, demonstrating integrity, mentorship, generosity, and scientific leadership

NOMINATION PROCESS

Nominations will be sought every second year (in odd-numbered years) from the PERC membership. A nomination will be considered complete once the following are received:

1. Completed nomination form
2. Two letters of support:
    - A primary letter from the nominator outlining the rationale for the nomination
    - A seconding letter from an additional PERC member(s) who supports the nomination. This letter may be signed by more than one secondary supporter of the nomination, but only 2 letters will be considered for each nominee.
3. Nominee's curriculum vitae, including a full list of publications

EQUITY, DIVERSITY, INCLUSION & ACCESSIBILITY (EDIA) CONSIDERATIONS

PERC is committed to fostering an inclusive, equitable research community. As part of this award process, nominators are encouraged to reflect on EDIA principles:

- Nominators should be mindful of potential systemic barriers that may influence recognition or access to early-career opportunities
- Evidence of inclusive mentorship, team-building, or research practices that reflect EDIA values may be included as part of the rationale for nomination

DEADLINE AND SELECTION PROCESS

The nomination deadline for the PERC 2027 award is December 22, 2026.

All complete nominations will be reviewed and ranked by the PERC Awards Sub-Committee, which includes diverse representation from across the network. Award recipients will be recognized during the PERC Annual Scientific Meeting in odd-numbered years.

Please direct questions to:
PERC National Coordinator
Email: nationalcoordinator@perc-canada.ca