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# Announcements

## New announcements

1. The Office of Research Services has launched the 2024 Research Excellence Awards. Applications are due April 19, 2024. See [ORS Information and Deadlines](#_Mitacs_Accelerate_New) below for more information.
2. SSHRC has rescheduled upcoming deadlines for the [Partnership Engage Grant](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/programs-programmes/partnership_engage_grants-subventions_d_engagement_partenarial-eng.aspx) and the [Connection Grant](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/programs-programmes/connection_grants-subventions_connexion-eng.aspx) to accommodate for IT work over the summer:
   1. The June 15, 2024, deadline for the Partnership Engage Grants has been moved to May 22, 2024.
   2. The August 1, 2024, deadline for the Connection Grant has been moved to June 20, 2024.
3. Canadian Space Agency Aqualunar Challenge - The Canadian Space Agency recently launched the [Aqualunar Challenge](https://impact.canada.ca/en/challenges/aqualunarchallenge) in collaboration with Impact Canada, the United Kingdom Space Agency (UKSA) and Challenge Works. The Aqualunar Challenge is a challenge prize with a goal of creating innovative water purification technologies that could support more ambitious space missions. The Aqualunar Challenge is calling on innovators to create innovative technologies, for use on the Moon, to remove contaminants found in lunar water. Please see [ORS Information and Deadlines](#_Canadian_Space_Agency_1) for details.
4. [Lab 2 Market – Validate](https://www.lab2market.ca/validate) – Fall 2024 Cohort Now Open! We are excited to announce that applications for our national Lab2Market Validate Fall 2024 Cohort are open! This program is delivered in partnership with the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) and is an extension of the[Idea to Innovation (I2I) Market Assessment Grant](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RPP-PP/I2I-Innov_eng.asp)**.** Please see [ORS Information and Deadlines](#_Lab2Market_Validate_–) below for details.
5. Mitacs announces [a special quantum technology offer](https://www.mitacs.ca/special-offers/?utm_campaign=Quantum%20Days&utm_medium=email&_hsmi=2&_hsenc=p2ANqtz-9xq7jjtBRZ_vvfqkOtfqbioj3x-bhnGWjZFRh8vkuUFgnumudFbgSZ5VWAiQXWRcT6RTXh7taG7gA3X3qsDRnblrIcEw&utm_content=2&utm_source=hs_email) under the [Globalink Research Award](https://d4k5ww04.na1.hubspotlinks.com/Ctc/OT+113/d4K5Ww04/VX9h3t7vJrYfW5D0w_L50sq3YW4YmM-15bR2fxN67vcp43qn9gW7Y8-PT6lZ3mKW4DDYLW1_Zg52N29kSZbws2cFVZwj2g3zNplSW4PGmYK8FJDvhN4dl4V2rYRslW8c2TZQ5fg3dVW45TLJF6M0qHlW3kt3b66CXry1W873SRn1pbsMPW43-Z7397wsPbW80vBKC3Tn1BrW18HFht4WGBG7N7n7dLFnq2R0W9h1kV2183p2SVmWp6p1nvRmDW5nv6wR6VVR9ZW3NzqMF92fPgqW8TWpr_2y0TnMW6X1JsH77kbXqW3m5Szn6ccWwTW2WJWXz7RNhLZW2yJ_Q56Y6ykcW2kPYWw6b3n39W6-dtbF4p2Z6NW324nYz3BY4KHW1_rHWp1mjycnf1sK0jW04) (GRA) program. For internships starting in August 2024, applications are due by April 30, 2024. Mitacs is holding an information session on April 2 @ 2:00 – [register here](https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/mitacs-globalink-gra-research-award-quantum-offering-tickets-862447261977?aff=oddtdtcreator&utm_campaign=Quantum+Days&_hsenc=p2ANqtz-_peVoEdfUr-dDHCyIHHUGWzKMOVEarTq7E_52GR5jqdjmBqlsqIAatsY2yF04bff_NH2DyDqxDhb98qm1EHuuIuckDvA&utm_content=2&utm_source=hs_email&utm_medium=email&_hsmi=2).

## Reminders

1. [Announcing Mitacs Accelerate’s new online application portal](#_Mitacs_Accelerate_New)
2. [*What We Heard: A Report from the Three Federal Research Funding Agencies’ Ad Hoc Working Group on Indigenous Citizenship and Membership*](https://track.smtpsendemail.com/9079200/c?p=-GH_O1Kl1ZxRAl8lOziQtNeh2VEv-WrEsCROc478ZnKT8bcaM-KaVilt_uJLQllwfWCmpB8wMSMGuv_5jbwubB6SsbDiiog_bom7oll1fC74CT4ewHz1hHWfttF5BI4TYThMWpHDtN7FtIQ0cts-kstnAQlY5mK92ZwOXwzzEpthkE8DLAOnSKdD3FA0pUwcEwGhns5N019Vf4Nls_N6hgzWcBM__h2J1CcUoixpfgiAa1CPChncVpACQuwXrh3n4-d8cuuhZ6lyTImgGjpWka6iXdQCAtxNSSUwmEw2F24=): The report stems from a commitment under [Setting new directions to support Indigenous research and research training in Canada](https://track.smtpsendemail.com/9079200/c?p=Zzb3klFCwCr7WKzisAuIXbbo45OgwpOi32pop7q5iK3i7nywifK0kRNBa_dDGv9N5aEr3-pD9zSmfwYf-FXtnfh9D4nQbYq244MBdM6HQkDtYnJJ8bpDlms5vTwBmpWtx4O28KbPgIkGSjUaHCacTsNXlSmm_cAYpQpW5AUmTtCZrcR9zgpC6tS1CXuGtTstT0KkJsrOz-FI0rytN_i9grZ2ZWm8zmlZjoS2MTic4199dRWAniGMnbq53NyWlWY1PYyY9EC5CP7SF8GiVrOPjH_Ss8n6C6IrucSaaN7A44Q=), the Canada Research Coordinating Committee’s strategic plan identifying how better to support Indigenous research and research training in Canada. The resulting strategy’s implementation will be guided by the [Indigenous Leadership Circle in Research](https://track.smtpsendemail.com/9079200/c?p=yYmRxD8rfQQ00envCGBGNfqFUBcis0eRagQm8J_2OzD700LY_udcMf-CA60S6AnONRL2Wg26xjYH7VHJihKnrz7EadOGWO_fsh0PFXM3nOjyOCsaD-NDwY2Mwf916S7DIEmFvq3XvYA4VI9qp3IWbWFreOGwOQudNsYkFHhdCw9vu8e7bpKm09z2PdS2HPBXAhwund-DzZNg6joESyBJkLOw4GX9xYx5OJ1UH1laARNGQaM4vqareUpIM-qTzQYUJB2arL34r9oko1eLaDBf5jA3R_Yv-iTmEuJDtVNMrA1MBSCWhEt3MoNRYTLCxN-3). The report reflects on recent developments in postsecondary spaces as institutions embark on similar journeys and outlines key principles that will inform future work in these areas by the agencies. Further, the report provides the context for developing a policy on the issue to better support Indigenous researchers to access opportunities intended for them. Contributors to the What We Heard report include Indigenous academics, researchers and administrators, as well as institutions’ leaders.
3. New Requirements for Federal Research Funding - [Policy on Sensitive Technology Research and Affiliations of Concern (STRAC)](https://ised-isde.canada.ca/site/science/en/safeguarding-your-research/guidelines-and-tools-implement-research-security/policy-sensitive-technology-research-and-affiliations-concern). Additional information can be found [here](#_Release_of_the_1) and in the [FAQ](https://ised-isde.canada.ca/site/science/en/safeguarding-your-research/guidelines-and-tools-implement-research-security/frequently-asked-questions-faq-policy-sensitive-technology-research-and-affiliations-concern).
4. Updates to the [National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships](https://science.gc.ca/site/science/en/safeguarding-your-research/guidelines-and-tools-implement-research-security/national-security-guidelines-research-partnerships) that are effective immediately:
   1. The [National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships’ Annex A](https://science.gc.ca/site/science/en/safeguarding-your-research/guidelines-and-tools-implement-research-security/national-security-guidelines-research-partnerships#annex-a) has been updated to align with the new list of [Sensitive Technology Research Areas](https://science.gc.ca/site/science/en/safeguarding-your-research/guidelines-and-tools-implement-research-security/sensitive-technology-research-areas). The list includes technologies at various stages of development; however, the focus is on the **advancement** of a listed technology or its capabilities during the course of the proposed research project, rather than merely its use.
   2. In addition, for any NSERC Alliance grant applications that are referred for advice from Canada’s national security departments and agencies following the [National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships’ Risk Assessment Review Process](https://science.gc.ca/site/science/en/safeguarding-your-research/guidelines-and-tools-implement-research-security/risk-assessment-review-process), the national security assessment conducted will consider research affiliations of concern.
5. [NSERC announce improvements to Alliance grants programs](#_NSERC_announces_improvements)
6. [Convergence Portal Update – Multi-Factor Authentication](#_Convergence_Portal_Update_1): Over the next few months, Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) will be implementing multi-factor authentication (MFA) in Convergence, as mandated by Government of Canada security policies. Visit the [multi-factor authentication page](https://www.getcybersafe.gc.ca/en/secure-your-accounts/multi-factor-authentication#defn-multi-factor-authentication) for more information.
7. [The presidents of Canada's federal research granting agencies announce a review of the Tri-Agency Open Access Policy on Publications](https://science.gc.ca/site/science/en/interagency-research-funding/policies-and-guidelines/open-access/presidents-canadas-federal-research-granting-agencies-announce-review-tri-agency-open-access-policy)
8. [Mitacs Elevate Program updates](#_Mitacs_Elevate_Program): applications are being accepted year-round, proposals are now submitted via the online portal, standard $60,000/year award, open to all sectors and disciplines.
9. SSHRC-Mitacs Joint Initiative: Starting 2023-24: SSHRC applicants (PEG, PDG, PG-S2, IG) can simultaneously apply for Mitacs Accelerate internships (IDG in 2025). The advantages of the joint program are to: strengthen training and mentoring plans, access additional funding for student and postdoctoral resources, Reinforce engagement with partners and stakeholders, and develop skills and qualifications of students and postdoctoral researchers.

High-level process: (1) SSHRC applicant applies to Mitacs for Accelerate internships one week after SSHRC application deadline; (2) Mitacs and SSHRC conduct merit review separately; (3) Mitacs communicates results to Accelerate applicants after SSHRC does the same for its applicants.

Contact Grants Officer Ewa Stewart ([ewa.stewart@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:ewa.stewart@ontariotechu.ca)) for more information.

1. [Update from the NSERC-SSHRC Awards Administration Team](#_Update_to_the) regarding the extension request process for grants requiring an extension due to pandemic delays.
2. [CIHR – Mock Review Toolkit:](#_CIHR_–_Mock) The Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) is pleased to announce the launch of the [Mock Review Toolkit](https://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/53189.html). The Toolkit is designed to allow individuals to familiarize themselves with CIHR’s peer review process by simulating the Project Grant competition. Using the Toolkit as a resource, users will be able plan, organize and run mock peer review sessions, from a light round table to a full mock review panel.

1. [City Studio Durham](https://www.durham.ca/modules/news/en/Collaboratewithus)  has projects for faculty and students, including projects on workplace modernization, carbon capture, building resilience for displaced residents and others.
2. Revisions made to [CIHR Application Administration Guide](https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/50805.html#g-3) to bring clarity on policy 3.6 regarding compensation for co-applicants and trainees.
3. [Research Data Management – Communication re: Tri-Agency Updates](#_Notice_-_European)

# Funding Opportunities

Grants Officers will provide administrative review of grant applications to ensure completeness with agency guidelines and assist with institutional signatures.**Please notify your Grants Officer as soon as possible of your intent to apply to any opportunity and submit your application for administrative review a minimum of five business days** **before the agency deadline.**

**Note:** We have provided some additional details on some opportunities in the Word document version of this bulletin. Click on “ORS information and deadlines” to link to these details within the Funding Bulletin document.

## **New this month**

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| **Agency-Program** | **Internal Deadline** | **First Agency Deadline** |
| Canadian Internet Registration Authority (CIRA) – [Net Good Grants Program](https://www.cira.ca/en/grants/) | April 3, 2024 | April 10, 2024 |
| Natural Resources Canada - Energy Innovation Program - [Methane Measurement and Mitigation Call for Proposals](https://natural-resources.canada.ca/science-and-data/funding-partnerships/opportunities/grants-incentives/energy-innovation-program/energy-innovation-program-methane-measurement-and-mitigation-call-for-proposals/25644)  Information Session – [March 26 @ 1:00 pm](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_MAfKiQiFQ_24c4R5c7tVVw#/registration)  \*Please notify your Grants Officer by March 25 if you plan on applying to this program\* | Mandatory NOI: March 25, 2024  Full: April 8, 2024 | Full: April 17, 2024 |
| Ontario Tech University – [Research Excellence Chairs Program](#_Ontario_Tech_University) | N/A | April 19, 2024 |
| Lab2Market Validate – [Fall 2024 Cohort](https://www.lab2market.ca/validate) – [ORS Information and Deadlines](#_Lab2Market_Validate_–) | May 7, 2024 | May 14, 2024 |
| Simons Foundation – [Pivot Fellowship 2025](https://www.simonsfoundation.org/grant/pivot-fellowship-request-for-applications/)  The Pivot Fellowship supports researchers who have a strong track record of success and achievement in their current field, and a deep interest, curiosity and drive to make contributions to a new discipline. The program is open to faculty in the natural sciences, mathematics, engineering, data science and computer science at academic institutions. The fellowships provide salary support as well as research, travel and professional development funding. In addition, mentors will receive a $50,000 research fund. | May 8, 2024 | May 15, 2024 |
| SSHRC - [Partnership Engage Grant](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/programs-programmes/partnership_engage_grants-subventions_d_engagement_partenarial-eng.aspx)  \*Please note deadline change\* | May 15, 2024 | May 22, 2024 |
| SSHRC - [Connection Grant](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/programs-programmes/connection_grants-subventions_connexion-eng.aspx)  \*Please note deadline change\* | June 13, 2024 | June 20, 2024 |
| New Frontiers in Research Fund - [2024 NordForsk-Led International Joint Initiative on Sustainable Development in the Arctic](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/nfrf-fnfr/international/international-eng.aspx) | Registration: May 23, 2024  Full: TBD | Registration: May 30, 2024  Full: Fall 2024 |
| The National Killam Program – [The Dorothy Killam Fellowship](https://programmekillamprogram.powerappsportals.com/en-CA/fundingopportunities/fodetails/?foid=4b490485-049f-ec11-b400-002248d5186d)  Please notify your Grants Officer as soon as possible if you are interested in applying. Letters of Support are required and will need to be requested in advance of the May 21 internal deadline. | May 21, 2024 | June 13, 2024 |

## **Current Funding Opportunities**

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| **Agency-Program** | **Internal Deadline** | **First Agency Deadline** |
| NSERC – [Alliance International Catalyst Quantum Grants](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/AllianceCatalyst-CatalyseurAlliance_eng.asp) | No later than March 4, 2024 | Rolling deadline until March 31, 2024 |
| NSERC- French Agence nationale de la recherche (ANR) [call for proposals on quantum technologies](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/ANR-ANR/Apply-Presentation_eng.asp) | March 14, 2024 | March 28, 2024 |
| The Royal Canadian Geographical Society and the National Geographic Society – [The Trebek Initiative](https://www.trebekinitiative.com/) | April 4, 2024 | April 11, 2024 |
| DND-IDEaS – [Counter Uncrewed Aerial Systems Concept Development Call for Proposals](https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/programs/defence-ideas/element/sandboxes/challenge/counter-uncrewed-aerial-systems-concept-development.html?utm_campaign=dnd-mdn-cuas-23-24&utm_medium=eml&utm_source=innovator-message&utm_content=website-fr-230907) (Two deadlines to apply) | ~~Full #1: October 19, 2023~~  Full #2: April 8, 2024 | ~~Full #1: October 26, 2023~~  Full #2: April 15, 2024 |
| SickKids Foundation/ CIHR – [New Investigator Grants in Child and Youth Health](https://www.sickkidsfoundation.com/aboutus/grantsandawards/newinvestigatorresearchgrants) | April 15, 2024 | April 22, 2024 |
| The Spencer Foundation – [Research Grants on Education: Small](https://www.spencer.org/grant_types/small-research-grant): Supports education research projects that will contribute to the improvement of education, broadly conceived, with budgets up to $50,000 for projects ranging from one to five years. | April 23, 2024 | April 30, 2024 |
| NSERC – [Collaborative Research and Training Experience (CREATE)](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/Grants-Subs/CREATE-FONCER_eng.asp) Program – [ORS Information and Deadlines](#_Ontario_Ministry_of_3)  \*NSERC CREATE has a quota of two applications per institution. Applicants must submit their internal LOI to ORS by March 4 to be considered within our institutional quota. | ~~Internal LOI – March 4, 2024 (mandatory)~~  LOI - April 24, 2024  Full - TBD | LOI – May 1, 2024  Full – September 23, 2024 (by invitation only) |
| SSHRC – [Connection Grant](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/programs-programmes/connection_grants-subventions_connexion-eng.aspx) | April 24, 2024 | May 1, 2024 |
| The Spencer Foundation – [Racial Equity Research Grants](https://www.spencer.org/grant_types/racial-equity-special-research-grants):   supports education research projects that will contribute to understanding and ameliorating racial inequality in education. (Competition will open in March 2024) | LOI: May 22, 2024  Full: June 20, 2024 | LOI: May 29, 2024  Full: June 27, 2024 |
| NSERC-NRC – [Internet of Things: Quantum Sensors Challenge Program](https://nrc.canada.ca/en/research-development/research-collaboration/programs/internet-things-quantum-sensors-challenge-program) – NSERC Alliance Quantum - [Advancing the industrial readiness of quantum sensing technologies](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/alliance_quantum-alliance_quantique/Quantum_Sensing-Detection_Quantique/index_eng.asp)  Please notify your Grants Officer as soon as possible if you are planning on applying to this funding opportunity | June 3, 2024 | June 14, 2024 |
| New Frontiers in Research Fund – [2024 Transformation Competition](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/nfrf-fnfr/transformation/2024/competition-concours-eng.aspx) – [ORS Information and deadlines](#_Tri-Agency_New_Frontiers_1) | ~~NOI: October 23, 2023~~  LOI: December 4, 2023  Full: TBD | ~~NOI: October 24, 2023~~  LOI: January 10, 2024  Full: September 5, 2024 |

**Ongoing Opportunities – No Deadline**

**Notify ORS of your intention to apply a minimum of 3 weeks before you intend to submit your proposal (unless otherwise specified).**

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| **Agency-Program** |
| **City Studio Durham:** [**matching students with real-world projects**](https://www.durham.ca/en/citystudio/index.aspx)   * Contact [danielle.saney@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:danielle.saney@ontariotechu.ca) |
| **Teaching City Oshawa:** [**addressing Oshawa’s urban issues through research and innovation**](https://www.oshawa.ca/en/business-development/teachingcity-oshawa.aspx)   * Contact [danielle.saney@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:Felipe.Rubio@ontariotechu.ca) |
| **NSERC Alliance**   * [NSERC Alliance](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/innovate-innover/alliance-alliance/index_eng.asp) – [Internal ORS Info](#_Mitacs_Funding_Update_1) * [NSERC Alliance International](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/AllianceInternational-AllianceInternational/index_eng.asp) – [Internal ORS Info.](#_NSERC_Alliance_International) |
| **NSERC** [**Idea to Innovation**](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RPP-PP/I2I-Innov_eng.asp) **Grant**  The objective of Idea to Innovation (I2I) grants is to accelerate the pre-competitive development of promising technology originating from the university and college sector, and to promote its transfer to a new or established Canadian company. I2I grants provide funding to college and university faculty members to support research and development projects with recognized technology transfer potential. This is achieved through defined phases by providing crucial assistance in the early stages of technology validation and market connection.   * Notify IP Officer[**Walter Chan**](mailto:Walter.Chan@ontariotechu.ca)as soon as possible if you are interested in applying. * Applications must be submitted to ORS **a minimum of one month** before the NSERC deadline. * Please review [ORS information and deadlines](#_NSERC_I2I_GRANTS) below |
| **Mitacs - Most MITACS Applications have resumed as normal.**   * [Mitacs Accelerate](https://www.mitacs.ca/en/programs/accelerate) - [Internal ORS Info.](#_Mitacs_Accelerate) * [Mitacs Accelerate: Connecting SMEs with AI](http://discover.mitacs.ca/artificial-intelligence-assessment/) * [Mitacs Business Strategy Internship (BSI)](https://www.mitacs.ca/en/programs/business-strategy-internship) * [Mitacs Entrepreneur International](https://www.mitacs.ca/en/programs/entrepreneur-international) * [Mitacs Globalink Research Award (GRA)](https://research.ontariotechu.ca/mitacs-globalink-research-award-gra.php) * [Mitacs Elevate](https://www.mitacs.ca/en/programs/elevate?_cldee=EKMGpPuDLKhPLZWYyxVibnn5gxeSa9AP-GUiusD-L0BSt8hi77B27ITCfr5ypeqw&recipientid=contact-6c619d70d756ea11a811000d3af3afcd-a163420bade040ba9a3beefe2c33cc58&esid=3dddc2b5-5d59-ed11-9562-0022483dd456) * [Joint NSERC Alliance – Mitacs Accelerate Streamlined Funding](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/NSERC-Alliance-Mitacs_eng.asp) |
| **Cisco Research** [**– Research Grants**](https://research.cisco.com/research-grants/RFP-21-05)   * Quantum Computing and Networking * Tech for Healthcare * Edge Computing * Future of Work |
| **Canada Space Agency** - [Programs](https://www.asc-csa.gc.ca/eng/funding-programs/programs/default.asp)   * Flights and Fieldwork for the Advancement of Science and Technology (FAST) * Space Data Utilization * Space Exploration * Research and Development * International opportunities |
| **Government of Canada Department of National Defence (DND)**   * [DND Innovation for Defence Excellence and Security (IDEaS) Program](https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/programs/defence-ideas/current-opportunities.html) |
| **Ontario Centre for Innovation (OCI)**  To drive commercialization of intellectual property   * [Collaborate 2 Commercialize Program, 2022-2023](https://www.oc-innovation.ca/programs/collaborate-2-commercialize/) (Previously OCI-VIP) * [OCI TalentEdgeInternship Program (TIP) - NGNP](https://www.oc-innovation.ca/programs/talentedge-internship-program-tip-ngnp/) * [OCI TalentEdge Fellowship Program (TFP) - OVIN](https://www.oc-innovation.ca/programs/ontario-vehicle-innovation-network-ovin/) * [Joint NSERC Alliance – OCI C2C Funding](#_NSERC_Alliance_–) |
| **Gates Foundation** [Global Grand Challenges Grants](https://gcgh.grandchallenges.org/challenges) |
| **RBC**: [Youth Mental Well-being Grants](https://www.rbc.com/community-social-impact/apply-for-funding/youth-mental-wellbeing-guidelines.html) |
| **Honda Canada** [Foundation Grants](https://www.hondacanadafoundation.ca/home) - [ORS Information and Deadlines](#_Honda_Canada_Foundation_1) |
| **IC-IMPACTS:** [Innovative Technology Demonstration Projects](https://ic-impacts.com/call-for-proposal/innovative-demonstration-initiative/) |
| **Government of Canada Multi-sectoral Partnership**s [to Promote Health Living and Prevent Chronic Disease](https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/funding-opportunities/multi-sectoral-partnerships-promote-healthy-living-prevent-chronic-disease.html)   * [Internal ORS Info.](#_Transport_Canada,_Clean) |
| **SOSCIP Collaborative R&D projects** [for academia and industry partners](https://www.soscip.org/soscip-application-guide/) |
| **Max Bell Foundation:** [Project and Development Grants](https://www.maxbell.org/apply-for-funding/)   * Environment * Health and Wellness * Education * Improving Indigenous health * Impact of Tech on society |

# ORS – Internal processes, information and contacts

## Grant Submission Process

**Step 1 - Notification of Intent to Apply:**  Engage the ORS as early as possible in planning to submit any grant applications. Your Grants Officer can support your application development and ensure your proposal aligns with program guidelines and internal university policies.

**Step 2 (Optional) - Comprehensive Proposal Review**: If you would like a comprehensive review of your grant application, submit it to the appropriate Grants Officer **three weeks to one month** in advance of the agency deadline, or according to the internal deadlines noted below.

**Step 3 - Administrative Review and Internal Approvals**: To ensure internal approvals, including required institutional signatures, we require faculty members to provide grant applications and the completed [Research Grant/Contract Authorization (RGA)](https://shared.ontariotechu.ca/shared/department/research/documents/policies-and-procedure-form/rga-form-e-signatures.docx) Form **a minimum of five business days** before the agency deadline. Grants Officers will provide administrative review of new grant applications to ensure completeness with agency guidelines and assist with institutional signatures.

## Internal Information regarding External Grants

Certain funding programs have limitations or specific application requirements. The Office of Research Services will promote specific grants that may include internal competition deadlines or other internal requirements. Faculty are strongly encouraged to review information posted by the ORS and to notify their Faculty Grants Officers regarding their intent to apply.

## Faculty Grants Officers - Contacts

FBIT, FSSH, FED – [Ewa Stewart](mailto:ewa.stewart@ontariotechu.ca)

FEAS – [Joanne Hui](mailto:joanne.hui@ontariotechu.ca)

FHSci, FSci – [Raluca Dubrowski](mailto:Raluca.dubrowski@ontariotechu.ca)

# Resources

## National Security Guidelines

* NSERC Alliance – [Press Release – Jul 2021](https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/07/government-of-canada-takes-action-to-protect-canadian-research-and-intellectual-property.html) / [ORS Information on Security Guidelines and FAQ](#_New_National_Security)

## Tri-Agency

* Data Management [Policy](https://science.gc.ca/eic/site/063.nsf/eng/h_97610.html) and [FAQ](https://science.gc.ca/eic/site/063.nsf/eng/h_97609.html) / Guide on [Financial Administration](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/InterAgency-Interorganismes/TAFA-AFTO/guide-guide_eng.asp)

## NFRF

* [Research Stories](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/nfrf-fnfr/stories-histoires-eng.aspx)

## SSHRC

* [News Room](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/news_room-salle_de_presse/index-eng.aspx) / [Covid Updates](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/news_room-salle_de_presse/covid-19-eng.aspx) / [Forms](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/forms-formulaires/index-eng.aspx) / [Funding opportunities](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/index-eng.aspx) / [Competition Results](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/results-resultats/index-eng.aspx)

## NSERC

* [Latest News](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Media-Media/News-Nouvelles_eng.asp) / 2030 Strategic Plan – [Engaging Stakeholders](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/NSERC2030-CRSNG2030/index_eng.asp) / [NSERC Interactive Dashboard](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/db-tb/index-eng.asp) / [Covid Updates](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Media-Media/NewsDetail-DetailNouvelles_eng.asp?ID=1139)

## CIHR

* [Application Administration Guide](https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/50805.html) / [Policy on Identical and Essentially Identical applications](https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/52222.html)
* [CIHR Covid Updates](https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/51917.html) / [CIHR Funding opportunities](https://www.researchnet-recherchenet.ca/rnr16/search.do?fodAgency=CIHR&fodLanguage=E&all=1&search=true&org=CIHR&sort=program&masterList=true&view=currentOpps)
* [CIHR Policy Guide](https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/52820.html) – Registration and disclosure from clinical trial results – [Overview](https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/42405.html); [FAQs](https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/52810.html)

## Research Facilities Navigator

* [Research Facilities Navigator](https://navigator.innovation.ca/en?redirect=true) to find facilities in agencies across Canada open to working with you on research.
* Create [your Navigator Profile](https://navigator.innovation.ca/en/create-or-edit-your-profile?redirect=true)
* Ontario Tech University [Navigator Profiles](https://navigator.innovation.ca/en/search?f%5B0%5D=institution_uch%3A808)

## Equity Diversity and Inclusion (EDI)

* [Tri-Agency EDI Action Plan 2018 - 2025](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/EDI-EDI/Action-Plan_Plan-dAction_eng.asp)
* NSERC [EDI Hub](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/EDI/Index_eng.asp) / [EDI Research Guide](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/Policies-Politiques/EDI_guidance-Conseils_EDI_eng.asp) / [Alliance EDI Resource](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/innovate-innover/alliance-alliance/edi_training-edi_formation_eng.asp)
* NFRF [Best Practices in EDI in Research](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/nfrf-fnfr/edi-eng.aspx)
* SSHRC [EDI in Research Guide (Partnership Grant Pilot)](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/apply-demande/guides/partnership_edi_guide-partenariats_guide_edi-eng.aspx) / SSHRC EDI [Services and Information](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/about-au_sujet/edi/index-eng.aspx)
* [EDI in the Research Enterprise](#_SSHRC_Small_Research)
* NFRF EDI Research presentation – Contact ORS for copy

## Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in the Research Enterprise

Ontario Tech is committed to transforming our institutional culture and embedding Equity Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) principles in every area of practice: in research, teaching and administration. The Office of Research Services is working with units from across the university to ready our institution for joining the [Dimensions: Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Canada](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/EDI-EDI/Dimensions_Dimensions_eng.asp) program, and we are committed to informing the Ontario Tech research community of changes in funding policy and guidelines as related to EDI principles. Review the relevant resources below and contact your faculty’s grants officer with any questions.

1. [Tri-Council 2018 Open Letter to the research community](https://science.gc.ca/eic/site/063.nsf/eng/h_97616.html)
2. Tri-council New Frontiers in Research Fund: [Best Practices in Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Research](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/nfrf-fnfr/edi-eng.aspx)
3. **NSERC** 
   1. [Framework on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/InterAgency-Interorganismes/EDI-EDI/Action-Plan_Plan-dAction_eng.asp)
   2. [Guide for Applicants:](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/_doc/EDI/Guide_for_Applicants_EN.pdf) Considering equity, diversity and inclusion in your application
   3. [NSERC guide on integrating equity, diversity and inclusion considerations in research](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/Policies-Politiques/EDI_guidance-Conseils_EDI_eng.asp)
4. **CIHR** 
   1. [Gender Equity Framework](https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/50238.html)
   2. Tools for Researchers: [How to integrate sex and gender into research](https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/50836.html)
5. **SSHRC**
   1. [EDI in Research Guide (Partnership Grant Pilot)](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/apply-demande/guides/partnership_edi_guide-partenariats_guide_edi-eng.aspx)
   2. EDI [Services and Information](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/about-au_sujet/edi/index-eng.aspx)
6. **CRC**
   1. Equity, Diversity and Inclusion: [A Best Practices Guide for Recruitment, Hiring and Retention](https://www.chairs-chaires.gc.ca/program-programme/equity-equite/best_practices-pratiques_examplaires-eng.aspx)
   2. [Unconscious bias training module](https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/lms/e/bias/)
7. Ontario Tech’s [CRC Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Awareness Strategy and Action Plan](https://research.ontariotechu.ca/faculty/ontario-tech-crc-equity,-diversity-and-inclusion-awareness-strategy-and-action-plan-.php)
8. **Ontario Tech is an Employer Partner with the Canadian Centre for Diversity and Inclusion (**[**CCDI**](http://www.ccdi.ca/)**)** which provides us with a number of benefits that will support us on our diversity journey. Key resources available include:

* [Subscribe](https://ccdi.ca/subscribe/) to the **CCDI Monthly Newsletter** – “Diversity Ink”. View [past newsletters](https://ccdi.ca/newsletters/).
* CCDI Knowledge Repository. As part of the “Members Only” portal on their website, CCDI launched an e-library with over 1,000 documents containing Canadian-specific and international diversity and inclusion research, reports, toolkits and news, which are indexed and searchable by multiple parameters (e.g. by keyword, by topic, etc.). This e-library is an evergreen resource and new content is continually being added. If you would like access the Knowledge Repository, please send an e-mail to [kr@ccdi.ca](mailto:kr@ccdi.ca) with the subject line “Knowledge Repository Access” – include your first name, last name and work e-mail address. You will receive your log-in information shortly thereafter.
* CCDI [Monthly Webinars](https://ccdi.ca/event-calendar/?category=Webinars).

## New National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships to protect Canadian Science and Research

The Government of Canada released new [National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships](https://science.gc.ca/eic/site/063.nsf/eng/h_98256.html).

These guidelines were developed in collaboration with the [Government of Canada–Universities Working Group](https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/063.nsf/eng/h_98090.html) and will integrate national security considerations into the development, evaluation and funding of research partnerships.

These guidelines are being applied immediately as a mandatory element of federal research partnership funding through the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada’s (NSERC) [Alliance Grants program](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/innovate-innover/alliance-alliance/index_eng.asp) for any application involving private sector partner organizations. Foreign not-for-profit and government organizations are already ineligible partners under this program.

All applicants partnering with private sector partners for NSERC Alliance funding will be required to complete the [National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships' risk assessment form](https://science.gc.ca/eic/site/063.nsf/eng/h_98257.html) as a component of the Alliance application package submitted to the Office of Research Services and to NSERC. This requirement encompasses applications currently in development, but not yet submitted in the NSERC system, along with all new applications initiated in the system.

NSERC is currently updating all relevant instructions and resources on the [Alliance program website](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/innovate-innover/alliance-alliance/index_eng.asp) and in the [online system](https://ebiz.nserc.ca/nserc_web/nserc_login_e.htm).

The Office of Research Services (ORS) is working to understand the new guidelines and their impact on applicants. Please anticipate further communications from ORS to assist with implementation.

**Additional Resources**

[NSERC Alliance Grants Webpage](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/alliance-alliance/index_eng.asp)

[NSERC Alliance Grants - National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships](https://www.uoguelph.ca/research/alerts/content/nserc-alliance-grants-%E2%80%93-national-security-guidelines-research-partnerships)

[Safeguarding your Research Portal](https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/063.nsf/eng/h_97955.html)

[NSERC Alliance - Frequently Asked Questions](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/alliance-alliance/faq-faq_eng.asp)

[NSERC Alliance Grant Application Checklist](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/_doc/alliance/ApplicationChecklist_e.pdf)

**Frequently Asked Questions**

1. [Is it mandatory for my application to include the completed risk assessment questionnaire and risk mitigation plan of the National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships’ risk assessment form?](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/alliance-alliance/faq-faq_eng.asp#7)
2. [Are there types of private sector organizations involved in Alliance projects that do not trigger the need for completing the National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships’ risk assessment form (e.g., Canadian—including parents, subsidiaries or affiliates—, multinational or foreign organizations)?](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/alliance-alliance/faq-faq_eng.asp#8)
3. [My Alliance project involves several partner organizations from the private, public and not-for-profit sectors. When completing the risk assessment questionnaire of the National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships, do I consider only risks associated with the private sector partner organization(s)?](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/alliance-alliance/faq-faq_eng.asp#9)

## Research Data Management – Communication re: Tri-Agency Updates

In March 2021, Canada’s federal granting agencies — the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) — launched the [Tri-Agency Research Data Management (RDM) Policy](https://science.gc.ca/eic/site/063.nsf/eng/h_97610.html). One of the policy requirements is that applicants to certain funding opportunities will need to submit data management plans (DMPs) with their applications. The agencies recently announced the initial funding opportunities that will require applicants to submit DMPs:

**CIHR**

* Network Grants in Skin Health and Muscular Dystrophy (Anticipated launch fall 2022 or early winter 2023)
* Virtual Care/Digital Health Team Grants (Anticipated launch fall 2022 or early winter 2023)
* Data Science for Equity (Anticipated launch fall 2022 or early winter 2023)

**NSERC**

* Subatomic Physics Discovery Grants - Individual and Project (Anticipated launch summer 2023)

**SSHRC**

* Partnership Grants Stage 2 (Anticipated launch summer 2023)

**RESOURCES TO SUPPORT APPLICANTS IN PREPARING DMPs**

**Tri-Agency**

The agencies are collaborating with stakeholders to co-develop resources to support applicants in preparing DMPs. Information about these resources will be provided when the funding opportunities are launched. The agencies are also exploring approaches to DMP assessment. Details on how DMPs will be considered in the adjudication process, as well as resources to support assessment of DMPs, will be provided when the funding opportunities are launched. For more information on RDM and DMPs, consult the [Frequently Asked Questions](https://science.gc.ca/eic/site/063.nsf/eng/h_97609.html) for the Tri-Agency RDM Policy or visit the [RDM services page](https://alliancecan.ca/en/services/research-data-management) of the [Digital Research Alliance of Canada](https://alliancecan.ca/en).

**Ontario Tech Library**The Library offers an array of supports to Ontario Tech researchers, including help in:

* Finding existing research data
* Understanding the data management requirements of different funding agencies
* Creating a DMP
* Choosing an appropriate repository for the research data
* Understanding best practices for disseminating and archiving data

Additional information can be found on the Library’s [online RDM guide](https://guides.library.ontariotechu.ca/rdm#s-lg-box-4805578) . Researchers are encouraged to  [book an online appointment with](https://calendly.com/research-appointments-ot-library/kaelancaspary?month=2022-07) or [email](mailto:kaelan.caspary@ontariotechu.ca) our [Data Librarian, Kaelan Caspary](https://guides.library.ontariotechu.ca/prf.php?account_id=144203) for a one on one research consultation.

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# Funding Opportunity Details

version française suit.\_ \*\*Hello/Bonjour Ewa Stewart,\*\* \_Over the next few months, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) will be implementing mu…

## Ontario Tech University Research Excellence Awards 2024

**Description**

The Research Excellence Awards (REA) are prestigious awards granted annually to recognize up to three tenured and/or tenure track faculty members for their outstanding contributions and achievements in research while at Ontario Tech University.

**Eligibility Criteria and Award Categories**

All current tenured and tenure-track faculty members who have been at Ontario Tech for at least one year are eligible to be nominated. Nominations may be submitted individually or collectively by current tenured or tenure-track faculty members, including Faculty Deans. Permission should be sought from the potential nominee before submission. Self-nominations are welcome. In addition, each nomination must be endorsed by two current Ontario Tech faculty members. Endorsements can be obtained from any Ontario Tech tenured or tenure-track faculty member. Faculty members may not endorse more than one nomination in each category. Faculty members may only receive each category of award once.

* **Emerging Researchers:** Individuals **within the first six (6) years** of their first independent academic appointment. This award recognizes both early excellence in research and future promise.
* **Mid-career Researchers:** Individuals who are between the seventh and twelfth (7-12) years of their first independent academic appointment. This award recognizes recently established research programs that are opening up new fields or insights of inquiry.
* **Established Researchers:** Individuals who are beyond the twelfth (12) year of their first independent academic appointment (i.e. 13th year and beyond). These awards recognize recent national and/or international leadership in research in the last 6 years. These awards are not intended to be career research awards.

*Note: The time since first academic appointment for each category will be considered as of July 1 of the competition year.*

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| **Deadlines** | **Full Application: April 19, 2024**  Decisions: June 2024  Start Date of Award: July 1, 2024 |
| **Value** | Up to three awards (one in each category) will be presented annually. The budget for each competition year is $3,000, which will be distributed amongst the awards.  If there are 3 awards, each awardee will receive $1,000. If there are fewer than 3 awards, the $3,000 will be split proportionately between the awardees. |
| **How to apply** | See **guidelines** for more details on how to apply:  A complete nomination package includes:   1. Nomination Form – 2. Supplemental Information Form – 3. Nomination Letter (up to 4 pages) – 4. Candidate’s CV - *Curriculum Vitae in a Tri-Agency accepted format (see attached guidelines for more details)* |
| **For questions** | If you need support while preparing your application or have any questions about the program, please contact Joanne Hui, Grants Officer, at [joanne.hui@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:joanne.hui@ontariotechu.ca) |

## Canadian Space Agency Aqualunar Challenge

**Interested applicants should contact** [**Walter Chan**](mailto:walter.chan@ontariotechu.ca)**, Intellectual Property Officer, no later than April 1 to discuss their concept and confirm eligibility with the program requirements**.

**Objective:**

The Canadian Space Agency recently launched the [**Aqualunar Challenge**](https://impact.canada.ca/en/challenges/aqualunarchallenge) in collaboration with Impact Canada, the United Kingdom Space Agency (UKSA) and Challenge Works. The Aqualunar Challenge is a challenge prize with a goal of creating innovative water purification technologies that could support more ambitious space missions. With humankind returning to the Moon later this decade, purifying the water-ice that exists in lunar regolith is critical to supporting a longer term presence on the lunar surface. Using lunar water - as drinking water, to grow food, to create oxygen and to split into hydrogen and oxygen for rocket fuel - is a key enabler for supporting future deep space exploration.

The Aqualunar Challenge is calling on innovators to create innovative technologies, for use on the Moon, to remove contaminants found in lunar water. The Challenge will contain 3 Stages:

**Stage 1 – Concept Design:** Applications are open until April 8, 2024 at 11:59 pm Pacific Time. Teams will provide a detailed explanation of how their solution meets the Challenge objectives, Mission Scenario and judging criteria.

**Stage 2 – Proof of Concept:** Beginning in June 2024, semi-finalists selected in Stage 1 will move on to Tage 2 of the Challenge, where they will begin developing the key components of their prototypes based on their concept design (equivalent to a TRL 3). Semi-finalists will be expected to submit video footage to demonstrate their system or components of their system and will provide a final report that outlines how their technology meets the judging criteria listed.

**Stage 3 – Prototype Scaling:** At this stage, selected finalists will have 10 months to integrate the components of their prototype (minimum TRL 6). Finalists will demonstrate their systems and have their outputs tested and will be competing to be the Grand Prize Winner of the Challenge.

**Intellectual Property Requirements:**

By applying, in addition to the consents and authorizations contained in the Application Form, Applicants:

* Agree and certify that, the Applicant owns the intellectual property rights or is authorized to use them in connection with its technology and the content presented in the application; and
* Agree that CSA may, at any time, require the Applicant, Recipient, its shareholders or members, as applicable, to provide it with any original document or additional information for the purpose of verifying the application or other information submitted or representation made in the course of the Challenge.

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| **Value** | **Stage** | **Stage Duration** | **Number of winners per stage** | **Prize amount per winner** |
| Stage 1 | 4 months | Up to 8 semi-finalists | $22,500 per semi-finalist |
| Stage 2 | 10 months | Up to 4 finalists | $105,000 per finalist |
| Stage 3 | 10 months | 1 grand prize winner | $400,000 |
| Throughout the Challenge, there will also be non-financial support to help teams rapidly develop their solutions. | | | |
| **Costs and Expenses** | **Applicants are fully responsible for all, and any expenses incurred in connection with their participation in the Challenge**, including, but not limited to, any expenses related to the submission of their application, for the elaboration or testing of technologies, supplies and materials, such as for prototyping, intellectual property, transportation of people or material, and any insurance.  Similarly, Applicants will remain fully responsible for all expenses incurred and resources expended in connection with preparing their proposals, attending and participating in the testing for Stages 2 and 3, if applicable. | | | |
| **Timeline** | Stage 1: Concept design due April 8, 2024 at 11:59 pm Pacific Time. Up to 8 semi-finalists announced summer 2024.  Stage 2:Begins June 2024. Final reports and virtual demonstration videos due January 2025. Up to 4 finalists announced in Spring 2025.  Stage 3: Begins Spring 2025. Applications due January 2026.  Grand Prize Winner announced in Spring 2026. | | | |
| **How to Apply** | For more program information visit the [Aqualunar Challenge website](https://impact.canada.ca/en/challenges/aqualunarchallenge)  For application instructions visit the Challenge [Applicant Guide](https://impact.canada.ca/en/challenges/aqualunarchallenge/applicantguide)  Only Canadian applications, submitted through the Impact Canada website via the designated [Challenge Application Form](https://impact.canada.ca/en/challenges/aqualunarchallenge/applicationform), will be accepted. Applications must be submitted through the online form no later than 11:59 Pacific Time on April 08th, 2024.  **Important Requirements:**  Your application form should specify **Jennifer Freeman, Executive Director, Office of Research Services** as the **Duly Authorized Representative.**  You must export a PDF of your completed application and submit it to ORS along with a [Research Grant Authorization Form](https://shared.ontariotechu.ca/shared/department/research/documents/policies-and-procedure-form/rga-form-e-signatures.docx). | | | |
| **Questions Contact:** | Walter Chan, Intellectual Property Officer  [walter.chan@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:walter.chan@ontariotechu.ca) | | | |

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| Lab2Market Validate – [Fall 2024 Cohort](https://www.lab2market.ca/validate) *Please contact* [*walter.chan@ontariotechu.ca*](mailto:walter.chan@ontariotechu.ca) *if you are interested in applying*  **Description**  NSERC is partnering with the [Lab2Market program](https://lab2market.ca/) to offer research teams the chance to learn how to assess their technology’s commercial potential. The Lab2Market Validate program consists of a **16-week full-time commitment** taking participants through the process of unlocking the business potential of a research idea – meeting customers, building a network, and most importantly, developing entrepreneurial grit. Participants will conduct stakeholder interviews and produce a market assessment report to determine the appropriate path forward for their technology.  NSERC will provide support in the form of a non-renewable $20,000 I2I Market Assessment grant, of which $5,000 will be paid to Lab2Market consultants, $10,000 will be paid to the Entrepreneurial Lead (student/postdoc) as a stipend, and $5,000 will be paid to the principal investigator for program-related expenses (e.g., travel, mentoring, consultation, etc.).  **\*Special requirements for this program\***   * The project must be eligible for [NSERC funding](https://science.gc.ca/eic/site/063.nsf/eng/h_FEE7261A.html?OpenDocument) * Intellectual Property (IP) must be assigned to the University |

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| **Important dates** | **Mandatory** internal deadline: **May 7, 2024** – Complete L2M application with assistance from Walter Chan – it is **mandatory** to discuss your application with Walter Chan and receive a written letter of support from ORS in order to apply  Lab2Market application deadline: **May 14, 2024 at 11:59 pm**  L2M team interviews (by invitation only): **May 27–31, 2024**  NSERC I2I Market Assessment application deadline (by invitation only): **June 25, 2024 at 8 pm** (upload to NSERC portal for **mandatory** administrative review by **June 18, 2024**) |
| **Value** | $20,000 ($10K to the Entrepreneurial Lead as a stipend; $5K to the Technical Lead for program-related expenses; $5K to L2M consultants) |
| **Duration** | September – December 2024 |
| **Internal requirements** | If your project is funded, the following requirements must be met before a research account is opened:   1. **Invention Disclosure form** – Per the Ontario Tech [Intellectual Property Policy](https://usgc.ontariotechu.ca/policy/policy-library/policies/legal,-compliance-and-governance/intellectual-property-policy.php), L2M applicants must disclose to the University the intellectual property they wish to commercialize. You can find a copy of the IP disclosure form at the bottom of the page [here](https://research.ontariotechu.ca/faculty/intellectual-property/index.php). 2. **IP Assignment to University** – To comply with the [I2I program requirement](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RPP-PP/I2I-Innov_eng.asp) for ORS to manage the IP, which includes IP protection, market promotion, etc., IP rights shall be assigned to the University. |
| **How to apply** | 1. Contact Walter Chan, [walter.chan@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:walter.chan@ontariotechu.ca) by **May 7, 2024** to confirm eligibility and discuss internal requirements 2. Student or Postdoc lead submits online [application form](https://airtable.com/shr9YIoQzx1Ojfn6R) to L2M by **May 14, 2024**. Do not submit until content has been approved by Walter Chan 3. Selected applicants will be invited for interview; please contact Walter Chan once invitation is received 4. Successful applicants will be invited to apply for the NSERC I2I Market Assessment grant 5. Principal investigator will work with Walter Chan to complete a NSERC I2I Market Assessment proposal via the [NSERC online system](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/onlineservices-servicesenligne/index_eng.asp).  Draft to be completed by **June 18, 2024** for submission by **June 25, 2024.** The application includes:    1. Form 101 – L2M will provide you with a PDF document to upload into the proposal section; do not complete the proposal according to the standard I2I instructions    2. Form 100 |
| **Information session** | Times: April 8, 5 pm; April 24, 5 pm; May 9, 12 pm  Please register in advance [here](https://lu.ma/lab2market). |
| **ILO representative** | Walter Chan, IP Officer, ORS, [walter.chan@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:walter.chan@ontariotechu.ca) |

**Applicant eligibility**

Applicants must apply in teams consisting of the following members:

* Entrepreneurial Lead (EL) - A full-time graduate (Masters or PhD) student, postdoctoral fellow within five years of having finished their graduate degree, or research assistant. **The EL is expected to work on the project full-time (20-40 hours/week) over the duration of the program**, representing the team in all training sessions and leading all activities and deliverables. Please note, undergraduate students are also eligible if they have been involved in the generation of the project's intellectual property.
* Technical Lead (TL) - The principal investigator of the research project. The TL is expected to participate in select training sessions and assist the EL throughout the program. The TL must be [NSERC eligible](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/Eligibility-Admissibilite/faculty-corpsprof_eng.asp).

**Resources**

[L2M Validate Program Description](https://www.lab2market.ca/validate)

[L2M Application Information Package](https://www.canva.com/design/DAF_mbRz0OA/8tYE9QtuC2sBGWBnPeEjFA/view?utm_content=DAF_mbRz0OA&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link&utm_source=editor#1)

## Mitacs Accelerate New Application Portal

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## Release of the Federal Policy on Sensitive Technology Research and Affiliations of Concern (STRAC)

In response to the [February 14, 2023 Tri-Ministerial statement](https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2023/02/statement-from-minister-champagne-minister-duclos-and-minister-mendicino-on-protecting-canadas-research.html), the Government of Canada has now released the [Policy on Sensitive Technology Research and Affiliations of Concern (STRAC)](https://science.gc.ca/site/science/en/safeguarding-your-research/guidelines-and-tools-implement-research-security/policy-sensitive-technology-research-and-affiliations-concern), along with two accompanying lists:

* [Sensitive Technology Research Areas](https://science.gc.ca/site/science/en/safeguarding-your-research/guidelines-and-tools-implement-research-security/sensitive-technology-research-areas) (List 1); the focus is on the **advancement** of a listed technology or its capabilities during the course of the proposed research project, rather than merely its use
* [Named Research Organizations](https://science.gc.ca/site/science/en/safeguarding-your-research/guidelines-and-tools-implement-research-security/named-research-organizations) (List 2); note that this list is meant to be country-agnostic and focuses on specific threats identified with regards to the military, national defence, or state security entities that could pose a risk to our national security; it does not target or profile any group of people or country

The policy states that starting in early 2024, research grant and funding applications submitted by a university or affiliated research institution to the federal granting councils and the Canada Foundation for Innovation involving research that advances a **sensitive technology research area** (List 1) will not be funded if any of the **researchers** involved in **activities supported by the grant** are **affiliated** with, or **in receipt of funding or in-kind support, from a university, research institute or laboratory** connected to military, national defence, or state security **entities** that could pose a risk to Canada’s national security (List 2).

[Definitions](https://science.gc.ca/site/science/en/safeguarding-your-research/guidelines-and-tools-implement-research-security/policy-sensitive-technology-research-and-affiliations-concern#section3) are provided in the policy and more information can be found in the [Frequently Asked Questions](https://science.gc.ca/site/science/en/safeguarding-your-research/guidelines-and-tools-implement-research-security/frequently-asked-questions-faq-policy-sensitive-technology-research-and-affiliations-concern). An Ontario Tech information and Q&A session on this topic will be scheduled in the coming weeks.

Some key points:

* Policy applies to Tri-Agency (NSERC, SSHRC, CIHR), New Frontiers in Research Fund (NFRF), Canada Research Chairs (CRC) and Canadian Foundation for Innovation (CFI) research grants
* Policy does not apply to Tri-Agency student/postdoctoral scholarships and fellowships
* Implementation is expected to begin with funding opportunities that open May 1, 2024 or later
* Both lists are evergreen and could be updated in the future; it is likely that the STRA list will become more specific over time while the NRO list could eventually include other research organizations
* There will be a common attestation form used across agencies; the form is expected to be published in March and more information will be available at that time
* Validation of the attestations will be conducted by national security departments and agencies in collaboration with the relevant funding organization(s) through a random sampling of funded applications. Any misrepresentation may constitute a breach of the [Tri-Agency Framework: Responsible Conduct of Research](https://rcr.ethics.gc.ca/eng/framework-cadre-2021.html) (RCR). Recourse for breaches of the RCR Framework varies by severity, intentionality, and impact of the breach, but may include and is not limited to: withholding installments of and/or termination of the grant; a requirement to reimburse funds; and ineligibility to hold/apply for federal funding, for a defined period of time or permanently
* The STRAC policy and attestation process is distinct from the [National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships](https://science.gc.ca/site/science/en/safeguarding-your-research/guidelines-and-tools-implement-research-security/national-security-guidelines-research-partnerships/national-security-guidelines-research-partnerships-risk-assessment-form) and Risk Assessment Form, and in some cases both will apply (eg. NSERC Alliance)
* The [National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships’ Annex A](https://science.gc.ca/site/science/en/safeguarding-your-research/guidelines-and-tools-implement-research-security/national-security-guidelines-research-partnerships#annex-a) has been updated to align with the new list of [Sensitive Technology Research Areas](https://science.gc.ca/site/science/en/safeguarding-your-research/guidelines-and-tools-implement-research-security/sensitive-technology-research-areas)
* Effective immediately, for any NSERC Alliance applications that are referred for advice from Canada’s national security departments and agencies following the [National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships’ Risk Assessment Review Process](https://science.gc.ca/site/science/en/safeguarding-your-research/guidelines-and-tools-implement-research-security/risk-assessment-review-process), the national security assessment conducted will consider research affiliations of concern

We encourage you to consult the list of [Named Research Organizations](https://science.gc.ca/site/science/en/safeguarding-your-research/guidelines-and-tools-implement-research-security/named-research-organizations) and proactively assess whether you have any affiliations or are in receipt of funding from any named entities that may lead to eligibility issues once the policy is implemented.

If you have any questions, or concerns about a new or existing affiliation, please contact **Lisa Kozycz, Manager – Safeguarding Research (**[**lisa.kozycz@ontariotechu.ca**](mailto:lisa.kozycz@ontariotechu.ca)**)**.

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| |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |  | | --- | | **DECEMBER 5, 2023** | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |
| |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |  | | --- | | NSERC announces improvements to Alliance grants program | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |
| |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |  | | --- | | NSERC is pleased to announce the launch of several improvements to its Alliance grants program. This update is in response to feedback received and builds on our experience with the program over the last four years.  Alliance grants were launched in 2019 to encourage university researchers to collaborate with partner organizations from the private, public or not-for-profit sectors. By partnering with organizations that can use their work, researchers can turn their discoveries into impact.  In 2022–23, NSERC evaluated the program through surveys, consultations and interviews with stakeholders. The perspective of the community, along with NSERC’s experience to date, shaped the changes described below.  These changes aim to make the Alliance grants program even more simple, flexible, modernized and responsive. They will help to:   * remove barriers to collaboration * champion more research partnerships * provide efficient and responsive proposal assessment * strengthen relationships with the research community * ensure inclusive research support   NSERC will offer [webinars](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001uRc9k__u7wrRYD03SbtA6SsyUl4DSyrWjUGbZ0R0x4_KwoHsN_uNiBkbmtY6_0FGFnWAUt-cvr50sAsSIhyfRzxQfl9LZYYgTVcbEOBuYByMrf8Aqv6axwZ6DQbz1j-tuahxaAoA4tQf2FUAjzcZbhcsMHif7OBNdz804PUF4eHD8VAl7IVuxnlI780iKKJJ8aJMqRdNdj_rCzRbCjr2kmLYVm0pfqRYAvGeFWkFZp3LdBCe18NX3Q==&c=sVzc7TzicMNQzoNw2_pNT1-LdYq9bzB2yMyi-wnnZ8Xzgw8Z_HIjZg==&ch=vYAp9xrmw-EkA4CC1XLNgCC7MndYkEoSVe4KM2dlUG2A0DR2bhkOow==) for research grants officers and potential applicants to present these changes on January 23 and 31, 2024 (in French) and on January 24 and 30, 2024 (in English). | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |
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| |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |  | | --- | | New names for cost sharing options | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |

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| |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |  | | --- | | The first visible change is new names for Alliance grants cost sharing options 1 and 2. This rebranding makes it easier to distinguish between the two options.  Alliance Advantage (formerly cost sharing option 1) is designed for partner-driven projects. The grants support the objectives of Alliance with a focus on the partners’ goals, with at least one partner sharing in the costs of research. NSERC will contribute up to 66.7% (2:1 leverage) of the project’s direct costs for successful applications. For more information, see [Alliance Advantage](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001uRc9k__u7wrRYD03SbtA6SsyUl4DSyrWjUGbZ0R0x4_KwoHsN_uNiBTy-dZCd3PXrBeIrytEE5sJX_RVCc-gYqgQUtlRB1UEJxs2aicidzBPBqO6i-C3Ma-I8E-aHOftp5iw4eoPexY_i81i6lCQjk3OEJmh_zL4L6Ux7TPibl1BC46MHK8WpqKpNNfrw6kThdzwSnFnu9QkMfjVOU2DFVcBbtU5H0um&c=sVzc7TzicMNQzoNw2_pNT1-LdYq9bzB2yMyi-wnnZ8Xzgw8Z_HIjZg==&ch=vYAp9xrmw-EkA4CC1XLNgCC7MndYkEoSVe4KM2dlUG2A0DR2bhkOow==).  Alliance Society (formerly cost sharing option 2) is designed for projects with societal impact as the main driver. NSERC covers 100% of these project costs. For more information, see [Alliance Society.](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001uRc9k__u7wrRYD03SbtA6SsyUl4DSyrWjUGbZ0R0x4_KwoHsN_uNiBkbmtY6_0FG6EhlLbzBcpenOi9soYAyrH2cDpv0vWFaLZVcvK53TnWaXwCMzgcCdI5fiWIFXnA2M3Ru-7gOy2mWjGYJ6pkbN67rP5kE0kMsXJwozKssQuFmdfERa2oQz7sdSSP9PtzFMBXtQxi0XcSw3h8SUz_eONyRTWzpwV-RIoMhkoGGrxytPdCUlr9N8A==&c=sVzc7TzicMNQzoNw2_pNT1-LdYq9bzB2yMyi-wnnZ8Xzgw8Z_HIjZg==&ch=vYAp9xrmw-EkA4CC1XLNgCC7MndYkEoSVe4KM2dlUG2A0DR2bhkOow==) | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |

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| |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |  | | --- | | Removing barriers to collaboration, championing more research partnerships and strengthening relationships with the research community | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |

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| |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |  | | --- | | **Extensions with funding**  **﻿**  One of the barriers to continued collaborations is the time limit on grants. To date, NSERC has extended grants automatically for one year (and by request in extenuating circumstances), but these extensions did not involve additional funding. Now, Alliance Advantage grants may be extended for an additional year with funding, to allow universities and their partners to take advantage of new research directions that arise during a project. For more information, see [Alliance Advantage – During your research project](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001uRc9k__u7wrRYD03SbtA6SsyUl4DSyrWjUGbZ0R0x4_KwoHsN_uNiBkbmtY6_0FGbzZmwB5bhOyOOq_l8nwXo_RWsL4dv2K_VzzP770W9cUH1g0jiv_irN5_vYUj8XlC3p7b6uzlF02tuldguMpclIWGRlUCB5qAOxjOUwX5Q0lgYSJoZ8pabVTataxqIg6KxHXXy5h6fwbLyDMMy1JC4X_KF5Pfkn6ZYvJErjEWCbpFGyPHK-T-tw==&c=sVzc7TzicMNQzoNw2_pNT1-LdYq9bzB2yMyi-wnnZ8Xzgw8Z_HIjZg==&ch=vYAp9xrmw-EkA4CC1XLNgCC7MndYkEoSVe4KM2dlUG2A0DR2bhkOow==).  **Broadening the range of partner organizations recognized for cost sharing**  A greater range of partners can now be recognized for cost sharing in Alliance grants. Potential partner organizations now include:   * all registered charities * unions * registered companies   Additionally, industrial associations and producer groups have been more clearly differentiated to better recognize the unique role that each type of organization plays in the research and innovation ecosystem.  The requirement that partner organizations must operate from their own offices or facilities has been relaxed in light of the expansion of virtual work. Provided the partner can exploit the research results and interact with highly qualified personnel, NSERC will consider a partner organization that works virtually.  For more information, see [Alliance Advantage – Partner organizations](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001uRc9k__u7wrRYD03SbtA6SsyUl4DSyrWjUGbZ0R0x4_KwoHsN_uNiBkbmtY6_0FGw_v5ekpGmUfyiN67p5yYEOOdqHJ8H2SAaZLnRjmdbReYaYVHz8903DrtoHnzj3pVgRTxKUgya3uo4WKK-rB9KyUP9wESrd5rxE8PZfzROjZNnOntFuWBXApOV_YVfagkj8FRSO6p7tHDxTAbMTHsLGJSo2u6Dx565CoYoU8q2T5IZ1jYWqpGEA==&c=sVzc7TzicMNQzoNw2_pNT1-LdYq9bzB2yMyi-wnnZ8Xzgw8Z_HIjZg==&ch=vYAp9xrmw-EkA4CC1XLNgCC7MndYkEoSVe4KM2dlUG2A0DR2bhkOow==) or [Alliance Society – Partner organizations](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001uRc9k__u7wrRYD03SbtA6SsyUl4DSyrWjUGbZ0R0x4_KwoHsN_uNiBkbmtY6_0FGucWIz7DI4lL9QIfDdEQXT-eVMU0nrEM0aaHPFjTJ5ajS6j-yHvr0vh83BTz_6pn8sIWVQvq4a6Tq0zYc65kPOUNPucVcl1JP0512iRDhtWrZ5zyHwM3Cdd9GOJoKROEvcuLwC3FCuHM0ePy19FSGrTVCn97gyfEqbqJX7CEauOwx_vEXaTVz8eiS4Iod1In3raWFdYb2oCc=&c=sVzc7TzicMNQzoNw2_pNT1-LdYq9bzB2yMyi-wnnZ8Xzgw8Z_HIjZg==&ch=vYAp9xrmw-EkA4CC1XLNgCC7MndYkEoSVe4KM2dlUG2A0DR2bhkOow==).  **Conflict of interest guidelines**  These guidelines have changed to provide flexible access to NSERC Alliance grants while ensuring that funds are used responsibly and that all research participants are protected. Institutions will now manage conflicts of interest and put mitigation plans in place according to their own policies. For more information, see [Alliance Advantage – Partner organizations](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001uRc9k__u7wrRYD03SbtA6SsyUl4DSyrWjUGbZ0R0x4_KwoHsN_uNiBkbmtY6_0FGw_v5ekpGmUfyiN67p5yYEOOdqHJ8H2SAaZLnRjmdbReYaYVHz8903DrtoHnzj3pVgRTxKUgya3uo4WKK-rB9KyUP9wESrd5rxE8PZfzROjZNnOntFuWBXApOV_YVfagkj8FRSO6p7tHDxTAbMTHsLGJSo2u6Dx565CoYoU8q2T5IZ1jYWqpGEA==&c=sVzc7TzicMNQzoNw2_pNT1-LdYq9bzB2yMyi-wnnZ8Xzgw8Z_HIjZg==&ch=vYAp9xrmw-EkA4CC1XLNgCC7MndYkEoSVe4KM2dlUG2A0DR2bhkOow==) or [Alliance Society – Partner organizations](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001uRc9k__u7wrRYD03SbtA6SsyUl4DSyrWjUGbZ0R0x4_KwoHsN_uNiBkbmtY6_0FGucWIz7DI4lL9QIfDdEQXT-eVMU0nrEM0aaHPFjTJ5ajS6j-yHvr0vh83BTz_6pn8sIWVQvq4a6Tq0zYc65kPOUNPucVcl1JP0512iRDhtWrZ5zyHwM3Cdd9GOJoKROEvcuLwC3FCuHM0ePy19FSGrTVCn97gyfEqbqJX7CEauOwx_vEXaTVz8eiS4Iod1In3raWFdYb2oCc=&c=sVzc7TzicMNQzoNw2_pNT1-LdYq9bzB2yMyi-wnnZ8Xzgw8Z_HIjZg==&ch=vYAp9xrmw-EkA4CC1XLNgCC7MndYkEoSVe4KM2dlUG2A0DR2bhkOow==). | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |
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| |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |  | | --- | | **Streamlined merit criteria**  The merit criteria used to evaluate applications have been streamlined, with the number of sub-criteria reduced from 11 to 8. The changes will make assessment more clear-cut for both applicants and reviewers.  The Alliance grants [proposal template](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001uRc9k__u7wrRYD03SbtA6SsyUl4DSyrWjUGbZ0R0x4_KwoHsN_uNiBkbmtY6_0FGrBVX91Uj8xCNARnqjasA3QmydcNUgJ_LFrB-46Tsrs2ONJDeoSNxYEXJ1ETgmKzcIkqjoBfUn-GfP3vXzYxhbVeZAtRzwVeZ9-51fkv_p0CD6EOcQPy1E31QNsQqwaLGjf-nK8wyb5O26SjRnjAAFNgPVoyvesBejwX-H7ApuJc=&c=sVzc7TzicMNQzoNw2_pNT1-LdYq9bzB2yMyi-wnnZ8Xzgw8Z_HIjZg==&ch=vYAp9xrmw-EkA4CC1XLNgCC7MndYkEoSVe4KM2dlUG2A0DR2bhkOow==) has changed to reflect the revised, streamlined merit criteria. However, applicants with a proposal under way may use the previous proposal template **until March 31, 2024**.  For more information, see [Alliance Advantage – Apply](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001uRc9k__u7wrRYD03SbtA6SsyUl4DSyrWjUGbZ0R0x4_KwoHsN_uNiHme8M80POi1xXbIChp8y2jE56fXPYZB1Vy8gOo7U0ddccdX2pElvgCdW8r5ehsMw_OhIHGwGw10FflutPkfzqcJvJbOkc2Uo6XUEckHP7Sf6Fl1MF8RQzw4MpfXBQgRewM3xlOr-3MPhBIvwcnnWMFrsSQ0QQ5gz4xO8n1vm3Ilp2TDf3hNPot_oh2appNIKpMiOSi-bSXO&c=sVzc7TzicMNQzoNw2_pNT1-LdYq9bzB2yMyi-wnnZ8Xzgw8Z_HIjZg==&ch=vYAp9xrmw-EkA4CC1XLNgCC7MndYkEoSVe4KM2dlUG2A0DR2bhkOow==) or [Alliance Society – Apply](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001uRc9k__u7wrRYD03SbtA6SsyUl4DSyrWjUGbZ0R0x4_KwoHsN_uNiBkbmtY6_0FGok-Mo5BQEgcMlBp5ARNDnQd8LpSiLOvLtkTDufMpmVHd0ucKKEPXDlWqnqKYz9v5z5NrL4Y2SMpQsJlOwgtXau0-AH6w_9uvrNZYL4Xqot0vsU38y5Vudn0NrdqXeTCkPCSllHw8e5g65UdsdAxmY3Q60EGkngZgk7s9EbQ-09kLsafbX87E3Wkw65PmJJk7ArBMF_fKWcKN5QDqx_qNiw==&c=sVzc7TzicMNQzoNw2_pNT1-LdYq9bzB2yMyi-wnnZ8Xzgw8Z_HIjZg==&ch=vYAp9xrmw-EkA4CC1XLNgCC7MndYkEoSVe4KM2dlUG2A0DR2bhkOow==).  **Improving assessment times for more projects**  To reduce turnaround times, NSERC is changing the threshold at which it will consider an internal review for Alliance Advantage projects from an annual request of $30,000 to $75,000. Internal reviews are typically completed more quickly than external assessments. For more information, see [Alliance Advantage – Review of your application](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001uRc9k__u7wrRYD03SbtA6SsyUl4DSyrWjUGbZ0R0x4_KwoHsN_uNiKFcf813dLNfmETX7cGBiZZjhE_kQPBICjNgOC36id54ULiBRFjJezI3zP_yn0fG8Ni4_PQMvQkT8QS-bzCfSjNxReinufmFw6X-TupDzZsnhlcLP1hblF5vORIcLmiWLDpqrTK7ISNI6Ir8QnR25Vhp2cDl1TsrPRbW__Nthg1o3Od8AFhYkss=&c=sVzc7TzicMNQzoNw2_pNT1-LdYq9bzB2yMyi-wnnZ8Xzgw8Z_HIjZg==&ch=vYAp9xrmw-EkA4CC1XLNgCC7MndYkEoSVe4KM2dlUG2A0DR2bhkOow==). | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |

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| |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |  | | --- | | **Cost sharing voucher for early career researchers**  In support of early career researchers (ECRs), NSERC is launching a pilot initiative to offer 200 vouchers of $10,000 each to replace some or all of the required cash contributions from partner organizations in an Alliance Advantage grant. Since NSERC matches partner contributions in a 2:1 ratio, the $10,000 voucher will be matched with $20,000, for a total of $30,000. The deadline to signal interest for a voucher is February 22, 2024. If more than 200 ECRs express interest, NSERC will randomly select 200 recipients. For more information, see [Alliance Advantage – Funding your research project](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001uRc9k__u7wrRYD03SbtA6SsyUl4DSyrWjUGbZ0R0x4_KwoHsN_uNiBkbmtY6_0FG1iN9HCn7gOv-L2H6OwS3xBvHSPf8iFDFxVWrMK7lSNeIq36TEObt69kuBAhzAhTOojewySDjFR5tc3xZBn7saUmvWp6bbG6C4OJcubWcZgn6MxEkgHPkTlZmu31gwksBfsVduVLPm7ZAXE7xeRiNF6CBafMgIT-22h5tTLxdyCQFgCzsglzqXg==&c=sVzc7TzicMNQzoNw2_pNT1-LdYq9bzB2yMyi-wnnZ8Xzgw8Z_HIjZg==&ch=vYAp9xrmw-EkA4CC1XLNgCC7MndYkEoSVe4KM2dlUG2A0DR2bhkOow==).  **Promoting participation of early career researchers in Alliance Advantage**  To help more ECRs participate in Alliance Advantage grants, they will no longer be required to hold an active peer-reviewed grant from NSERC as a condition for internal review when they are co-applicants for small Alliance Advantage grants (now up to $75,000 annually). This will encourage established researchers to mentor ECRs as co-applicants and provide ECRs opportunities to build relationships with partners. For more information, [see Alliance Advantage – Review of your application](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001uRc9k__u7wrRYD03SbtA6SsyUl4DSyrWjUGbZ0R0x4_KwoHsN_uNiKFcf813dLNfmETX7cGBiZZjhE_kQPBICjNgOC36id54ULiBRFjJezI3zP_yn0fG8Ni4_PQMvQkT8QS-bzCfSjNxReinufmFw6X-TupDzZsnhlcLP1hblF5vORIcLmiWLDpqrTK7ISNI6Ir8QnR25Vhp2cDl1TsrPRbW__Nthg1o3Od8AFhYkss=&c=sVzc7TzicMNQzoNw2_pNT1-LdYq9bzB2yMyi-wnnZ8Xzgw8Z_HIjZg==&ch=vYAp9xrmw-EkA4CC1XLNgCC7MndYkEoSVe4KM2dlUG2A0DR2bhkOow==). | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |

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| |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |  | | --- | | If you have questions about these changes, contact the Alliance grants team by email at [alliance@nserc-crsng.gc.ca](mailto:alliance@nserc-crsng.gc.ca) or by phone at 1-855-275-2861. You may also submit questions for the January 2024 webinars via [Sli.do](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001uRc9k__u7wrRYD03SbtA6SsyUl4DSyrWjUGbZ0R0x4_KwoHsN_uNiBkbmtY6_0FGgtyo9FSlZpQadQzR631CtJ-7TFasWXYz_t2kovZ5FViXTg3_ptQD3030jJNdJgZji3rsuuNE3uHb3XI960S-qDvaQR6zxfA0U9VVIex5k51Odzy57uzY8Xmaf7-YgifkWNbBcddHkGg=&c=sVzc7TzicMNQzoNw2_pNT1-LdYq9bzB2yMyi-wnnZ8Xzgw8Z_HIjZg==&ch=vYAp9xrmw-EkA4CC1XLNgCC7MndYkEoSVe4KM2dlUG2A0DR2bhkOow==). | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |

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| *Over the next few months, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) will be implementing* [*multi-factor authentication (MFA)*](https://www.getcybersafe.gc.ca/en/secure-your-accounts/multi-factor-authentication#defn-multi-factor-authentication) *when signing into the Convergence Portal.*  **What is multi-factor authentication (MFA)?**  Multi-factor authentication is a tactic that requires additional verification to access your devices and accounts, adding a supplementary layer of online security.  **Why?**  The implementation of MFA will ensure compliancy with [Government of Canada Cloud Guardrails](https://canada-ca.github.io/cloud-guardrails/), providing an additional layer of protection to our research community while improving the Agencies’ overall cyber security posture.  **How will this impact me?**   |  | | --- | | * Once MFA is enabled, you will need to provide additional authentication to sign into your Convergence Portal account. * To support ongoing business requirements, you will have the option to select your preferred method of authentication (email, text message or through the authenticator app). * Additional information will be shared prior to the implementation date. |   **Who can I contact for questions?** For technical inquiries or assistance, please visit the [Have questions?](https://www.convergence.gc.ca/en/questions-questions/) page within the Convergence Portal. |

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[](https://www.mitacs.ca/fr/programmes/globalink/page-de-la-campagne-de-lappel-thematique-brg)

## Quantum Technology GRA

Mitacs is launching a **new quantum technology offer** for the [Mitacs Globalink Research Award (GRA)](https://www.mitacs.ca/en/programs/globalink/globalink-research-award)!

* Open to all Canadian universities
* **No cofunding is required** of the Canadian university
* These projects **don’t count toward universities’ GRA allocation**
* Possibility to have **2 internship units**, meaning longer internships
* Enhanced funding
* Applicable to the list of 54 countries and regions eligible for GRA
* Up to **5 interns per project**

Under this offer, undergraduates, graduates, and postdocs receive the following:

* **$6,000 award** to carry out a research project over **12 to 24 weeks**
* **$12,000 award** to carry out a research project over **24 to 36 weeks**

**WITH a** **Mitacs international partner** attached, that becomes:

⬆️  **$9,000 award** to carry out a research project over **12 to 24 weeks**

⬆️  **$15,000 award** to carry out a research project over **24 to 36 weeks**

Participating Mitacs international partners:

* Brazil: Fundação Araucária Foundation
* France: French Embassy in Canada
* France: Université Grenoble Alpes
* France: Université de Lorraine
* Germany: Forschungszentrum Jülich (FZJ Helmholtz Association)

For each participating international partner, specific eligibility criteria may apply. Please refer to the International Partners Information under the [GRA page](https://www.mitacs.ca/en/programs/globalink/globalink-research-award).

* For internships starting in **Spring 2024**, please submit your application by **January 12, 2024.**
* For internships starting in **Summer 2024**, please submit your application by **March 31, 2024.**

Interested professors should [contact a Mitacs Advisor](https://www.mitacs.ca/contact-us/business-development) to discuss the project and start writing the proposal through the [GRA Registration and Application Portal](https://gra.mitacs.ca/).

## Tri-Agency Open Access (OA) Policy on Publications Review

Canada’s federal research granting agencies – the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) (“the agencies”) – have [announced a review of the *Tri-Agency Open Access (OA) Policy on Publications*](https://track.smtpsendemail.com/9079200/c?p=lr3kz_cYydAPQyynYqw26w-Lys3iRkS32VrAI3ByxwxgUzf1PMq2laG_3DaIns8ueTAWBT6S_HWhZ8zl2E7hwX3lH8R_nz0IE8SRS8as-Cw-_WXOrAS4hNlh4AH9omyePYRXAwj_-pt3v8w4GgRznDe3Hsai16AshQj5HfYMCCLYOAadwqdAN5c6Q0HPQwm8fPBuYMZ1LEEkF81OmS2CqZHrnSwuowqhP5tVKM32ddLtqd3yrTNubdBKMzF_ZHFnHeqB5VZMdAU_xYc5GYZ7ZCIesRyE-m6vYe9I8NmGFW6l3Oxts23N1nz5fzHQfkTZuvg725kCrB0JgYaMheKeXKRvLC44BBHmbYQwS70fyWOV9OPTgLhfFv5mzzg0PkY0PxR8qmXEe6e130nVcRb52g==) (“OA Policy”), with the goal of requiring that any peer-reviewed journal publications arising from agency-supported research be freely available, without subscription or fee, at the time of publication. The renewed OA Policy will be released by the end of 2025.

The agencies are committed to increasing the dissemination of research results and accelerating knowledge mobilization by ensuring peer-reviewed articles resulting from agency-funded research are freely and immediately available.

Over the coming year, we will engage with a wide range of partners within the research community (e.g., researchers, research libraries, federal and provincial partners, scholarly associations, and publishers) to identify the key features of an effective, comprehensive, sustainable and equitable immediate OA Policy for peer-reviewed articles, and the incentives and supports required for the Policy’s successful implementation.

Our partners are essential to the success of the OA Policy update and we will work closely with them during this process. As a first step, the agencies invite members of the community to complete a short, [online survey](https://track.smtpsendemail.com/9079200/c?p=kALvQaLlXgwLJ7SMMp2oF0V8hv_JYaGH8F4nwln-Igrb0I8Dtk4s6TPcBWgfDDQ5-XwtMRJnqAuplGSZiFLKrivpMgW1s_FoIYUThOzpjLQc6HjZ9GPG6Ph8TioneMr7nmbIGgoAa7a8_bBjD3OxqJxIgARE9Qu0aJSuJjXxX-nceR1pHlTFszdkmbc6POg0cPWIYZ_pFc6BeM6TnRRM8MVmD5Jh8zMTsEnGcXMb1rXmDCDvU5mrncFbIO34waT8) to help inform the updating of the OA Policy. The agencies will continue to consult over the next year, as we revise the Policy to immediate OA for publications, as one component of advancing Open Science practices in Canada.

If you have any questions about the OA Policy review, please contact us at [openaccess@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca](mailto:openaccess@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca).

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## Update to the extension request process for grant extensions due to pandemic delays

We are pleased to provide an update to the NSERC – SSHRC COVID grant extensions in-time without funds (C19 time extension) for 2023. The process for approving these extensions is changing and we will only continue to accept institution-approved extensions via the spreadsheet lists, posted in the [Grants and Scholarships Administrative Portal (GSAP)](https://gsap-pasb2.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/sites/5000/L3000/P001.aspx), **until April 28, 2023** for grants ending on or before March 31, 2023.

Friendly reminder that this extension provision is not to be confused with any other initiative offered by the agencies to extend grants due to the pandemic or other, such as the [NSERC Discovery Grants one-time one-year extension with funds due to COVID-19](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/FAQ-FAQ/DG-SD_eng.asp) or other funded extension initiatives, agency scholarships & fellowships provisions, etc.

As of April 1, 2023, grantees wishing to receive an extension period for the authority to use grant funds due to delays caused by the pandemic must be requested by submitting a [grant amendment form](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/_doc/Tri-Agency/TAFAG/Grant_Amendment_Form_e.pdf) to receive agency approval. If the criteria below are satisfied, the approval process will be expedited.

Eligibility criteria includes:

1. Extension requests may only be submitted for grants in their final year (including the [automatic](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/InterAgency-Interorganismes/TAFA-AFTO/guide-guide_eng.asp#25) one year extension, and any other extensions included where applicable).
2. A Tri-agency Guide on Financial Administration (TAGFA) [grant amendment form](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/_doc/Tri-Agency/TAFAG/Grant_Amendment_Form_e.pdf) must be completed with a brief but explicit justification that this request is due to delays to research activities as a result of the pandemic.
3. The grant’s [annual statements of account](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/InterAgency-Interorganismes/TAFA-AFTO/guide-guide_eng.asp#28) (Form 300) must be up to date in the agency databases. For College and Community Innovation Program (CCI) grants, the annual statement of accounts (Form [301](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/OnlineServices-ServicesEnLigne/pdf/F301_e.pdf)), must have been completed and submitted to the agency. Requests for extensions will not be reviewed/approved if there are outstanding annual statements of account.
4. The grant holder must continue to maintain an eligible position at the administering institution for the duration of the grant including possible extension(s).

Special notes that may impact eligibility for the extension:

* If the agency has already approved a transfer to the General Research Fund (GRF) or has requested the return of residual funds for a given grant, an extension request **will not** be accepted or processed.
* Based on the most recent Statement of Account (SOA) and subject to agency approval, if the grant account has **$501-$2,000 remaining in funds**, the C19 time extension will be the final extension for period of use approved for this grant. If the grant account has **less that $500**, grant holders are not eligible for another extension for period for the authority to use grant funds.
* Requests for longer than 12 months will not be accommodated; the agency will automatically adjust the duration to 12 months for eligible requests.
* Grants with scheduled installments remaining are not eligible for this extension; However, if the grant holder has a build-up of funds in their grant account and they determine that the scheduled instalment for the next financial year will not be needed at that time, they are responsible for informing their administering institution that a [deferral](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/InterAgency-Interorganismes/TAFA-AFTO/guide-guide_eng.asp#24) of the next instalment is necessary which will enable them to extend the authority to use the grant funds.

For more information and guidance, including the eligibility criteria, eligible programs, and notes outlined above, visit the relevant agency webpage here:

SSHRC: <https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/news_room-salle_de_presse/latest_news-nouvelles_recentes/2023/extension_of_the_period_for_use_of_sshrc_grants-prolongation_de_la_periode_d-utilisation_des_subventions_du_crsh-eng.aspx>

NSERC: <https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Media-Media/NewsDetail-DetailNouvelles_eng.asp?ID=1139#April03-2023>

Completed Grant Amendment Forms must be submitted via the administering institution's research grant office or equivalent to [grantsadministration@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca](mailto:grantsadministration@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca) / [grantsadministration@nserc-crsng.gc.ca](mailto:grantsadministration@nserc-crsng.gc.ca). Clearly indicate 'C19 time extension' in the subject line for all submitted forms and all questions related to this initiative.

Message circulated on behalf of the NSERC – SSHRC Awards Administration Team

## CIHR – Mock Review Toolkit

The Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) is pleased to announce the launch of the [Mock Review Toolkit](https://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/53189.html). The Toolkit is designed to allow individuals to familiarize themselves with CIHR’s peer review process by simulating the Project Grant competition. Using the Toolkit as a resource, users will be able plan, organize and run mock peer review sessions, from a light round table to a full mock review panel.

**Who is it for?**

The Toolkit is intended to accommodate a wide range of audiences, from university administrators looking to host a mock peer review session at their institution, to trainees, such as PhDs and postdocs, looking to learn more about CIHR’s peer review process.

**What’s in the Toolkit?**

The Toolkit contains the resources needed to allow a user to run mock peer review in a relatively independent manner, including:

* three simulation models that users can follow from start to finish - with more planned for the future
* template spreadsheets to plan logistics, including Reviewer and application assignments and the tracking of timelines and deadlines
* template invitation emails and promotional materials for the mock review simulation
* a conflict of interest and confidentiality agreement for both facilitators and participants
* pre-simulation training materials and pre-recorded presentations for participants available on demand
* mock applications, reviews and Scientific Officer notes available on demand

**Have questions or want to get started?**

We encourage you to read through the [Mock Review Toolkit](https://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/53189.html). If you have any questions, please contact [college@cihr-irsc.gc.ca,](mailto:college@cihr-irsc.gc.ca) or use the Toolkit’s online booking app to meet with the College to discuss how we can best support you in using the Toolkit.

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## Ontario Tech University Research Excellence Chairs Program 2024

**Description**

Ontario Tech University established the [Research Excellence Chairs Program](https://research.ontariotechu.ca/faculty/funding/internal-funding.php) to recognize and retain outstanding researchers at Ontario Tech University. The program has three streams and is designed to enable researchers to complete a major research program. Further, the program is meant to emphasize the importance of research at Ontario Tech in strategic areas, while highlighting and promoting the outstanding achievements of our scholars and the university’s commitment to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI).

**Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Focus**

We encourage participation and representation from persons in the federally recognized Four Designated Groups (FDGs), which include women, Indigenous persons, persons with disabilities and racialized scholars, and members of the 2SLGBTQ+ community. In addition, principles of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion will guide the application and adjudication process.

**Eligibility**

The program is open to researchers from all disciplines. Current Research Excellence Chairholders are only eligible to apply in their final year. The program has three streams:

**Stream 1 (Transform):** Open to previous Chairholders, including, Canada Research Chairs, Industrial Research Chairs and those who have been awarded and completed an Ontario Tech University Research Excellence Chair.

**Stream 2 (Ignite):** Open to all Tenured and Tenure-Track (TTT) faculty members at Ontario Tech University.

**Stream 3 (Social Innovation):** Open to all Tenured and Tenure-Track (TTT) faculty members at Ontario Tech University (including previous Chairholders) whose research contributes to social innovation, defined as the process of developing and deploying effective solutions to challenging and often systemic social and environmental issues in support of social progress.

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| **Deadlines** | **Full Application: April 19 2024**  Decisions: June 2024  Start Date of Award: July 1 2024 |
| **Value** | Up to **$15,000** per year of the award.  The number of Chairs that the Vice-President, Research, and Innovation (VPRI) will support is dependent on available funding. |
| **Duration** | **Stream 1 (Transform):** Three years, renewable based on performance and available funding  **Stream 2 (Ignite):** Two years, non-renewable  **Stream 3 (Social Innovation):** Two years, non-renewable |
| **How to apply** | The application package consists of two components:   1. **Application materials**     1. Research Chair Title and Research Program Summary    2. Research Funding Plan and Description of Applicant’s Expected Contribution to Research Leadership    3. Description of the Proposed Research Program    4. Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Action Plan    5. Budget and Justification    6. Most Significant Research Contributions    7. Reference Letter 2. **Curriculum vitae**   See [**guidelines**](https://shared.ontariotechu.ca/shared/department/research/funding/2024/rec-2024-guidelines-final.pdf) for full details on how to apply. |
| **Adjudication process** | Applications will be adjudicated by a multidisciplinary selection committee composed of six active Canada Research Chairs. Committee members will be selected by the VPRI, ensuring that there are no conflicts of interest. Several concrete measures will be implemented to ensure an equitable adjudication process (see attached guidelines). The adjudication is conducted in two stages:  **Stage One:** Prior to the adjudication meeting, each member of the selection committee will independently evaluate all applications based on the six evaluation criteria listed in the program guidelines, using a 5-point scale (with 5 being the highest score); provide an overall score for each application as the sum of the scores for all six criteria (maximum possible score is 30); and rank applications based on the total score. During the adjudication meeting, committee members will discuss individual rankings and come to consensus regarding the list of applicants recommended for funding to the VPRI.  **Stage Two:** The VPRI will determine the applications to be funded and the final amount provided to each. Thus, the selection committee will make funding recommendations to the VPRI who will make the final decision based on available funding and in consideration of EDI principles. The VPRI may consult with the EDI advisor. Notification of results will be sent to all applicants once decisions have been finalized. All decisions are final. |
| **For questions and support** | If you need support while preparing your application or have any questions about the program, please contact Raluca Dubrowski at [raluca.dubrowski@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:raluca.dubrowski@ontariotechu.ca). |

## [**NSERC Collaborative Research and Training Experience (CREATE) Program**](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/professors-professeurs/grants-subs/create-foncer_eng.asp)

Please send the internal LOI package to [joanne.hui@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:lisa.kozycz@ontariotechu.ca) by **March 4, 2024,** if you intend on applying; this step is **mandatory** so that we can determine if an internal selection process is required.

**Note:** Updated content highlighted in blue.

Please see below for more information on this year’s [NSERC Collaborative Research and Training Experience (CREATE) Program](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/Grants-Subs/CREATE-FONCER_eng.asp). NSERC has a quota system at the LOI stage of this program; Ontario Tech has a **quota of two (2) LOIs** that can be submitted to this year’s competition. *Similar to previous years, an internal competition will be held to determine the LOIs to be submitted to NSERC* ***if internal applications exceed our quota.***A multidisciplinary internal selection committee will be created by the VPRI based on recommendations of the Deans to determine which applications will move to the NSERC competition to fulfil our quota. The internal selection committee will also include a representative from the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (SGPS). For those selected to apply to NSERC, **a letter of support from the VPRI is required** confirming that the application has been endorsed by the university as part of our quota. The application is submitted *by the applicant* through the [NSERC online system](https://ebiz.nserc.ca/nserc_web/nserc_login_e.htm), a letter from the VPRI must be included with the submission.

**Objective:**

To create a **value-added** training program **for graduate (master’s and doctoral) students** *beyond that of normal graduate programming*. The CREATE program is designed to improve the mentoring and training environment for the Canadian researchers of tomorrow by improving training in areasassociated with Canada’s research priorities **through an innovative training program that provides training in professional skills, communication and collaboration, as well as providing experience relevant to both academic and non-academic research environments**. It should provide improved job readiness and **professional skills and soft skills training is a “core required element”** of any CREATE project. **Explicit training (courses, workshops) are required**. The committee expects to see innovative pedagogy or interestingly different methods of training (e.g. immersive experiences).

***New:*** Student mobility experiences (nationally or internationally, between individual universities and between universities and other sectors) **are mandatory** for all master and doctoral trainees, **with a minimum duration of one month at the master level and two months at the doctoral level.**

These innovative programs must foster the acquisition and development of important professional skills among students and postdoctoral fellows *that complement their qualifications and technical skills* and should encourage the following as appropriate:

* Interdisciplinary research within the natural sciences and engineering (NSE), or at the interface between the NSE and health or between the NSE and the social sciences and humanities—however, the main focus of the training must still lie within the NSE
* Increased collaboration between industry and academia. Industrial participation in CREATE initiatives is encouraged.

**See attached NSERC CREATE Tip Sheet for a list of common elements in successful CREATE grants and general notes and tips.**

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| **Value** | $1.65M over 6 years ($100K-200K in the first year and $250K-350K per year for up to five subsequent years). ***New****: At least 70% of the CREATE grant must be used for trainees’ stipends.* |
| **Duration** | Up to six years |
| **Timeline** | **Monday, March 4:** Mandatory Submission of internal LOI package and RGA to ORS   * *More information below in the* “Application Procedures and Timeline” section * ***Note:*** *If you do not submit your internal LOI package by March 4, there is no guarantee that your application will be considered by the internal selection committee*   **Week of April 1:** Ontario Tech committee decision, if required   * Feedback from the committee and ORS   **Wednesday, April 24:** Mandatory ORS LOI review (*for selected applicants*)  **Wednesday, May 1:** NSERC Deadline at 8:00 pm (ET). Please submit LOI to [NSERC Online Portal](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/onlineservices-servicesenligne/index_eng.asp) **by 9 am** to avoid delays.  **September 23, 2024**: NSERC Full Application deadline |
| **Webinar** | The webinars were held by NSERC on:   * English session:**February 7, 2024, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. (ET)** * French session:  **February 8, 2024, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. (ET)**   Please find the webinar slides attached. The links to the recordings for the English and French sessions will be disseminated shortly. |
| **Apply** | Refer to the “**LOI Application Procedures and Timeline**” section below and the attached **internal LOI form**. |

**Eligibility Conditions:**

* The lead applicant (PI) must be from an NSERC-supported field at an NSERC-eligible university and must fulfil [NSERC’s eligibility criteria](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/Eligibility-Admissibilite/faculty-corpsprof_eng.asp).
* A researcher may only be the lead applicant on one CREATE initiative annually
* Researchers can participate in a maximum of two CREATE grants and/or LOIs at the same time as either an applicant or co-applicant (active or applied for)
* At least one co-applicant is required in the proposal from each involved university. All co-applicants must fulfil [NSERC’s eligibility criteria](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/Eligibility-Admissibilite/faculty-corpsprof_eng.asp).
  + ***Note:*** *at least 70% of the team must be from* [NSE fields](http://www.science.gc.ca/eic/site/063.nsf/eng/h_FEE7261A.html?OpenDocument)*, but co-applicants at the interdisciplinary frontier between NSE and the areas covered under the umbrella of SSHRC and CIHR may be incorporated into proposals.*
* CREATE projects can involve Canadian/international academic/government/industry/NGO collaborators

**Additional Requirements:**

* Researchers who currently hold or participate in an active CREATE grant must clearly describe their distinct contribution to and justification for their participation in the proposed training program
* Researchers who are applying in a research area already supported by other active CREATE grants must clearly describe how this application differs from those already funded
* Previous CREATE grantees and co-grantees must clearly describe how this application differs from those already funded

**LOI Application Procedures and Timeline:**

1. **MANDATORY**: Submit internal LOI package to ORS by **March 4, 2024** which includes:
   1. Internal CREATE LOI form (attached)
   2. Outline of training program (2 pages maximum)
   3. Excellence of proposed team of researchers (3 pages maximum)
   4. Lead Applicant’s Form 100
   5. Signed Research Grant Authorization form
2. *Notification of internal selection, if required\* (week of April 1, 2024);* feedback provided by internal selection committee and ORS review.
3. Mandatory ORS LOI administrative review deadline April 24, 2024 (*selected applications only*)
4. ORS will prepare letter of support from VPRI (*selected applications only*)
5. Submit LOI to NSERC by May 1, 2024. Please submit your LOI to the NSERC portal **by 9 am**.

**Contact:**

Joanne Hui, Grants Officer

[joanne.hui@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:joanne.hui@ontariotechu.ca)

## Mitacs Accelerate

**Deadline**: Continuous Intake

*\*A hard copy of the complete application package and a* [*Research Grant/Contract Authorization (RGA) Form*](https://shared.uoit.ca/shared/department/research/documents/Research-Grant-Authorization-August-2011.doc) *with all required signatures* ***must*** *be submitted to the ORS contact.*

**Description:** Through Mitacs-Accelerate, graduate students and postdoctoral fellows from over 50 universities apply their specialized expertise to business-related research challenges. Armed with the very latest tools, techniques, and innovations, the intern (a graduate student or postdoctoral fellow) brings a new perspective to a problem faced by an industry partner.

* Interns spend approximately half of the time on-site with the industry partner; the remainder is spent at the university advancing the research under the guidance of a faculty supervisor.
* Open to all disciplines and all industry sectors, projects can span a wide range of areas, including: manufacturing, technical innovation, business prOCIsses, IT, social sciences, design, and more.

**Eligibility:**  The intern must be a graduate student or post-doctoral fellow enrolled at a Canadian university. Eligible PDF’s must (1) have completed all requirements of his/her first doctoral degree no more than five years before the application submission date; and (2) be officially accepted for post-doctoral studies at a Canadian university.

Effective January 2015, Accelerate is open to both for-profit businesses and not-for-profit (NFP) organizations, such as industry associations, charitable organizations, and economic development organizations. All projects in collaboration with an NFP partner must demonstrate an economic or productivity orientation. Examples include creating new jobs, reducing costs of goods or services, or increasing productivity in an industry. Eligibility of applications involving Not For Profit organizations should be discussed with Mitacs in advance of submission.

Organizations which are not eligible to be partners include:

* Funding agencies
* University-based research centres
* Foreign companies

**Value:** Each 4-month internship project receives $15,000 in direct funding, with the partner organization and Mitacs each providing $7,500. The $15,000 will be provided to the intern’s academic supervisor as a research grant. It is required that the intern receive a stipend of a minimum of $10,000 of the total grant per 4-month internship. Any funds over and above the intern stipend will be used to support research related to the internship.

**Details:** <https://www.mitacs.ca/en/programs/accelerate>

**Contact:** If you have any questions, or are interested in applying, please contact Hayley McKay, Mitacs Business Development Advisor at [hmckay@mitacs.ca](mailto:hmckay@mitacs.ca) or your Faculty Grants Officer.

## 

NSERC Alliance Grants

[**Alliance Advantage**](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/alliance-alliance/index_eng.asp) **(formerly Alliance Option 1)**

We would like to bring your attention to the [Alliance Advantage resources webpage](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=0013oSUw36kEiNfZq3Dy9kD_PM5jHd2s4wGkaHgP0V3TyQQ7rG4-39ZyW4bKU3Apw3eeCt_r3VpSrGLkYrgHV3h9YwTkKJXakapM-YAP8b-AIJSh3K4wYO_2MY8aaCYN4pyXjmeqyEP_25vgKoc-uqC7fiV7GGfu2CWmgp114Mwixq0Tuwk4N5uZn1rYTbBF2uY1fvqLag1Wfe-WqaIUx5XKK6S6EKbOtApOF9N4cL2XDmTri5kmqVlfA==&c=_xlVlPyN1RStxWmkYdbf1TJTB9VyMUEtHVfsb17ngFRUT7TlxocOcQ==&ch=C-9ylrYTz6GRO_jTf6Dx-CdJrzB6epkPG18namqZyCJkRUIVAnRG5Q==) that has a number of resources that are available to support you in preparing an Alliance proposal, which are outlined below. In addition to the [Frequently asked questions](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=0013oSUw36kEiNfZq3Dy9kD_PM5jHd2s4wGkaHgP0V3TyQQ7rG4-39ZyTvoYRqd0T7wowsatPq88A2yWu7fj8W2VhO1egjCfN3KetbRBwryV2wWulYAggmbQLzYniA40dPSK28AMe8mZzCcZywanE7pkkL0odqOWJg1pBPoAWt1MZQOwgylY9huCpYOEm7mn1leJAfiaJKyXhzxBgjhJEIq7BACQTM6QN2x&c=_xlVlPyN1RStxWmkYdbf1TJTB9VyMUEtHVfsb17ngFRUT7TlxocOcQ==&ch=C-9ylrYTz6GRO_jTf6Dx-CdJrzB6epkPG18namqZyCJkRUIVAnRG5Q==) webpage, [NSERC staff](mailto:Alliance@nserc-crsng.gc.ca) also remain available to answer any questions you may have.

[Alliance grant application checklist](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=0013oSUw36kEiNfZq3Dy9kD_PM5jHd2s4wGkaHgP0V3TyQQ7rG4-39ZyW4bKU3Apw3eAihSWU4HNuIVjcc7RSjTmvXxVlkHov0VjsRRXmnHHj-aQAuL0aXxzTpR38QuDmixeV-Miaz6zz-lV3Ko-pCjAa-qs9en_W_i8oawv9hHVvKFALiyyRX6I8Nhz-LXvw_sJQxoQpc_k_g_-51gMyNbGQ==&c=_xlVlPyN1RStxWmkYdbf1TJTB9VyMUEtHVfsb17ngFRUT7TlxocOcQ==&ch=C-9ylrYTz6GRO_jTf6Dx-CdJrzB6epkPG18namqZyCJkRUIVAnRG5Q==)

[Equity, diversity and inclusion in the training plan](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=0013oSUw36kEiNfZq3Dy9kD_PM5jHd2s4wGkaHgP0V3TyQQ7rG4-39ZyW4bKU3Apw3eha3u5ApsI7yECaAwzTBibm7JGnWbkpyvPo5MBQJVFjKmCVtTuBJmJAIvN7F0IyabWF_no9jNz3lskzOVJ4Ll-9BsH1qec0KumKpGojJy23JqJ90CwZ_YlY0t0REEeKpDrYqyM-siqCc=&c=_xlVlPyN1RStxWmkYdbf1TJTB9VyMUEtHVfsb17ngFRUT7TlxocOcQ==&ch=C-9ylrYTz6GRO_jTf6Dx-CdJrzB6epkPG18namqZyCJkRUIVAnRG5Q==)

[Partner organization self-assessment tool](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=0013oSUw36kEiNfZq3Dy9kD_PM5jHd2s4wGkaHgP0V3TyQQ7rG4-39ZyW4bKU3Apw3etMHIF2mcrKOIrAwrkRq-BIsUyMgfFfHGwzv1j94jieK6hK4U6d5FNWolUl-exFI7v-7Tq_qvsUo39rx91uNZyYrZMZocFGRf5hpqXZ6tt8ZrQAdh7tESmPMObhLTr0SdHJpUXUQDlNJQ41vFSgeoE9KmLOh0pf0Z&c=_xlVlPyN1RStxWmkYdbf1TJTB9VyMUEtHVfsb17ngFRUT7TlxocOcQ==&ch=C-9ylrYTz6GRO_jTf6Dx-CdJrzB6epkPG18namqZyCJkRUIVAnRG5Q==)

[Instructions to external reviewers](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/alliance-alliance/instructions_external_reviewers-instructions_evaluatrices_evaluateurs_externes_eng.asp)

[**Alliance Society**](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/Alliance_society-Alliance_societe/index_eng.asp) **(formerly Alliance Option 2)**

To support you in preparing an Alliance Society proposal, NSERC has a [Alliance Society resource webpage](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/Alliance_society-Alliance_societe/resources-ressources_eng.asp)that helps applicants and partner organizations determine whether the project they are envisioning meets the requirements. In addition, the Public Impact Value Proposition (PIVP) Selection Committee Review Instructions are now available online. This will help applicants understand how the committee determines whether Alliance Society applications meet the characteristics and whether they will proceed to the next step of the evaluation.

[Alliance Society overview pamphlet](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=0013oSUw36kEiNfZq3Dy9kD_PM5jHd2s4wGkaHgP0V3TyQQ7rG4-39ZyTvoYRqd0T7wtEcscu5ZTKJpv7LFfpOfE5SiOeKSk4t3CdItfXOKFAy3LgXY6AqL9FxT-bFSPEy2gL3wl3y-qH0pduL53vIj41qbbMwRA0l69673jS_Y5ARHuN6BMBIH883LAmMbza6ApFufGJfHDo9HrZRXo-Qqcw==&c=_xlVlPyN1RStxWmkYdbf1TJTB9VyMUEtHVfsb17ngFRUT7TlxocOcQ==&ch=C-9ylrYTz6GRO_jTf6Dx-CdJrzB6epkPG18namqZyCJkRUIVAnRG5Q==)

[Alliance Society public impact value proposition (PIVP) selection committee review instructions](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=0013oSUw36kEiNfZq3Dy9kD_PM5jHd2s4wGkaHgP0V3TyQQ7rG4-39ZyTvoYRqd0T7w7PW8rhaXddE8rhk73SfbhCRlCxvirn8CaF3VJeYTaz2gnmo6D1BkFyyjq7VQB1Gn4ApXZQFvW4SmVlQitkArLuzMUPX0SRrfdjLwoTRlaqPINkTqotufIP_QpFrYaHaFIKxQgLnzQTgWtrauTx8IXwOexbkBhuvtpgGIQHMpLq5Uuie6-EGJAg==&c=_xlVlPyN1RStxWmkYdbf1TJTB9VyMUEtHVfsb17ngFRUT7TlxocOcQ==&ch=C-9ylrYTz6GRO_jTf6Dx-CdJrzB6epkPG18namqZyCJkRUIVAnRG5Q==)

**Updates to Alliance Grants and literature**

The Alliance literature was recently updated on December 5, 2023 to reflect program changes. It aims to streamline and clarify various points, as well as to provide access to additional resources based on feedback and questions from the community. Key changes are summarized below, but we strongly encourage you to review the updated literature before submitting an application.

**Updates (see** [**link**](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Media-Media/NewsDetail-DetailNouvelles_eng.asp?ID=1433) **for Latest news)**

* The **page limits for proposals** have been revised, as shown in the “Proposal sections and length” table in the [Instructions for completing an application](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/OnlineServices-ServicesEnLigne/instructions/101/alliance_eng.asp)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Section | Average annual request | | |
|  | **Suggested number of pages per section** | | |
|  | **Up to $75,000/year\*** | **$75,001 to $300,000/year** | **$300,001 to $1,000,000/year** |
| **Background** | 0.5 | 0.75 | 1 |
| **Partnership** | 1 | 2 | 5 |
| **Research plan** | 1.5 | 4 | 11 |
| **Team** | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| **Training plan\*\*** | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| **Impacts and benefits to Canada** | 1 | 1.25 | 2 |
|  | **Maximum total number of pages** | | |
|  | 7 | 11 | 27 |
| **Public impact value proposition (PIVP): Alliance Society applications only** | Add three pages to the maximum above for the PIVP (see [proposal template](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/_doc/alliance/Proposal_Template-Alliance_Grants2_e.docx)) | | |

\*For Alliance Advantage applications, if there is no existing NSERC peer review for the applicant or one of the co-applicants (with the exception of co-applicants who are Early Career Researchers), external reviewers with expertise directly related to the proposal will be used, and you may submit a maximum of 11 pages.

\*\*NSERC encourages you to dedicate approximately one page of your proposal to describe how equity, diversity and inclusion are considered in your training plan.

* The [Alliance grants (Advantage and Society) application checklist](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/_doc/alliance/ApplicationChecklist_e.pdf) has been updated.
* To reduce turnaround times, NSERC is changing the threshold at which it will consider an internal review for Alliance Advantage projects from an annual request of $20,000 to $75,000. Internal reviews are typically completed more quickly than external assessments. For more information, see [Alliance Advantage – Review of your application](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/alliance-alliance/review-examen_eng.asp).
* The Alliance grants [proposal template](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/_doc/alliance/Proposal_Template-Alliance_Grants2_e.docx) has changed to reflect the revised, streamlined merit criteria. However, applicants with a proposal under way may use the previous proposal template until March 31, 2024.
* Extensions with funding - One of the barriers to continued collaborations is the time limit on grants. To date, NSERC has extended grants automatically for one year (and by request in extenuating circumstances), but these extensions did not involve additional funding. Now, Alliance Advantage grants may be extended for an additional year with funding, to allow universities and their partners to take advantage of new research directions that arise during a project. For more information, see [Alliance Advantage – During your research project](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/alliance-alliance/post_award-apres_loctroi_eng.asp).
* A greater range of partners can now be recognized for cost sharing in Alliance grants. Potential partner organizations now include:
  + all registered charities
  + unions
  + registered companies

Additionally, industrial associations and producer groups have been more clearly differentiated to better recognize the unique role that each type of organization plays in the research and innovation ecosystem.

The requirement that partner organizations must operate from their own offices or facilities has been relaxed in light of the expansion of virtual work. Provided the partner can exploit the research results and interact with highly qualified personnel, NSERC will consider a partner organization that works virtually. For more information, see [Alliance Advantage – Partner organizations](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/alliance-alliance/partners-partenaires_eng.asp)or [Alliance Society – Partner organizations](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/Alliance_society-Alliance_societe/partners-partenaires_eng.asp).

* Conflict of interest guidelines - These guidelines have changed to provide flexible access to NSERC Alliance grants while ensuring that funds are used responsibly and that all research participants are protected. Institutions will now manage conflicts of interest and put mitigation plans in place according to their own policies. For more information, see [Alliance Advantage – Partner organizations](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/alliance-alliance/partners-partenaires_eng.asp)or [Alliance Society – Partner organizations](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/Alliance_society-Alliance_societe/partners-partenaires_eng.asp).
* The [merit criteria](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/_doc/alliance/Merit_Indicators-Alliance_Grants2_e.pdf) used to evaluate applications have been streamlined, with the number of sub-criteria reduced from 11 to 8. The changes will make assessment more clear-cut for both applicants and reviewers.
* In support of early career researchers (ECRs), NSERC is launching a pilot initiative to offer 200 vouchers of $10,000 each to replace some or all of the required cash contributions from partner organizations in an Alliance Advantage grant. Since NSERC matches partner contributions in a 2:1 ratio, the $10,000 voucher will be matched with $20,000, for a total of $30,000. The deadline to signal interest for a voucher is February 22, 2024. If more than 200 ECRs express interest, NSERC will randomly select 200 recipients. For more information, see [Alliance Advantage – Funding your research project](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/alliance-alliance/funding-financement_eng.asp).
* To help more ECRs participate in Alliance Advantage grants, they will no longer be required to hold an active peer-reviewed grant from NSERC as a condition for internal review when they are co-applicants for small Alliance Advantage grants (now up to $75,000 annually). This will encourage established researchers to mentor ECRs as co-applicants and provide ECRs opportunities to build relationships with partners. For more information, [see Alliance Advantage – Review of your application](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/alliance-alliance/review-examen_eng.asp).
* New modules have been added to the online system to streamline the application process. In the Partnership module, applicants will attest their compliance with the new conflict of interest guidelines and indicate if their partnership involves a private sector organization. For private sector partnerships, applicants must attach the National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships’ risk assessment form to its dedicated upload module. These new modules are captured in the validation step to help ensure that submission requirements are met.

If you have any questions or comments about Alliance grants please contact your Grant Officer or [Alliance@nserc-crsng.gc.ca](mailto:Alliance@nserc-crsng.gc.ca) and sign up on the [Alliance webpage](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001rTSzix1ImIZt6CWaivrMl462-4hH0V7XxsRIGNAAqeUeIeVhyPvXO6RHqe4RDjouGu_fVHA3kcHEFs6vITh0cp-rbdng4dZMkk4EpBMVKpYKkraSKSOG9A1YFOgdUhOtantz90_gzCPFfffzCKbSSBkAjp7eW6S2HL0JZxXLakwz6QEIx87fqx4fm_GkrXS0pLichWvixFXN_UE7r4JWs68LH6-71LGH&c=FwrUeyp5ITwHl6gOOuSM43cntWVr4W-onjyh-WpwCVQrUzgXErgm7g==&ch=OUNp-eufRNFap8SJl3a_JKvEkq6Pc6CH0bXgpd-TlkXt_M-VA6w8Mw==) to be added to the mailing list so you can stay up to date on the latest information.

## NSERC Alliance International

**Description**

Alliance International will provide support for researchers in Canada to **work with leading international researchers from the academic sector**, and to establish and grow international research collaborations and projects that have a high potential for impact in NSE disciplines. The overall objectives are to: 1) allow Canadian researchers to initiate the development of international collaborations; and 2) provide support for Canadian researchers participating in international collaborative projects of global importance and benefit to Canada.

**Streams**

Alliance International offers two grant types:

* **Alliance International Catalyst grants** will provide up to $25,000 for one year to support Canadian researchers in initiating international research collaborations in the NSE disciplines.
* **Alliance International Collaboration grants** will provide up to $100,000 per year for up to three years, allowing Canadian researchers to participate in international projects and leverage the best international expertise to help address research challenges in the NSE disciplines of impact and benefit for Canada. The amount you can request for an Alliance International Collaboration grant will depend on the amount of funding obtained by your international academic collaborator(s) from their own national funding agency. The funding secured by your international collaborator(s) will be recognized for cost sharing purposes. This contribution must be at least equal to the amount requested from NSERC. Please note that all amounts are in Canadian dollars.

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| **Deadlines** | Alliance International is a new, permanent stream of Alliance. There is no deadline to apply and grants will be awarded throughout the year. |
| **Application limits** | Catalyst grants: Limit of one application within a 12-month period as either applicant or co-applicant. It is expected that a maximum of 100 grants will be awarded per year  Collaboration grants: Limit of one application within a 12-month period as either applicant or co-applicant  Limits apply to each stream individually. Ie. you can apply for one Catalyst grant and one Collaboration grant in the same 12-month period |
| **Value** | Catalyst grants: up to $25,000  Collaboration grants: up to $100,000 per year |
| **Duration** | Catalyst grants: 1 year  Collaboration grants: up to 3 years |
| **International academic partner contribution** | Catalyst grants: N/A  Collaboration grants: Peer-reviewed funding at least equal to the amount requested from NSERC |
| **Applicant eligibility** | Principal applicants and Canadian co-applicants must hold an active peer-reviewed grant, as primary applicant, at the time of application |
| **Partner eligibility** | Non-academic partner organizations are not required |
| **How to apply** | 1. Notify your Grants Officer of your intent to apply. ORS will confirm partner and project eligibility. 2. Following the [instructions for completing an Alliance International application](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/OnlineServices-ServicesEnLigne/instructions/101/allianceinternational_eng.asp), fill out the [proposal template](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/_doc/alliance/Proposal_Template-Alliance_International_Grants_e.docx) and complete the other sections of your application.    * **This template is different from the regular Alliance application template; ensure you are using the correct template (see attached)**    * Select “International” under “type of call” when completing Form 101 in the online system 3. Submit your completed application and supporting documents, including the [personal data form with CCV attachment](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/OnlineServices-ServicesEnLigne/instructions/100/100A_eng.asp), for the principal applicant and all co-applicants through [NSERC’s online system](https://ebiz.nserc.ca/nserc_web/nserc_login_e.htm). |
| **For more information** | Consult the [program website](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/AllianceInternational-AllianceInternational/index_eng.asp), contact [allianceinternational@nserc-crsng.gc.ca](mailto:allianceinternational@nserc-crsng.gc.ca) or your Faculty Grants Officer: |

**Subject Matter**

You can apply to support any R&D project that seeks to respond to a research challenge in the natural sciences or engineering (see [Selecting the appropriate federal granting agency](http://www.science.gc.ca/eic/site/063.nsf/eng/h_FEE7261A.html?OpenDocument)). However, you cannot use Alliance International to support secret or contract research.

Developing and implementing policies or directly applying your research results may depend on socio-economic or other requirements, as well as scientific understanding beyond the natural sciences and engineering (NSE). You are encouraged to collaborate with academic researchers in fields other than the NSE. Such researchers may be co-applicants for Alliance International if they meet [NSERC’s eligibility criteria for faculty](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/eligibility-admissibilite/faculty-corpsprof_eng.asp). Research costs for these collaborations can represent up to 30% of the project costs and must be specifically identified in the project budget justification.

**Resources**

* [Completing an application — form 101 instructions](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/OnlineServices-ServicesEnLigne/instructions/101/allianceinternational_eng.asp)
* [Personal data form with CCV attachment — form 100A instructions](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/OnlineServices-ServicesEnLigne/instructions/100/100A_eng.asp)
* [Alliance International application checklist](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/_doc/Professors-Professeurs/AIChecklist_e.pdf)
* [Equity, diversity and inclusion in your training plan](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/_doc/alliance/EDI-TrainingPlan_e.pdf)
* [Safeguarding Your Research portal](https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/063.nsf/eng/h_97955.html)

NSERC Alliance – OCI C2C Joint Funding

NSERC and Ontario Centres of Innovation (OCI) recently announced a partnership that will enable joint leveraging of funds from Ontario-based small to medium sized enterprises (SMEs) through the both [NSERC Alliance](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/C2C-CPC_eng.asp)and [OCI C2C](https://www.oc-innovation.ca/programs/voucher-for-innovation-and-productivity-vip/)(previously OCI-VIP) programs, via a single application.

This program is ideal for **natural science and engineering** projects with an **Ontario SME** who is providing **$10-15K cash** (plus overhead and an equal amount in-kind) for a **one-year** project. Note that Universities are only eligible for “C2C Alliance”.

Project details:

* Overall cash match of 4:1 (2:2:1 for NSERC:OCI:partner)
* Partner cash contribution: $10-15K (plus 35% overhead, as per Ontario Tech policy) plus an equal amount (or more) in-kind
* NSERC/OCI contribution: $20-30K **each**
* Total project cash: $50-75K
* Maximum project duration: 12 months

Applicant eligibility:

* Must hold an active NSERC or OCI peer-reviewed grant

Partner eligibility:

* For-profit SME with Ontario R&D and/or manufacturing operations related directly to the project, and the capacity to exploit the research results
* 5-499 global full-time employees
* In operation for a minimum of two years

How to apply:

1. PI discusses project idea with OCI Business Development Manager (BDM)
2. PI, partner, and OCI BDM complete one-page project summary
3. OCI BDM presents project opportunity at OCI-NSERC weekly meeting for discussion and evaluation
4. If invited to submit a full application, PI and partner complete proposal in [NSERC portal](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/onlineservices-servicesenligne/index_eng.asp)
   * [Form 101](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/OnlineServices-ServicesEnLigne/instructions/101/alliance_eng.asp) – joint proposal template (available upon request)
   * [Form 100A](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/OnlineServices-ServicesEnLigne/instructions/100/100A_eng.asp)
   * [Partner Organization Form](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/OnlineServices-ServicesEnLigne/instructions/Alliance_Partner-Alliance_Partenaires_eng.asp)
5. OCI BDM opens application in OCI portal with basic information

Steps 1-3 are **mandatory**. Do not create a joint Alliance-C2C application in the NSERC portal until you are invited to do so.

Review process:

* 4-8 weeks
* NSERC and OCI will issue a joint decision

If you have any questions, or are interested in applying, please contact your Grants Officer.

## NSERC I2I GRANTS

Sponsor/Agency: NSERC

Program: Idea to Innovation (I2I) grants

Description:

[I2I grants](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RPP-PP/I2I-Innov_eng.asp) are intended to accelerate the pre-competitive development of promising technology originating from the university and college sector, and to promote its transfer to a new or established Canadian company. I2I grants provide funding to college and university faculty members to support research and development projects with recognized technology transfer potential. This is achieved through defined phases by providing crucial assistance in the early stages of technology validation and market connection.

There are **four distinct funding options**, characterized by the maturity of the technology and the sponsorship of an early-stage investment entity or industrial partner. In the **market assessment phase**, NSERC will share costs of an independent and professional market study with Ontario Tech. In **phase I**, the direct costs of research will be entirely supported by NSERC; in phase II, they will be shared with an early-stage investment entity (**phase IIa**) or a company (**phase IIb**). The technology development may begin with a phase I project (reduction-to-practice stage), followed by a phase II project (technology enhancement); or, if the development is at a later stage, it can start directly with a phase II project. In any case, the combination of phase I and phase II will be limited to a maximum of three years of funding for any given project, and to one grant per phase for the same technology or intellectual property (IP).

**Discoveries must be disclosed by the investigators according to Ontario Tech policy, and the IP must be managed by ORS.** All proposals will be developed in close collaboration with the ORS IP Officer. To comply with I2I program requirements, which include matching cash contributions, IP protection, market promotion, etc., IP rights should be assigned to Ontario Tech.

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| Program Summary | |
| Deadlines | **Deadlines**   * NSERC: **January 8, 2024**   + IP Officer review: **December 11, 2024**   + Administrative check (upload to NSERC portal): **January 1, 2024** * NSERC: **April 2, 2024**   + IP Officer review: **March 5, 2024**   + Administrative check (upload to NSERC portal): **March 26, 2024** * NSERC: **June 25, 2024**   + IP Officer review: **May 28, 2024**   + Administrative check (upload to NSERC portal): **June 18, 2024** * NSERC: **September 16, 2024**   + IP Officer review: **August 19, 2024**   + Administrative check (upload to NSERC portal): **September 9, 2024**   **Important**: Applications **must be submitted to the IP officer one month prior to the NSERC deadline**, otherwise the applications will be considered for next NSERC deadline. |
| Value | **Market assessment:** NSERC $15,000 (75% of project costs) + Ontario Tech $5,000 for Technology Transfer Activities  **Phase I\***: NSERC $125,000 (100% of project costs)   * Phase Ib Supplement\*: NSERC $60,000 (100% of project costs)   **Phase IIa\*:** NSERC$125,000 (67% of project costs) + Partner $62,500 (33% of project costs)  **Phase IIb\*:** NSERC $350,000 (50% of project costs) + Partner 50% of direct costs through in-kind and cash.   * 40% of the Partner contribution must be cash.   *\*****Note for technology transfer activities****: Half the cost supported by NSERC up to a maximum of 10% of the award. Institution or partner must cover the other half. (e.g. Phase I - $125,000: NSERC will support a maximum of $12,500 for tech transfer activities and Institution/partner must provide: $12,500).* |
| Duration | **Market assessment:** up to one year  **Phase I:** up to one year   * **Phase Ib Supplement:** 6 months   **Phase IIa:** from 6 to 18 months  **Phase IIb:** up to two years |
| How to Apply | 1. Notify the IP Officer as soon as possible if you are interested in applying. 2. Review the program guidelines (see below), including the eligibility and evaluation criteria. 3. Submit a completed and signed [Invention Disclosure Form](https://research.ontariotechu.ca/faculty/intellectual-property/index.php) to the IP Officer. The IP Officer will assess which I2I phase is appropriate, and follow up with you regarding the IP assignment. 4. Obtain letters of support that demonstrate market need (market assessment and phase I) and interest from a potential (market assessment and phase I) or actual (phase II) sponsor. 5. Complete NSERC Forms 100 and 101. Phase II applications will also require Form 183A. See detailed instructions [here](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/OnlineServices-ServicesEnLigne/instructions/101/i2i_eng.asp). 6. Submit completed NSERC forms with any supplementary documents to the IP Officer for review **one month prior to the desired NSERC cohort deadline**. 7. Submit completed NSERC forms through the [NSERC online system](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/onlineservices-servicesenligne/index_eng.asp) with any supplementary documents (e.g., letters of support, offers of service, signed research agreements, CVs of business mentors) **at least one week prior to the NSERC deadline**. |
| For more information | **IP Officer, ORS**  Walter Chan, [walter.chan@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:walter.chan@ontariotechu.ca) |

Eligibility:

*Eligible activities*

Eligible research and development activities include:

* refining and implementing designs
* verifying application
* conducting field studies
* preparing demonstrations
* building prototypes
* performing beta trials

Eligible technology transfer activities include:

* consulting fees to develop the strategy to protect the technology’s commercial value
* market investigations
* consulting fees for business plan, market survey, etc.
* business mentoring by experienced entrepreneurs
* sharing of patenting expenses
* expenses associated with creating a partnership (such as travel, etc.)

**ORS must agree that these expenses for technology transfer activities are justified, and commit to covering at least half of their cost.**  Note that for Phase I, Phase Ib, Phase IIa and Phase IIb applications, NSERC may provide technology transfer support up to a maximum of 10% of the total requested amount (i.e., the NSERC contribution will be no more than $12,500 for a $125,000 requested budget). Staff activities are not considered an eligible expense and cannot be used to leverage NSERC funds. Technology transfer expenses related to the proposed technology and incurred previously will not be considered in the cost-sharing of proposed activities.

*Phase eligibility*

**Market assessment phase:** Market assessment projects are designed to enable institutions to conduct a market study for a product, process or technology they plan to develop. The market assessment should precede a phase I proposal if the applicant has not yet developed an understanding of the potential market. It is to be conducted by an experienced professional such as an outside consulting firm. An **offer of service** from the consultant listing the scope, deliverables and other relevant elements is required.

**Phase I:** Phase I reduction-to-practice projects are designed to advance promising technologies in order to attract early-stage investment and/or to build valuable intellectual property (e.g., strengthening the commercial value of the technology, broadening patent claims or strengthening licensing opportunities) in anticipation of transferring the technology to a new or established company. Phase I proposals must be based on strong scientific evidence and present the following elements:

* **The technology must be sufficiently mature.** One of the main reasons why phase I proposals are rejected is that the technology is at too early a stage to be eligible for the I2I grants. The basic parameters of the concept must have already been explored, and sufficient testing should have been done to assess the potential of the innovation to work in a “product” environment or for its intended purpose. **This represents at least technology readiness level (TRL) 4.**
* **There must be a clearly identified and well-described potential market.** A market assessment should have been performed and a technology transfer plan consistent with it developed. Meaningful **letters of support** from potential receptors, end-users/clients and industrial value-chain players may be very useful.
* Involvement of experienced business mentors is recommended when the team is planning to spin off a new company.

Note: NSERC offers an I2I phase Ib supplement. This funding of up to $60,000 for six months can be made available for *successfully completed phase I projects* with high promise to secure an investor or a licensing company.

**Phase II:** Phase II projects are designed to provide scientific or engineering evidence that establishes the technical feasibility and market definition of the technology, process or product. **The science must be substantiated to the point that its end product is easily identifiable, and for phase IIb a prototype or equivalent (TRL 6) must be in existence.** Phase II projects require an early-stage investment entity (phase IIa) or a company (phase IIb) to share the costs of the project. The sponsor is expected to participate actively in planning the project. See below for sponsor eligibility requirements, and refer to the [NSERC page](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RPP-PP/I2I-Innov_eng.asp) for further cost-sharing and other requirements for phases IIa and IIb.

*Eligible sponsors for Phase II*

For Phase II, NSERC will evaluate the eligibility of sponsors before accepting proposals for review. The following organizations may be considered as eligible partners:

**Early-stage investment group:** This term refers to either venture capital, a seed capital funding entity, angel investors, university technology transfer corporations, incubators, or other similar funding or technology transfer organizations. Organizations that have received public funds as seed funding, but are functioning in a competitive environment and are required to achieve self-sufficiency within a pre-determined time period, may be considered as equivalent to industry.

**Companies:** Normally, participating companies must be Canadian. Companies outside Canada may also be considered as partners provided they can demonstrate that there will be clear and direct benefits to the Canadian economy as a result of their participation. As partners, companies must demonstrate that they have, or have the potential to acquire, the capability to commercialize the technology under development.

**Researcher-owned companies:** Situations in which the researcher is a part owner are reviewed on a case-by-case basis, and the company’s stage of development will be taken into consideration in determining eligibility. The commercial activity must conform to the institution’s established policies relating to the disclosure of commercial interest and conflict of interest.

Additional Information:

*Tech transfer and IP strategy*

All proposals must include a technology transfer plan, appropriate to the maturity of the technology, that describes how the work will proceed through the next stages in the validation process up to eventual market entry. The ORS will work with the applicant(s) in evaluating and protecting the new technology, service or process; developing proposals; preparing a technology transfer approach; making business contacts; and negotiating licensing or other such arrangements with potential partners.

For all phases except the market assessment, the projects must describe the IP strategy to protect the commercial value of the technology and relate it to the technology transfer plan. Projects should demonstrate how the IP strategy and execution will contribute to the technology transfer or future business the technology may support.

*Evaluation criteria*

Phase I and phase II applications will be evaluated against the following criteria. A subset of the selection criteria, plus additional ones specifically related to market assessment, will be used to review the market assessment applications.

* **Scientific/technical merit**
  + Scientific basis for the expected commercial application
  + Clarity and focus of research objectives
  + Novelty, technical complexity, technical risk and feasibility
  + Appropriateness of work plan, milestones, deliverables and decision points
* **Team expertise and project management**
  + Breadth and depth of team expertise in the proposed fields of activity
  + Business experience or available support
  + Adequacy of personnel and material resources allocated for research and technology transfer activities
  + Quality of project management
* **Potential for technology transfer and commercial benefits** 
  + Commitment of the institution through its technology transfer office (or equivalent)
  + Appropriateness of the technology management and transfer plan
  + Anticipated benefits for a Canadian company
  + Justification of the benefits of NSERC financing
* **Market assessment**
  + Signs of market interest
  + Relevant essential questions have been incorporated into the market analysis
  + Appropriateness of the consultant and statement of work
  + Suitability of the proposed primary research

Resources:

* [I2I grants main page](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RPP-PP/I2I-Innov_eng.asp)
* [Instructions for completing Form 101](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/OnlineServices-ServicesEnLigne/instructions/101/i2i_eng.asp)
* [Instructions for completing Form 100](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/OnlineServices-ServicesEnLigne/instructions/100/100_eng.asp)

## Honda Canada Foundation – Grants

**Internal ORS Deadline:** a minimum of 5 days prior to submission*\**  
**External Sponsor Deadline**: Continuous Intake

*\*A hard copy of the complete application package and a* [*Research Grant/Contract Authorization (RGA) Form*](https://shared.uoit.ca/shared/department/research/documents/Research-Grant-Authorization-August-2011.doc) *with all required signatures* ***must*** *be submitted to the ORS contact by the internal deadline.*

**Description:** The Honda Canada Foundation's mission is to enhance the social well-being of Canadian communities through responsible investment in organizations that share our vision and values and focus on youth in our communities.

The Foundation is proud to be involved with charitable purposes that reflect the basic tenets, beliefs and philosophies of the Honda companies. These charities are:

* Imaginative / creative
* Youthful
* Forward thinking
* Scientific
* Humanistic
* Innovative

At the heart of its charitable focus, the Honda Canada Foundation values: education, environment, and engineering. The Foundation uses these three areas as guiding principles in its charitable focus on the belief that a healthy understanding of each area will help both individuals and communities flourish.

* Education: Takes many forms. Ideas that teach and then drive the desire for more knowledge are valuable.
* Environment: Includes both the natural environment and the human environment. We attach great importance to having a positive influence on our country and community from an environmental perspective.
* Engineering: Focuses on helping communities thrive in the future. We embrace the sciences and research as areas that help us understand our world and ourselves.

**Eligibility:** The Honda Canada Foundation will make grants to charitable groups with CRA status such as:

* Educational institutions (primary, secondary, college, university)
* Charitable non-profit organizations
* Scientific and educational charitable non-profit groups
* Education-research organizations
* Other, tax exempt, national institutions in the fields of education, environment, and engineering

**Value:** Not specified

**Details:** [Application Process](https://www.hondacanadafoundation.ca/apply-for-funding) ; [Application Instructions](https://grant.grantstream.ca/Honda/gsPageGuide.php3)

## Public Health Agency of Canada, Multi-sectoral Partnerships to Promote Healthy Living and Prevent Chronic Disease \*A hard copy of the complete application package and a [Research Grant/Contract Authorization (RGA) Form](https://shared.uoit.ca/shared/department/research/documents/Research-Grant-Authorization-August-2011.doc) with all required signatures must be submitted to the ORS Grants Office a minimum of 5 days before intended deadline.

**Description:** The Public Health Agency of Canada (Agency) is pleased to invite eligible organizations to submit a “Letter of Intent” (LOI) to advance innovative, multi-sectoral approaches to promote healthy living and prevent chronic disease. Multi-sectoral approaches involving all segments of society - communities, academia, the charitable and not-for-profit sector and the private sector - are required to address complex social issues such as childhood obesity and the prevention of chronic diseases.

The [Integrated Strategy on Healthy Living and Chronic Disease (ISHLCD)](http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/fo-fc/mspphl-pppmvs_s10-eng.php#q1) provides a framework for the federal government to promote the health of Canadians and reduce the impact of chronic disease in Canada. The funding programs under the ISHLCD include the [Healthy Living Fund](http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/hp-ps/hl-mvs/hlu-umvs/hlfund-fondspmvs-eng.php), the [Canadian Diabetes Strategy](http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/cd-mc/diabetes-diabete/strategy_funding-strategie_finance-eng.php), the [Cancer Community-Based Program](http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/cd-mc/funding-hlcd-mvsmc-eng.php) and the [Cardiovascular Disease](http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/cd-mc/cvd-mcv/index-eng.php) program.

Projects to be funded under the ISHLCD must include a focus on at least one of the following:

* addressing healthy living and healthy weights through a primary prevention initiative
* addressing common risk factors (i.e. unhealthy diet, physical inactivity, tobacco use) applicable to a number of the aforementioned chronic diseases

As part of the Government of Canada's five-year renewal of the Federal Tobacco Control Strategy (FTCS) through Budget 2012, interventions under this program stream will target tobacco as a common risk factor for chronic diseases as reinforced in the [2011 United Nations Declaration on Non-Communicable Diseases](http://www.un.org/en/ga/ncdmeeting2011/pdf/NCD_draft_political_declaration.pdf). The Agency's tobacco investments ensure alignment with broader chronic disease prevention priorities, such as the stakeholder-led National Lung Health Framework.

Projects to be funded under the FTCS must include a focus on at least one of the following:

* building the capacity of tobacco cessation interveners
* reinforcing tobacco prevention and cessation in the workplace
* addressing the elevated risks of urban First Nations people living off-reserve, and Métis people and Inuit people living outside of their traditional communities

**Eligibility:**  Canadian not-for-profit voluntary organizations and corporations; for-profit organizations; unincorporated groups, societies and coalitions; provincial, territorial, regional, and municipal governments and agencies; organizations and institutions supported by provincial and territorial governments (regional health authorities, schools, post-secondary institutions, etc.); individuals deemed capable of conducting population health activities; and non-Canadian recipients may be considered on an exceptional basis; Aboriginal organizations

**Value:** The value of your Agency funding request must be a minimum of $100,000 per year over a minimum of a two-year period. Requests that reflect less than $100,000/year, or are under two years in duration, will not be considered. The maximum value of your Agency funding request cannot exceed $5 million per project. The funding duration must be between 24 months (2 years) and 60 months (5 years). A matched funding ratio of 1:1 is required for funding under the ISHLCD. A minimum of 1:3 matched funding is required for projects funded under the FTCS. Final determination of the matched funding ratio for any particular project rests with the Public Health Agency of Canada.

**Details:**| [Submitting at Letter of Intent](http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/fo-fc/mspphl-pppmvs-eng.php#a4) | [Project Assessment](http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/fo-fc/mspphl-pppmvs-eng.php#a5) | [Official Languages Requirement](http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/fo-fc/mspphl-pppmvs-eng.php#a7) | [FAQ](http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/fo-fc/mspphl-pppmvs_s10-eng.php#a10)