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# Announcements

## New announcements

1. **ORS Funding Bulletin is transitioning to online version**: The ORS Funding Bulletin will be transitioning to the online-only version in the coming months. Please check out our [Online Funding Bulletin](https://research.ontariotechu.ca/faculty/funding/funding-bulletin.php) and send any feedback to [Ewa Stewart](mailto:ewa.stewart@ontariotechu.ca), Grants Officer. Stay tuned for further communications about the transition and instructions on how to subscribe to bulletin update notifications.
2. [**Update on ORS contacts for Mitacs program, Accelerate Internship Unit allocation and other Mitacs Program Updates.**](#_Update_on_ORS)

## Reminders

1. **NSERC Alliance Advantage Grant – Updates on extensions with additional funds:**  Alliance Advantage grants support research projects conducted in collaboration with partner organizations to address organizational challenges and accelerate the application of research results. NSERC has observed unprecedented demand for Alliance Advantage grants and is seeking to maximize opportunities to support new applications for partnered research. As a result, NSERC is pausing the intake of requests for extensions with additional funds, as of February 27, 2025, at 8:00 p.m. (ET). Until further notice, NSERC will not consider requests for additional one-year funding for existing Alliance Advantage grants beyond this deadline. Other extension opportunities with no additional funding remain available.
2. The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) is [communicating important program updates to the Aid to Scholarly Journals (ASJ) funding opportunity](https://track.smtpsendemail.com/9079200/c?p=N4l0vPP8oIlngivFEPRP7rX9muWsUaK2eGE9yPS-YvrmjIKVXJZAfXzUciiETLgm-3bWV5Am0TxCOkbirnxAFgNCTJxR1ufIlvNRO8pNUPTbsrKfKPg57-BUSD4OWvwIt7SeEWwgviWPrvfO-qwuJmLkVwvJqF1kIbPZkwXicPYpe1Z6VCcrNE33yXAU462CLJt0pU_p3yoChAyYthvgG6ZWSpfVM_X6Aj8B01I5aETfMBwQ2rMs1dfPo-rXG6CqAkpy8NRW0mebIOmBwHo3fc3AagznZxrNCum7YxDFmxY_v_6WqcLYPv5kjRDlhre13mZTdFH4zo-btk2GdtYMfw==).
3. **Guidance on the Use of AI in the Development and Review of Research Proposals**: The three federal research funding agencies—the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council and SSHRC—recently released [new guidance](https://science.gc.ca/site/science/en/interagency-research-funding/policies-and-guidelines/use-generative-artificial-intelligence-development-and-review-research-proposals) on the use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) in the development and review of research proposals submitted for grant applications.
4. [**Updates on the funding decision mechanism for Alliance grants**](#_Updates_on_the)**.**
5. CIHR requires researchers who received funding for a clinical trial in 2022 or later to register those trials and disclose the clinical trial results. Investigators must comply with this policy in order to remain eligible for funding. CIHR’s process for monitoring compliance with these requirements begins in February 2025, and they will be publicly reporting on results later this spring. Learn more: [CIHR Policy Guide – Requirements for Registration and Disclosure of Results from Clinical Trials.](https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/52820.html) Email questions to [clinicaltrials-essaiscliniques@cihr-irsc.gc.ca](mailto:clinicaltrials-essaiscliniques@cihr-irsc.gc.ca).
6. The Tri-Agency is seeking new members to join the Tri-agency’s “Reference Group for the Appropriate Review of Indigenous Research.” The Reference Group for the Appropriate Review of Indigenous Research (Reference Group) is a community group of First Nations, Inuit and Métis individuals that provide advice to CIHR, SSHRC and NSERC (collectively known as the ‘Tri-agencies’) on ethically and culturally safe peer review approaches and practices for research conducted by and with First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples. For more information about the Reference Group, or other work relating to Indigenous Research at NSERC, please visit <https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/IR-RA/index_eng.asp>
7. CIHR is updating the way they present application rankings in Notices of Recommendation (NORs) and Notices of Decision (NODs) for the Project Grant competition. This update will also be reflected in the Application Decision Results report which is provided to the administering institutions on the same day as the NOD. With these updated templates, applicants and administering institutions will be able to see the zone in which the application ranks (e.g., in the bottom 25%, between 25% and 50%, between 50% and 75%, between 75% and 90%, or 90% and above), rather than its specific ranking. [Learn more.](https://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/54124.html)
8. SSHRC, CIHR, and NSERC  have announced a gradual move away from the Canadian Common CV (CCV) to a [new, narrative-style CV](https://science.gc.ca/site/science/en/interagency-research-funding/other-collaborative-activities/interagency-news-announcements-and-statements/message-tri-agency-presidents-granting-councils-transitioning-new-cv-template) for their competitions. The new CV will prioritize written descriptions of an applicant’s research contributions, allowing users to highlight a wide range of research outputs and describe their career trajectories in more detail. The format values societal research outcomes, such as influence on policy, or mentorship, alongside more traditional research outputs like publications.

1. CIHR, NSERC and SSHRC have released their [Tri-agency Research Training Strategy](https://www.canada.ca/en/research-coordinating-committee/priorities/research-talent-for-a-knowledge-based-society/tri-agency-research-training-strategy.html). The strategy’s aim is to ensure the suite of scholarships and fellowships the agencies deliver is equitable, inclusive, accessible and effective. It will help support and prepare a diverse population of undergraduate and graduate students and postdoctoral researchers for careers requiring strong research skills in all sectors of society. As the strategy is implemented, the agencies will further engage with partners and communities to collaborate and to codevelop specific actions. The agencies’ goal is to introduce and apply these actions over the next five years. We invite you to read the strategy to learn more.
2. 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.

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 10 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** |
| CIHR – [Summer Program in Aging – Planning Grant](https://www.researchnet-recherchenet.ca/rnr16/vwOpprtntyDtls.do?prog=4273&view=currentOpps&org=CIHR&type=EXACT&resultCount=25&sort=program&next=1&all=1&masterList=true) | April 8, 2025 | April 15, 2025 |
| The Spencer Foundation – [Research Grants on Education: Small](https://www.spencer.org/grant_types/small-research-grant) | April 10, 2025 | April 16, 2025 |
| Centre for Aging + Brain Health Innovation (CABHI) - [Fuel Program](https://www.cabhi.com/fuel/) | April 14, 2025 | April 23, 2025 |
| Amazon Science – Call for proposals   * [AI for Information Security call for proposals](https://www.amazon.science/research-awards/call-for-proposals/ai-for-information-security-call-for-proposals-spring-2025) * [Amazon Ads call for proposals](https://www.amazon.science/research-awards/call-for-proposals/amazon-ads-call-for-proposals-spring-2025) * [Build on Trainium call for proposals](https://www.amazon.science/research-awards/call-for-proposals/build-on-trainium-call-for-proposals-spring-2025) * [Think Big call for proposals](https://www.amazon.science/research-awards/call-for-proposals/think-big-call-for-proposals-spring-2025) | April 16, 2025 | April 30, 2025 |
| NSERC - [Collaborative Research and Training Experience (CREATE) Program](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/professors-professeurs/grants-subs/create-foncer_eng.asp) – [ORS Info and Deadlines](#_Perry_Family_Chair) | NOI: April 17, 2025  LOI: April 22, 2025  Full: TBD | LOI: May 1, 2025  Full: September 22, 2025 (by invitation) |
| The Spencer Foundation – [Racial Equity Research Grants](https://www.spencer.org/grant_types/racial-equity-special-research-grants) | LOI: May 28, 2025  Full: TBD | LOI: May 5, 2025  Full: June 25, 2025 |
| Lakeridge Health - [Perry Family Chair in Advanced Technology and Quality Systems](https://www.lakeridgehealth.on.ca/en/aboutus/perry-family-chair-in-advanced-technology-and-quality-systems.asp) – [ORS Info and Deadlines](#_Perry_Family_Chair_1) | April 22, 2025 | May 6, 2025 |
| Ontario Tech Women in Research Council and ORS – Building EDI Knowledge in Research – [ORS Info and Deadlines](#_Building_EDI_Knowledge) | April 28, 2025 | N/A |
| The Simons Foundation – [Pivot Fellowship](https://www.simonsfoundation.org/grant/pivot-fellowship/) | May 1, 2025 | May 15, 2025 |
| NSERC – ECCC – [Call for Proposals on Plastics Science and Innovation for a Cleaner and More Sustainable Future](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/ECCC-ECCC/index_eng.asp) – [ORS Info and Deadlines](#_NSERC_-_ECCC) | LOI: May 1, 2025  Full: TBD | LOI: May 15, 2025  Full: September 18, 2025 (by invitation) |
| The Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) – [Research and Grants Program Strategic Initiative: The use of medical cannabis for the treatment of work-related health conditions](https://www.wsib.ca/en/research-and-grants-program) | May 5, 2025 | May 16, 2025 |
| SSHRC – [Partnership Engage Grant](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/programs-programmes/partnership_engage_grants-subventions_d_engagement_partenarial-eng.aspx) | June 2, 2025 | June 16, 2025 |

## **Current Funding Opportunities**

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| **Agency-Program** | **Internal Deadline** | **First Agency Deadline** |
| New Frontiers in Research Fund (NFRF) – [Transformation 2026 Competition](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/nfrf-fnfr/transformation/2026/competition-concours-eng.aspx) – [ORS Info and Deadlines](#_NEW_FRONTIERS_IN_1) | ~~Mandatory NOI: March 14, 2025~~  LOI: TBD  Full: TBD | NOI: April 15, 2025  LOI: June 17, 2025  Full (by invitation only): March 3, 2026 |
| CIHR – [Operating Grant: New Investigator Research Grants in Child and Youth Health](https://www.researchnet-recherchenet.ca/rnr16/vwOpprtntyDtls.do?prog=4242&view=currentOpps&org=CIHR&type=EXACT&resultCount=25&sort=program&all=1&masterList=true&language=E) | April 7, 2025 | April 21, 2025 |
| The National Killam Foundation – [Dorothy Killam Fellowship](https://programmekillamprogram.powerappsportals.com/en-CA/fundingopportunities/fodetails/?foid=4b490485-049f-ec11-b400-002248d5186d) – [ORS Info and Deadlines](#_The_National_Killam_2) | ~~Mandatory NOI: March 31, 2025~~  Mandatory comprehensive review: May 1, 2025 | Research abstract: April 30, 2025  Full: May 22, 2025 |
| SSHRC - [Connection Grant](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/programs-programmes/connection_grants-subventions_connexion-eng.aspx) | April 17, 2025 | May 1, 2025 |
| SSHRC – [Destination Horizon Grant](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/programs-programmes/destination_horizon-eng.aspx) – [ORS Info and Deadlines](#_SSHRC_Destination_Horizon_1) | ~~Internal NOI: December 19, 2025~~  NOI: April 28, 2025 | ~~January 22, 2025~~  Future deadlines:  May 22, 2025  September 22, 2025 |
| The National Killam Foundation – [Killam NRC Paul Corkum Fellowships](https://programmekillamprogram.powerappsportals.com/en-CA/fundingopportunities/fodetails/?foid=2fca8e2f-72b5-ee11-a569-000d3a0a2ad3) – [ORS Info and Deadlines](#_The_National_Killam_1) | ~~Mandatory NOI: March 31, 2025~~  Mandatory comprehensive review: May 15, 2025 | June 5, 2025 |
| The Law Foundation of Ontario – [2024 Responsive Call for Applications](https://lawfoundation.on.ca/news/responsive-call-for-applications/) | Two weeks before desired submission date | Open call |

**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 [anna.kristoffersen@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:anna.kristoffersen@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 [Julia.Armstrong@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:Julia.Armstrong@ontariotechu.ca) |
| **NSERC Alliance**   * NSERC Alliance:   + [Alliance Advantage](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/innovate-innover/alliance-alliance/index_eng.asp)   + [Alliance Society](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/Alliance_society-Alliance_societe/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[**(Yiming) Peter Shao**](mailto:Yiming.Shao@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**   * [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)On hold until the end of fiscal year * [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) |
| **Ontario Centre for Innovation (OCI)**  To drive commercialization of intellectual property   * [Collaborate 2 Commercialize Program](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_–) |

# 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 **six to eight weeks** 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 ten 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.

## 

# 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…

## Update on ORS contacts for Mitacs program and Accelerate Internship Unit Allocation

**Changes to ORS contacts for Mitacs programs:**

As of April 1, 2025 Ontario Tech researchers are asked to contact the **ORS Partnerships team** for all Mitacs program queries and for assistance with Mitacs application development.

Partnerships Officer contact information:

[Victoria Nash-Woolley](mailto:Victoria.Nash-Woolley@ontariotechu.ca) (FEAS)

[Anna Kristoffersen](mailto:anna.kristoffersen@ontariotechu.ca) (FS, FHS)

[Daniel Huizenga](mailto:Daniel.Huizenga@ontariotechu.ca) (FBIT, FSSH, FEd)

**FY 2025-26 Internship Unit Allocation for the Mitacs Accelerate Program:**

Due to financial constraints in the 2025/26 fiscal year, Mitacs has issued **a submission allowance for the Accelerate program**. This allowance in effect limits the total number of internship units that can be submitted for the 2025/26 fiscal year by an academic institution. In addition due to the current financial constraints, **Mitacs is encouraging projects with a high proportion of named interns (over 50% named internship units) and which are less than 2 years in duration.**

**For the 2025/26 fiscal year Ontario Tech is limited to submit a total of 105 internship units for the Accelerate Program. The 2025/26 fiscal year runs April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026.**

* Internship units will be allocated to projects as they are submitted on a first come, first served basis. Once Ontario Tech’s limit of 105 internship units has been reached, no further Accelerate projects may be submitted.
* The Accelerate internship unit limit applies across all Accelerate programs including: standard Accelerate, Accelerate Entrepreneur and the joint NSERC Alliance-Mitacs Accelerate program. The Accelerate internship unit limit will also apply to any funded extensions (where the partner and Mitacs are contributing additional money for additional IUs to the project) for current active Accelerate projects.
* The internship limit applies to all internship units submitted during the 2025/26 fiscal year, regardless of when the internship units will be activated. As a result, projects with named interns which can be delivered within this fiscal period are strongly encouraged. For multi year projects, it may be preferred to break the work up into phases and only apply for the first phase during the 2025/26 fiscal year.

**\*\*Mandatory next steps *before* initiating a new Mitacs Accelerate application:**

* Given the current constraints on the Mitacs Accelerate program, all researchers are asked to connect with the appropriate [Partnerships Officer](https://research.ontariotechu.ca/contacts.php) (refer to contact list above) in ORS ***before*** initiating any Accelerate application via their online application portal and/or drafting an Accelerate application. ORS will confirm the availability of the required internship units and then connect the researcher to our Mitacs Business Development Advisor to start working on the application.

**About the Mitacs Accelerate Program:**

The [Mitacs Accelerate](https://www.mitacs.ca/en/programs/accelerate) program matches an industry or not-for-profit partner’s contribution to the cost of a collaborative research project. Students and/or PDFs can receive up to $15,000 in funding for each internship unit (IU). Each IU represents $7,500 in funding from the project partner (subject to applicable tax) matched with $7,500 from Mitacs per each 4-6 month period of work completed.

The Mitacs participant completes half of their internship on-site with the industry partner and the other half at the university under faculty supervision. The Mitacs participant is responsible for completing a report about the project that is reviewed by their faculty supervisor and presented to the industry partner.

Other updates from Mitacs

This message provides updates about several changes to Mitacs’s programs and related policies:

* + - 1. Integration of Elevate into Accelerate: A new $20K Accelerate stream for postdoctoral fellows
      2. Application Template Updates
      3. Internship Limits
      4. Mitacs Program Terms and Conditions

### 1. Discontinuation of Elevate and the Introduction of $20K Accelerate for Postdoctoral Fellows

As part of our ongoing review and streamlining of programs, Elevate as a standalone program will be replaced with a $20,000 per internship ($60,000 per year) postdoctoral funding model within Accelerate. This change is effective April 1, 2025 for new applications. Existing Elevate applications will continue unchanged until completion of the project.

Key Transition Details:

* Final Submission Deadline for Elevate Applications: Any draft applications or those requiring sign-off in our portal must be submitted by April 30, 2025.
* New Postdoctoral Funding Model: Starting April 1, 2025, postdoctoral funding will be available through Accelerate under the new $20K per internship structure in addition to the existing $15K per internship model, providing postdoctoral fellows with $60,000 per year.

Application Process Updates:

* Please continue to refer to [our website](https://www.mitacs.ca/our-programs/accelerate/) for information about how to apply. Many Accelerate applications can be submitted through our digital process.
* Accelerate 20K for postdoctoral fellows will be completed via the non-digital application also found on [our website](https://www.mitacs.ca/our-programs/accelerate/).

2. Application Template Updates

**Accelerate Research proposal**

To streamline the application process, the Accelerate Research Proposal has been updated, making submissions simpler, easier, and reducing versioning issues. There will no longer be a separate template for Express applications, but the Express process remains in place for faster review of 1-3 IU projects. Additionally, links to Mitacs's Policy on the Use of Artificial Intelligence in Proposal Development and Mitacs's Review Responsible Conduct of Research Policy have been added to the instructions page, to provide additional guidance for applicants.

**Accelerate Budget & Invoice Schedule**

The $20K postdoctoral funding option is now included in the Accelerate Budget & Invoice Schedule.

3. Internship Limits

Interns in Accelerate and Business Strategy Internship (BSI) have historically had limits on the number of internships they can complete based on their degree level. We have removed this limit for students, noting that interns must have time in their schedule to accommodate the commitment to the internship. There are no changes for recent grads (eligible for 3 internships / 1 year of funding) or postdocs (9 internships / 3 years).

4. Mitacs Program Terms and Conditions

Mitacs’s Program Terms and Conditions, last updated in 2021, have been streamlined to improve the applicant and administrator experience and update language to increase clarity and close gaps identified in the previous version. The updated Terms and Conditions will go into effect on April 30, 2025 and will replace the current version on our website. We are also adding an updated cancellation policy that improves clarity about project cancellation rules. For more details, please see the following links:

* [Summary of Terms and Conditions s updates](https://www.mitacs.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/TC_Update_External_2025.pdf?utm_medium=email&_hsenc=p2ANqtz-_kvWgLKHm_1Cc7BJNsEIHhHWH_ut75ukfdWjUI0JvF5nePKJNC9Jb8wfgIH_2rQFHqgYNSdqeOWNblaVnClRunUMf1fQ&_hsmi=107061556&utm_content=107061556&utm_source=hs_email)
* [Mitacs Program Terms and Conditions for Program Participants](https://www.mitacs.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/TC_Participants_2025.pdf?utm_medium=email&_hsenc=p2ANqtz--UyPrzAUKsQ__v3Zi9qC7nlmGSxDuewbK-sT8kKlXpRrPpLLxSI7xKFEW-4T3hz5NYmUvy4YvrZ10I4zwEGurhkXUWOw&_hsmi=107061556&utm_content=107061556&utm_source=hs_email)
* [Mitacs Program Terms and Conditions for Academic Institutions](https://www.mitacs.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/TC_Institution_2025.pdf?utm_medium=email&_hsenc=p2ANqtz-8QAn-v3zi2iKBgxeX5GcK79Qw2sDI7-YYf4t4n6S7o4OdAq33UEyR0wy4vsJ-5Jdn1cLf0h9dSsTUIZ4unARlsNOw7bw&_hsmi=107061556&utm_content=107061556&utm_source=hs_email)
* [Mitacs Project Cancellation Policy](https://www.mitacs.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Mitacs_Project_Cancellation_Policy.pdf?utm_medium=email&_hsenc=p2ANqtz--E2X8NN4Ld7D9JOXubvIttrwLiS51MsRhkcNxHYeXM5cKnMTHZOSNZydH74G_OARJgPcKbVzsYdSs6UULLB8flkvnjvg&_hsmi=107061556&utm_content=107061556&utm_source=hs_email)

Should you have any questions about these updates or Mitacs’s offerings, please contact Mitacs’s Client Service & Support (CSS) team at <mailto:experience@mitacs.ca>.

## Updates on the funding decision mechanism for Alliance grants:

Alliance Advantage and Alliance Society grants support research projects conducted in collaboration with partner organizations to address organizational and societal challenges and accelerate the application of research results. Designed to be simple, modern, flexible, and responsive, the Alliance grants funding opportunity is experiencing unprecedented interest and demand.

The Alliance grants evaluation process includes a merit evaluation, along with an assessment of potential risks for Canada’s national security, when applicable. With increased demand for funds, NSERC will use the merit indicator ratings assigned to applications to select proposals for funding on a competitive basis, as outlined in the [Alliance Advantage](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/alliance-alliance/review-examen_eng.asp) and [Alliance Society](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/Alliance_society-Alliance_societe/review-examen_eng.asp) literature. The funding decisions will also consider budget availability.

Every two weeks, applications being considered for funding will be ranked according to their merit rating and funded based on available budget allocation. If an application is not initially selected for funding, it will remain in consideration for two additional funding rounds. The funding decision will be communicated within 6 weeks of the merit evaluation.

It is important to differentiate between the merit evaluation and funding decision when communicating with partners and stakeholders, as not all meritorious applications will receive funding.

This funding decision process applies to the following funding opportunities:

* Alliance Advantage grants
* Alliance Society grants
* NSERC Alliance and Alberta Innovates Campus Alberta Small Business Engagement (CASBE) Stream II
* NSERC Alliance-Mitacs Accelerate grants
* NSERC Alliance grants and Ontario Centre of Innovation Collaborate 2 Commercialize

## Introducing new measures to safeguard research in Canada

The federal government has tasked the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the other research granting agencies with implementing new measures to safeguard research done in Canada, with an emphasis on protecting it against risks to national and economic security.

Two new measures are coming into force at CIHR as of May 1, 2024. The first measure, the [National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships](https://track.smtpsendemail.com/9079200/c?p=j1KfTekrzxG3eUnHWEePdixZNlB-Co0K3iyXKpxUuSo03tBaN4lJGom-9XP1D1EAr2Ci_GlJ_8HKApj2FcoSptfqXTTN7zjRovDnFC266hAF7rSpunbL8mydpEG16JPNeHFG117vA8BG78HJucDuOqDofbP0P16YsiEnlHHOJ9-ZFuIKa0U-gSyCksnQtOXTacYBmBf_5P-ImyQ5B9tXjjY4dTgcXwfUUeaThPHwtkDSktehK0UfHRG_yt4_5EpcSM2Frtn48B3AjDO0rpuflajZy70CeWl4EIfnxa6E_b3syKg9P4tpOnXATsd5RC51uupzhBQZ2eHdWEp7BJZYJp1joISoyTI5a-1ERU1uSTCbFJtWDOF7Vb42qb0AaZFPSGz8blHvf1QiI3pLI7rfVb9sOP7MVvhFus7v5NHnzsGJ5yyatohmxsJduqv_u3qc), applies to research proposals that involve partner organizations from the private sector. The second measure, the [Policy on Sensitive Technology Research and Affiliations of Concern](https://track.smtpsendemail.com/9079200/c?p=-1GoDV7MD1HkpsVdmzvIUaccC7EVm9E-kGyOQWwjn3NQw8a-HLeutVeCXGvBXqx-DgsSx53IKUHF2LKEw2ryKMpSgTjOdq4n0SlTghZY7GTVgQ9Nbb4nCMN8QgYfqgd6C8LX3po0iDhmBTW6qPgLtbOtNQK1os8okXJ1oNfgRfdGV6nCY7UIsp2QrUCZfuZ0E9qLfJUvrkYUKN3yaE3aVCfCpKRLkYMxJdfmZUUco4LUMAzY2Nlv3D--wIHU90NKJBvVuDuhhDufbDaPj4qcIIbYBHzxyGR5BaYcbS_-6NgGJ0pu3gGxr9yOlf_V2sy7C-X2JZ0HhFytE0ZfCwTwO6pcn9VXv5NJiL5dCL9uk0M=), applies to research that aims to advance a [sensitive technology research area](https://track.smtpsendemail.com/9079200/c?p=7hFH_SG34DZom8IY1_U8JG-zK4HoxKDM6wSZtEK6wrxDGoNYxQ3GAt5kGPuS98npF7NjWpSflOJ4rPyln7PJWwR2SBRWc0328mJQLEF-Yyp-ZnslcCYb6FZTcCL0T5bA0I6eF7FbayTx2wqRgDoC18Ww3TxDq71Mch9ZpwDVSCTXPgzcXe2mynMo-q1ueETHb_05AeP-KUQPuw2PAQ_ug0fPGsVeMgxhMKHEAFdK0H2GgJZepkjBDXFPPb2TJmvsTnmrdlaX6G1X2dmStuXX04twEnX-J13HN9JJb3EgGYFWepClSH65xjAIH98l_yZKFEmkw-77zL_NB-VRjoTb4Q==).

For the moment, the National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships will only apply to the Fall 2024 Project Grant competition, launching on July 4, 2024. The Policy on Sensitive Technology Research and Affiliations of Concern will apply to most grant funding opportunities (including the Project grant competition) launched as of May 1, 2024.

Both new measures may involve additional steps during the application process, depending on if an applicant’s research proposal is in scope.

Please see [CIHR’s new research security page](https://track.smtpsendemail.com/9079200/c?p=XBu12Cz0SQzkzKbefKyN2XnschDZlD9edMY9lqJ59BLsAnTagYiytwFSUs2J4ggUfBDM_eUCS0Bz31NDD86F5peds0_MWKBA8ogjRs4UT1nnQNU2NYov_2D1OUkgwjIflUFSNrJ4vB6mQJU04rPGF51cn3oCVxr9bbPdekHoYilsPkEODkXSq2yvWFzmJvxE) for answers to your most common questions. General information can also be found on the [Tri-agency guidance on research security page](https://track.smtpsendemail.com/9079200/c?p=Dq5BmWfRkd6pt3cs7wSMOIse6pknc30pAz9Wiv_VSbb4MPrUHdbdgz7ZfyOtkBgVk_fWHWBOaiJ8Z8hYzULIttJ9H2Oh1x4QL6GYEP4Qck96XEzrDpBNlGs5iWeO4R-_L_fG_dyf_wlxuDIsHP_SldJoFaSp0G8hqFz3L1vkBYF1kOBK8P_9gsbcX6TcLvbrsWk8drgMNQFumykoDjPAATu4-TOLF-kC0Qj_VcU5aNY=).

CIHR would be grateful for your help in spreading the word at your institutions and among your networks and is pleased to continue our research discussions at our monthly University Delegates meetings.

If you still have questions, please don’t hesitate to email [support-soutien@cihr-irsc.gc.ca](mailto:support-soutien@cihr-irsc.gc.ca).

Regards,

Sincerely,

The Canadian Institutes of Health Research

## 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 defense, 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 defense, 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).

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 **Erin Dwyer, Manager – Safeguarding Research (**[erin.dwyer@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:erin.dwyer@ontariotechu.ca)**)**.

## NSERC Collaborative Research and Training Experience (CREATE) Program – Letter of Intent (LOI)

**Sponsor/agency:** [NSERC](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/index_eng.asp) (Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada)

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

**Description**

To create a **value-added** training program **for graduate (master’s and doctoral) students** *beyond that of normal graduate programming* to better prepare research trainees for their future careers in industry, government or academia. The CREATE program is designed to improve the training and mentoring environment for the Canadian researchers of tomorrow in areas such as **technical and professional skills, collaboration, as well as by providing mentoring and mobility experiences relevant to both academic and non-academic research environments**. The committee expects to see innovative pedagogy or interestingly different methods of training (e.g. immersive experiences). Initiatives do not necessarily have to involve the development of new professional skills training courses but can take advantage of existing training offered at the university, provincially or by other organizations.

The Collaborative Research and Training Experience (CREATE) program supports the training and mentoring of teams of highly qualified students and postdoctoral fellows from Canada and abroad through the development of innovative training programs that:

* Raise the standards in graduate training
* encourage collaborative and integrative approaches between large and medium or small sized institutions to address significant scientific challenges
* facilitate the transition of new researchers from trainees to productive employees in the Canadian workforce

See *Additional Information* section below for additional details.

**New:** This year, there is no LOI quota. Instead, the LOI stage will be semi-competitive. NSERC will admit, via peer review using established criteria, a specific number of LOIs from each institution to the full application stage. When an institution submits a number of LOIs greater than their allotment, the LOIs will be evaluated by the NSERC Selection Committee to determine which of these will advance to the application stage. Ontario Tech has a **quota of one (1) full application** that can be submitted to this year’s competition.

For all LOIs, **a letter of support from the VPRI is required** confirming that the application has been endorsed by the university. 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.

**Program Summary**

**Deadlines:** **April 17, 2025:** **Mandatory** ORS notification of intent to apply

**April 22, 2025:** **Mandatory** Administrative Completion Review deadline.

Submit the [Research Grants Authorization (RGA) Form](https://shared.ontariotechu.ca/shared/department/research/documents/policies-and-procedure-form/rga-form-e-signatures.docx) and the completed NSERC CREATE LOI Form 187 (excluding the VPRI endorsement letter). **Important note:** if this deadline is not met, the Applicant acknowledges that the required VPRI endorsement letter may not be issued.

**May 1, 2025:** NSERC CREATE LOI 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 22, 2025: NSERC CREATE Full Application Deadline at 8:00 pm (ET).** *Note: For those invited to submit a full application, a timeline for a comprehensive review will be provided.* *Also note that co-applicants from other institutions will need to fill in an external applicant form.*

**Value:** $$1.65M over 6 years ($100K-200K in the first year and $250K-350K per year for up to five subsequent years).

*Note: At least 70% of the CREATE grant must be used for trainees’ stipends (up to 30% of this portion can be distributed to trainees who are not enrolled in the NSE).*

**Indirect Costs:** N/A

**Duration:** Up to 6 years

**How to Apply:**

1. **Mandatory:** Notify [Joanne Hui](mailto:joanne.hui@ontariotechu.ca) of your intent to apply **by April 17, 2025**.
2. **Mandatory**: Submit the following to [Joanne Hui](mailto:joanne.hui@ontariotechu.ca) **by April 22, 2025** for an Administrative Completion Review and to facilitate the required VPRI letter:
   * 1. **Completed NSERC CREATE Letter of Intent** (Form 187 located in the [NSERC online system](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/onlineservices-servicesenligne/index_eng.asp)) – excluding the Endorsement letter from the VPRI. *Note that the F187 has a section for an industrial support letter. Please disregard this component as it is a vestige from when the CREATE program had an industrial stream*.
     2. **Personal Data form** (Form 100 located in the [NSERC online system](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/onlineservices-servicesenligne/index_eng.asp)) *for the Applicant only*
     3. [Research Grants Authorization (RGA) Form](https://shared.ontariotechu.ca/shared/department/research/documents/policies-and-procedure-form/rga-form-e-signatures.docx) signed by your Dean.

**Important note:** if this deadline is not met, the Applicant acknowledges that the required VPRI endorsement letter may not be issued.

1. The VPRI endorsement letters will be released to all applicants on **April 29, 2025**. Applicants are to upload the VPRI letter to complete their LOI package.
2. Submit LOI package on the [NSERC online system](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/onlineservices-servicesenligne/index_eng.asp) by **May 1, 2025.** Please submit to the NSERC portal by 9 am. Important notes:
   * + At the time of LOI submission, the applicant team composition must be finalized, meaning that the individuals listed as applicants and co-applicants should remain the same throughout both the LOI and application stages. However, if changes to the team composition are required between the two stages due to unforeseen and exceptional circumstances, please notify the CREATE team at [CREATE@nserc-crsng.gc.ca](mailto:CREATE@nserc-crsng.gc.ca)
     + **Submitting your LOI:** Before submitting the LOI, ensure that all the required information is complete and validated. **Note that the LOI is submitted directly to NSERC without involving the research grant office**.

**Contact:** ORS Grants Officer: [joanne.hui@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:joanne.hui@ontariotechu.ca)

Agency Program Contact: [CREATE@nserc-crsng.gc.ca](mailto:CREATE@nserc-crsng.gc.ca)

**Program information:**

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

[NSERC CREATE Webinar Recording Link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1D9rHi8E4HduaBxl8Tw3rOg5aCBwzM1pU/view?usp=drive_link)

**Eligibility**

**Program**

* Student mobility experiences (internship, exchanges, etc.) **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 can occur in industry, government, non-governmental organizations and/or academia in or outside of Canada. Multiple mobility experiences may be conducted to cumulatively meet the minimum length required.
* Only trainees supervised by the applicant, co-applicants or collaborators at one of the grantee institutions are eligible for CREATE stipends and expenses
* The focus should be on new training initiatives; for example, CREATE initiatives cannot be renewed nor duplicated, and a new proposal must be different in theme, approaches to training, and applicant team from previous grants
* **Additional Requirements for the LOI:**
  + **Outline of Training Program:** previous CREATE grantees and co-grantees must clearly describe how this application differs from those previously funded in terms of participants, training approach, theme and subject matter.
  + **Excellence of proposed team of researchers:** Participation of members of the applicant team in previous or active CREATE initiatives should be mentioned, as well as how this will impact their contribution to the proposed initiative.

**Applicant and Co-Applicants**

* 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)
  + If a researcher is already a grantee or co-grantee on two active grants, the timeline for determining eligibility to apply for a new initiative depends on the grant end date of the oldest of the two grants
* All universities that will be involved in the application must have at least one co-applicant listed in the proposal. 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.* [provide summary of applicant eligibility]
* Up to 30% of the co-applicant team can be from non-NSE areas covered under the umbrella of CIHR and SSHRC

**Partner Organization**

CREATE projects can involve Canadian/international academic/government/industry/NGO collaborators

**Additional Information**

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 improve their job readiness for careers in industry, government, nongovernmental organizations and/or academia. These programs should encourage the following as appropriate:

* Student mobility, nationally or internationally, between individual universities and between universities and other sectors\*
* Interdisciplinary research within the natural sciences and engineering (NSE), or at the interface between the NSE and health or the social sciences and humanities—however, the main focus of the training must still lie within the NSE
* Increased collaboration between academic and non-academic sectors

**\*Important:** See Program Eligibility note regarding mandatory student mobility experiences.

In addition, industry-supported training programs will be recognized for their capacity to support improved job readiness within the industrial sector by exposing participants to the specific challenges of the private sector, and to support training in skills that have been identified as needed for a career in industry, such as leadership, business management, entrepreneurship and marketing.

Supported training programs will be recognized for:

* their innovative nature to create a rich research training and mentoring environment
* the excellence of the researchers and their success in training and mentoring highly qualified personnel (HQP) for future employment in all sectors, including industry, government and academia
* their capacity to raise the standard for best practices in research training, mentoring and development of professional skills of new researchers
* encouraging student mobility, as appropriate, between different Canadian universities, between the universities and potential workplaces or among participating Canadian and international institutions, thus promoting international awareness.

**Resources**

* NSERC CREATE Tip sheet
* [CREATE LOI Guidelines (Form 187)](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/OnlineServices-ServicesEnLigne/instructions/187/create_eng.asp)
* [CREATE Program Committee Guidelines](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/Grants-Subs/CREATECommittee-FONCERComite_eng.asp)
* [CREATE Full Application Guidelines (Form 102)](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/onlineservices-servicesenligne/instructions/102/create_eng.asp)
* [FAQ](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/Grants-Subs/CREATEFAQ-FONCERFAQ_eng.asp)
* [List of active and complete CREATE grants](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/Grants-Subs/CREATEResults-ResultatsFONCER_eng.asp?)
* [Eligibility requirements for applicants, co-applicants and collaborators](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/Eligibility-Admissibilite/faculty-corpsprof_eng.asp)
* [NSERC’s equity, diversity and inclusion considerations at each stage of the research process](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/Policies-Politiques/EDI_guidance-Conseils_EDI_eng.asp)
* [Best Practices in Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Research](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/nfrf-fnfr/edi-eng.aspx#2a)
* [Guide for applicants: Considering equity, diversity and inclusion in your application](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/_doc/EDI/Guide_for_Applicants_EN.pdf)

## Perry Family Chair in Advanced Technology and Quality Systems

\*\*\*Please notify [Raluca Dubrowski](mailto:raluca.dubrowski@ontariotechu.ca) of your intent to apply as soon as possible\*\*\*

**Description**

Lakeridge Health announces a unique opportunity for the **inaugural Perry Family Chair in Advanced Technology and Quality Systems**, available by invitation to members within Lakeridge Health and select collaborating institutions. This prestigious chair is designed to support a leading individual who is already established in a clinical or academic role. The successful applicant, if not already appointed, is expected to qualify for an academic cross-appointment as an Assistant or Associate Professor (status only) in an appropriate department at a partnering university, at a level commensurate with their experience.

This endowed Chair offers a unique opportunity as it is dedicated to advancing technology within a healthcare context, allowing for innovation to be directly applied in a real-world medical environment. Rather than a traditional recruitment process, the Chair is designed to provide operating funds or protected time to clinicians or faculty already in place at the hospital or one of the collaborating institutions (such as Ontario Tech, Queen's, etc.). The goal is to collaborate with the successful candidate on key Lakeridge Health initiatives, using the funds to support and launch innovative new ideas.

This role provides dedicated funding to support protected research time, pilot projects, and staffing resources, enabling the successful candidate to drive transformative advancements in healthcare. **The focus is on leveraging cutting-edge technologies**—including artificial intelligence, machine learning, and big data analytics—to revolutionize quality systems and cancer care. This is an unparalleled opportunity to lead innovative research, foster interdisciplinary collaboration, and shape the future of healthcare at Lakeridge Health and beyond.

**Key Responsibilities:**

* Lead and conduct innovative research projects in advanced technology and quality systems, focusing on developing new methodologies, applications, and technologies to enhance patient experiences and improve healthcare quality.
* Collaborate with hospital leadership, other departments, industry partners, and research institutions to promote interdisciplinary research and practical applications of advanced technology and quality systems, particularly in healthcare settings.
* Secure external funding through grants and partnerships to support research initiatives and projects.
* Contribute to educational programs by sharing research findings, promoting a culture of continuous learning, and mentoring staff and researchers
* Publish research findings in peer-reviewed journals, present at conferences, and actively contribute to the broader healthcare community’s understanding of advanced technology and person-centered quality improvement.
* Engage with the broader community, including industry stakeholders, policymakers, and the public, to promote the benefits and applications of advanced technology and quality systems
* Lead research efforts that advance our understanding of person-centered care and drive improvements in healthcare practices.

**Program Summary**

**Deadlines:**

Internal deadline: April 22, 2025

Funder deadline: May 6, 2025

**Value:**

While this is not a full-time position, the financial support provided will be flexible to meet the chairholders needs. It may cover research-related activities, release time from professional obligations, or staffing support, offering the opportunity to lead cutting-edge research while continuing in their current role. It may also support pilot projects or to secure staff such as a research coordinator or data analyst to enhance research initiatives. For candidates seeking a full-time role, there may be opportunities to integrate clinical practice with research, depending on alignment with institutional needs.

**Duration:**

5 years with the possibility of renewal

**How to Apply:**

Applications should include:

1. A cover letter outlining the candidate’s vision for the position
2. Curriculum vitae
3. A statement of research interests and future research plans
4. Supplementary materials such as a digital portfolio of work/publications; and the names and contact information of three referees.

For the internal deadline of April 22 2025, please send your complete application, including the four components listed above and the signed RGA form, to [Raluca.dubrowski@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:Raluca.dubrowski@ontariotechu.ca).

**Eligibility**

**Qualifications:**

* A doctoral or medical degree (PhD, MD, or equivalent) in a relevant field, with comprehensive training and demonstrated expertise in artificial intelligence, quality systems, or advanced technologies. The candidate is expected to qualify for an academic cross-appointment as an Assistant or Associate Professor (status only) in an appropriate department at a partnering university, at a level commensurate with their experience.
* A distinguished record of research accomplishments, including publications in journals, invited lectures and research funding from government agencies, industry, or other sources.
* Demonstrated ability to lead research teams and manage large-scale projects.
* A commitment to person-centered care and the principles of equity and diversity.
* Experience or strong interest in research related to healthcare quality improvement and person-centered care.
* Excellent written and verbal communication skills, with the ability to effectively communicate to diverse stakeholders.
* Proven leadership skills, including the ability to inspire and motivate teams, foster a culture of collaboration, and drive positive change.

**Resources**

* [Competition Website](https://www.lakeridgehealth.on.ca/en/aboutus/perry-family-chair-in-advanced-technology-and-quality-systems.asp)

**Contact**

Please direct any questions to [Raluca Dubrowski](mailto:raluca.dubrowski@ontariotechu.ca).

## Building EDI Knowledge in Research

*\*Open to all faculty members and post-doctoral fellows, across all disciplines\**

*Application Deadline: April 28, 2025*

**Objective**

The Women in Research Council, in partnership with the Office of Research Services is launching the second funding call for the Building EDI Knowledge in Research. This funding initiative reflects Ontario Tech University’s commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) and research excellence by building capacity and leadership in EDI, in both faculty members and post-doctoral fellows. Faculty members and post-doctoral fellows are key drivers in creating and implementing practices and initiatives for an equitable, diverse and inclusive research environment at Ontario Tech. This initiative aims to support EDI knowledge building to cultivate new capacity and/or continue to expand an inclusive culture and inform EDI practices in research.

Specifically, this initiative will:

• Engage the Ontario Tech research community in EDI capacity building opportunities

• Improve research quality, enhance research output, contribute to building an inclusive research environment and inform EDI practices in research

• Mobilize knowledge within the Ontario Tech research community

**Eligibility**

Post-doctoral fellows and all faculty members are eligible to apply (TTT, LTF, TF). Limited-term faculty (LTF) and teaching faculty (TF) members are eligible to apply provided that research is part of their workload and with Dean approval.

NOTE: There must be a nominated eligible principal applicant, however, applications can be for an individual or to support a team/unit.

**Value**

$500-$5,000

**Term of Funding**

June 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026. Funds must be spent before March 31, 2026.

**Eligible Expenses**

The following expenses will be considered eligible for funding received through this funding opportunity:

* Travel, accommodation and meals for participant(s) (faculty member, postdoctoral fellow) or invited speaker(s)
* Speaker fees or other associated costs to support the delivery of training
* Training/workshop registration fees
* Other expenses may be eligible with a justification
* NOTE: All expenses must adhere to Ontario Tech policies and procedures. Specifically, the [Internal use of Research Funds](https://usgc.ontariotechu.ca/policy/policy-library/policies/administrative/policy-on-the-use-of-the-internal-research-funds.php) and the [Expenses Policy](https://usgc.ontariotechu.ca/policy/policy-library/policies/administrative/expenses-policy.php)

**Timeline**

* Launch: March 10, 2025
* Application Deadline: April 28, 2025
* Results announcement: Mid-late May, 2025

**How to Apply**

* See the attached Call Description for details regarding this funding opportunity. 
* Complete the attached Application Form. Note that limited-term faculty (LTF) and teaching faculty (TF) members who conduct research as part of their workload need Dean approval, provided via email.
* Send the completed Application Form by email to [raluca.dubrowski@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:raluca.dubrowski@ontariotechu.ca)  by April 28, 2025 at 5pm.

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## NSERC - ECCC Call for Proposals on Plastics Science and Innovation for a Cleaner and More Sustainable Future

**Sponsor/agency:** [NSERC](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/index_eng.asp) (Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada) and [ECCC](https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change.html) (Environment and Climate Change Canada)

**Program:** Plastics Science and Innovation for a Cleaner and More Sustainable Future

**Description**

NSERC and ECCC are collaborating to advance scientific knowledge to achieve Canada’s zero plastic waste targets and inform the advancement of plastics science policy and regulatory measures. The NSERC – ECCC Call for proposals on Plastics Science and Innovation for a Cleaner and More Sustainable Future aligns with [Canada’s Plastics Science Agenda](https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/science-technology/canada-science-plastic-agenda.html)and the Government of Canada’s [Science assessment of plastic pollution](https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/evaluating-existing-substances/science-assessment-plastic-pollution.html). This is an important element of Canada’s comprehensive [Zero Plastic Waste](https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/managing-reducing-waste/reduce-plastic-waste.html)agenda.

This call focuses on research that advances the science around plastic designs and alternatives, the sustainable use of plastics, and plastic waste diversion and recovery. It builds on a previous collaboration to support research to detect and characterize plastics in the environment and the exposure and effects of plastics on wildlife and human health.

* **Theme 1:** Detection, quantification and characterization of plastics in the environment
* **Theme 2:** Impacts on Wildlife, Human Health and the Environment
* **Theme 3:** Plastic Design and Alternatives
* **Theme 4:** Sustainable Use of Plastics
* **Theme 5:** Waste Diversion and Recovery

**Program Summary**

**Deadlines:** **May 1, 2025:** ORS internal Administrative Review and [Research Grants Authorization (RGA) Form](https://shared.ontariotechu.ca/shared/department/research/documents/policies-and-procedure-form/rga-form-e-signatures.docx) deadline

**May 15, 2025:** NSERC deadline 8:00 p.m. (ET)

**September 18, 2025 (*if invited*):** NSERC deadline 8:00 p.m. (ET). *For those invited to submit a full application, a timeline for a comprehensive review will be provided.*

**Value:** $50,000 to $200,000 per year

**Indirect Costs:** N/A

**Duration:** 1 – 3 years

**How to Apply:**

1. Notify your grants officer of your intent to apply as soon as possible.
2. Submit your letter of intent (LOI) created via the [NSERC’s online system](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/OnlineServices-ServicesEnLigne/Index_eng.asp) and [Research Grants Authorization (RGA) Form](https://shared.ontariotechu.ca/shared/department/research/documents/policies-and-procedure-form/rga-form-e-signatures.docx) signed by your Dean to [joanne.hui@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:joanne.hui@ontariotechu.ca) for an Administrative Review by **May 1, 2025**.
   * 1. Note: you must use the provided [LOI template](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/ECCC-ECCC/_docs/LOI-Template-INDEX-e.docx). The [LOI template](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/ECCC-ECCC/_docs/LOI-Template-INDEX-e.docx) (**5 pages maximum, excluding references**) must be uploaded as the Proposal attachment in the Form 101. Applicants and co-applicants must also provide their personal data form with CCV attachment (NSERC – Form 100A)
3. The principal applicant must submit your letter of intent (LOI) to NSERC via [NSERC’s online system](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/OnlineServices-ServicesEnLigne/Index_eng.asp) by **May 15, 2025, before 8:00 p.m. (ET)**

**Contact:** ORS Grants Officer: [joanne.hui@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:joanne.hui@ontariotechu.ca)

NSERC Program Contact: [RP-Initiatives-PR@nserc-crsng.gc.ca](mailto:RP-Initiatives-PR@nserc-crsng.gc.ca?subject=NSERC-ECCC:)

**Program information:**

[**Call for Proposals on Plastics Science and Innovation for a Cleaner and More Sustainable Future**](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/ECCC-ECCC/index_eng.asp)

**Eligibility**

**Subject Matter**

The proposed research project must address at least one of the following  [Canada’s Plastics Science Agenda (CaPSA)](https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/science-technology/canada-science-plastic-agenda.html) themes:

* **Theme 1: Detection, quantification and characterization of plastics in the environment**

Studies that generate new or build on the existing body of scientific research from Theme 1:

Where research was previously undertaken to strengthen the science concerning Theme 1, focused research that complements and furthers this knowledge is encouraged. For example, alignment of methodologies and comparability of data for identifying and assessing the toxicity of plastics; enhanced methods to monitor and detect different types of macroplastics, microplastics and nanoplastics.

* **Theme 2: Impacts on Wildlife, Human Health and the Environment**

Advancing scientific knowledge of the current research under Theme 2:

Research that complements and furthers knowledge about the impacts of plastics on wildlife, human health and/or the environment in various ecosystems (e.g., terrestrial) and/or compartments (e.g., air); risk assessment frameworks on the impacts of plastics and plastic additives on key indictor/receptor species; risks from plastic particles and chemicals, etc.

* **Theme 3: Plastic Design and Alternatives**

1. Investigating plastic designs and alternatives from sustainably sourced materials that are also less harmful/toxic to the environment and humans:  
     
   Research that aims to better understand the potential environmental impacts of alternatives to conventional plastics. For example, improving our understanding of biodegradation and developing appropriate testing methods; exploring and assessing the entire life cycle of a broader range of bio-based materials, from raw material extraction to end-of-life disposal; and assessing potential scenarios and suitability of applications of bioplastics in various sectors, including the innovation and use of second and third generation feedstocks.
2. Improving end-of-life options, including greater value retention (e.g., reuse, repair, remanufacturing, recycling and composting) to lessen environmental impacts, reduce waste and enable circularity:  
     
   Research that aims to better understand and improve end-of-life value retention prospects of plastics and alternatives through design. For example, improving value retention (remanufacture, refurbishment) outcomes for plastics; establishing a plastics classification system that improves retention prospects.

* **Theme 4: Sustainable Use of Plastics**

Contributing knowledge to inter-disciplinary sustainability science on the interactions affecting the use, needs and behaviours concerning plastics and the impacts on humans and the environment:  
  
Research that aims to generate knowledge about the inter-disciplinary impacts of plastics, behavioural insights, as well as the challenge of sustainability, to meet the needs of present and future generations to maximize societal benefits, including the social, economic, health, and environmental factors, while minimizing harm. For example, behavioural insights research on the use of plastics, plastic alternatives, or reducing plastic use, etc.; research that spans multiple, integrated disciplines such as, but not limited to, behavioural science, food science, human health, and plastics science, to investigate the impacts of plastic packaging on bacteria growth and foodborne illnesses.

* **Theme 5: Waste Diversion and Recovery**

1. Examining the supplementary or cumulative impacts of recycled/reusable plastics:  
     
   Research that addresses the effects/impacts of recycled and reusable plastics and the potential harms via exposure to these plastics. For example, studies about the toxicity/harms of recycled plastics and the risks from microplastics, additives, or contaminants under varying conditions (e.g., hot, cold, acidic, etc.).
2. Generating new knowledge and improving techniques on the removal of plastics from various environmental compartments:  
     
   Research that aims to understand, assess and improve the removal of nanoplastics and microplastics from the environment (soil, water, air). For example, microplastic removal during wastewater treatment; improving our understanding of the underlying mechanisms of microplastics biodegradation in the environment.

**Applicant/Co-Applicant**

* Canadian university researchers working as a team or in partnership with private, not-for-profit or public-sector collaborators;
* College faculty can participate as co-applicants.
* Researchers can only be on ONE application as an applicant or co-applicant.
* Academic researchers in fields other than the NSE can co-applicants for this call 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 total project costs and must be specifically identified in the project budget justification**.

**Partner Organization**

You may involve partnering organizations in your project. Your partner organizations can be from the private, public or not-for-profit sectors. **However, for the purposes of this funding call, foreign companies will not be accepted**. Cash contributions are not required. However, each partner organization must actively play a role in the project and support it through in-kind contributions.

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) apply to NSERC grant applications involving one or more partner organizations from the private sector, including when they participate alongside other partner organizations from the public and/or not-for-profit sectors. For such partnerships, you and your post-secondary institution are required to complete a [risk assessment form](https://science.gc.ca/site/science/en/safeguarding-your-research/guidelines-and-tools-implement-research-security/national-security-guidelines-research-partnership/national-security-guidelines-research-partnerships-risk-assessment-form) for your research project and submit it as an integral part of your Alliance application.

**Additional Information**

Please note that funding recipients could be asked to participate in ECCC’s Plastics Science Symposium in Ottawa, ON, and should build travel costs into their proposal.

Instructions for submitting your LOI documents and information to NSERC:

1. Log in to [NSERC’s online system](https://ebiz.nserc.ca/nserc_web/nserc_login_e.htm) and select Form 101 - Grant from the drop-down menu
2. Select Research partnerships programs, then Alliance grants
3. For the Proposal type field, select Letter of Intent
4. For the Type of call field, select [ECCC - Plastics] from the drop-down menu
5. Complete the sections of Form 101 for the letter of intent (LOI)

**Resources**

* [NSERC’s online system](https://ebiz.nserc.ca/nserc_web/nserc_login_e.htm)
* [Canada’s Plastics Science Agenda (CaPSA)](https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/science-technology/canada-science-plastic-agenda.html)

## NEW FRONTIERS IN RESEARCH FUND - TRANSFORMATION 2026 COMPETITION

Please notify Raluca Dubrowski ([raluca.dubrowski@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:raluca.dubrowski@ontariotechu.ca)) of your intent to submit an NOI by March 14 2025.

**Description**

The objective of the New Frontiers in Research Fund (NFRF) Transformation stream is to support large-scale, Canadian-led**interdisciplinary** research projects that address a major challenge with the potential to realize **real and lasting change**. The challenge may be fundamental, leading to a scientific breakthrough, or applied, with a social, economic, environmental or health impact. Projects are expected to be world-leading, drawing on **global** research expertise, when relevant.

Transformation stream grants will support projects that:

1. tackle a **well-defined** problem or challenge;
2. propose a **novel world-leading** approach that is different from the current state-of-the-art approaches to the issue;
3. are **interdisciplinary**, bringing different perspectives to the defined problem; and
4. have the potential to be **transformative**, defined as the potential to **create a significant and real change or impact**—a noticeable leap or tangible breakthrough rather than an incremental advance.

**Program Summary**

**Deadlines:**

The **Transformation competition** has three stages:

1. Notice of Intent to Apply (NOI) with a deadline of **April 15, 2025** (at 8 p.m. ET)
2. Letter of Intent (LOI) with a deadline of **June 17, 2025** (at 8 p.m. ET)
3. Full Application – by invitation only – with a deadline of **March 3, 2026** (at 8 p.m. ET)

**Value:**

Transformation grants are valued at between $2,000,000 and $4,000,000 per year (including indirect costs) for six years. The minimum budget for the direct costs of the research project is $1,600,000 per year, and the maximum budget is $3,200,000. Applicants must request a budget (value and duration) in line with the objectives of the project.

**Indirect Costs:**

Applicants may request up to 25% of the value of the direct costs of research to cover indirect costs and include this in their total funding request.

**Duration:**

6 years

**How to Apply:**

To apply for a Transformation grant, an NOI must be submitted by April 15, 2025. This is a mandatory step in the application process. The team must then complete and submit an LOI by June 17, 2025. Selected teams will be invited to complete and submit a full application by March 3, 2026. Applicants must complete the NOI, LOI and full application using the [Convergence Portal](https://www.convergence.gc.ca/) following the accompanying [NOI](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/nfrf-fnfr/transformation/2026/guide_NOI-guide_AIPD-eng.aspx), [LOI](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/nfrf-fnfr/transformation/2026/guide_LOI-guide_LI-eng.aspx) and [full application](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/nfrf-fnfr/transformation/2026/guide_application-guide_demande-eng.aspx) submission guides.

To start the application process, please notify Raluca Dubrowski ([raluca.dubrowski@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:raluca.dubrowski@ontariotechu.ca)) of your intent to submit an NOI by March 14 2025.

**Program information:**

Applicants are encouraged to attend the Transformation webinars to learn more about the Transformation stream and the overall application process. Webinars are recorded and shared with the research grants offices at the institutions.

***Notice of Intent Webinar***

| **Date** | **Time** | **Language** |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| March 11, 2025 | 10 a.m. (eastern) | French | [Join webinar](https://sshrcvideo.webex.com/sshrcvideo/j.php?MTID=mf616afd0dfb72a3dc5ed2f38f775d224) |
| March 11, 2025 | 1 p.m. (eastern) | English | [Join webinar](https://sshrcvideo.webex.com/sshrcvideo/j.php?MTID=ma9d9985ae201b02a46a47cfc89e2a6a3) |

***Letter of Intent Webinar***

| **Date** | **Time** | **Language** |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| May 6, 2025 | 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. (eastern) | French | [Join webinar](https://sshrcvideo.webex.com/sshrcvideo/j.php?MTID=m04b8b87579582f326736a998a106159f) |
| May 6, 2025 | 1 to 3 p.m. (eastern) | English | [Join webinar](https://sshrcvideo.webex.com/sshrcvideo/j.php?MTID=ma4e47086dae9870b19bcbe92f87bcfc4) |
|  | | | |

**Eligibility**

**Subject Matter**

Transformation grants support projects that propose a world-leading interdisciplinary approach with the potential to have a significant impact in addressing a well-defined challenge. **Projects must be well-defined with specific objectives. Transformation grants are not intended to support a program of research, research centres, or research networks.** Projects may involve any discipline, thematic areas, approaches or subject areas eligible for funding across the three federal research funding agencies (CIHR, NSERC and SSHRC). Projects should engage the full range of disciplines required to achieve the project goals. To meet the minimum requirement to be considered interdisciplinary, the proposed research project must include elements from at least two different disciplines (as defined by a group-level classification based on the [Canadian Research and Development Classification codes](https://www.statcan.gc.ca/en/subjects/standard/crdc/2020v2). Projects that fall under the mandate of [only one federal research funding agency](https://science.gc.ca/site/science/en/interagency-research-funding/policies-and-guidelines/selecting-appropriate-federal-granting-agency?OpenDocument) are not eligible. Proposed projects may address fundamental or applied challenges.

**Project team**

To reflect the expertise required to deliver on the ambitious and interdisciplinary nature of the project, proposals must be submitted by teams. Teams must include an NPI and may include co-principal investigators (co-PIs), co-applicants and/or collaborators. Individuals who are not academic researchers are eligible for all roles except NPI. At the NOI stage, a minimum of five confirmed members (excluding collaborators) is required. Additional members can be added at each stage of the competition process and throughout the term of the grant. All core members of the team are expected to be confirmed when the LOI is submitted.

To ensure that teams awarded a Transformation grant have sufficient time to dedicate to the project, award holders may serve as an NPI or co-PI on only one Transformation grant. It is, therefore, recommended that individuals limit their participation as an NPI or co-PI to a single application. These restrictions do not apply to co-applicant and collaborator roles. An individual’s status as an applicant or grantee of other NFRF competitions (Exploration, International or special calls) does not affect their eligibility for the Transformation stream.

**Early career researchers**

Early career researchers (ECRs) must be included as confirmed members in all teams. For competitions under the Transformation stream, an ECR is defined as a researcher within five years of the start date of their first research-related appointment, minus the length of any eligible delays in research (e.g., illness, maternity, parental), as of the first of the month of the competition launch (February 2025 for this competition), where:

* “research-related appointments” are defined as those where an individual has the autonomy to conduct research independently;
* all eligible leaves (e.g., maternity, parental, medical, bereavement) are credited at twice the amount of time taken; and
* professional leaves (e.g., training, sabbatical, administrative) are not credited.

**Resources**

* [Competition Website](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/nfrf-fnfr/transformation/2026/competition-concours-eng.aspx)
* [Notice of Intent (NOI)](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/nfrf-fnfr/transformation/2026/guide_NOI-guide_AIPD-eng.aspx)
* [Letter of Intent (LOI)](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/nfrf-fnfr/transformation/2026/guide_LOI-guide_LI-eng.aspx)
* [Full Application](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/nfrf-fnfr/transformation/2026/guide_application-guide_demande-eng.aspx)
* [Application Portal (Convergence)](https://prod.auth.convergence.gc.ca/prodconv.onmicrosoft.com/b2c_1a_shz_signup_signin_mfa/oauth2/v2.0/authorize?client_id=06355998-a224-46e5-a6a9-fa5e6272fe2f&redirect_uri=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.convergence.gc.ca%2Fsignin-aad-b2c_1&response_type=code%20id_token&scope=openid&state=OpenIdConnect.AuthenticationProperties%3DkeXRs8V1BDGo8pagvnUW3WvIFEt3BAQugPce5mykxb40Xm2ra2ZVDNB4fh38PrWMF5sc59-vZMeYYIJNFX2PVXg76MjaaRW0gHoFjMk2TwNBYcicn1KXA2hcuOHXjelgI3oi8pO3SR4PbYUB_sW51qfoSKhS7pDjF9aGq6zl4yUuOMR-t8Eku3Wg7y7OsUt4i7kbfaKdVSQETN-dDczU-svUkdfki9O0EVtSa9VmFtZzOOlQSgG6hWA_bGwhGPdhqJYa4irJs9PmIxjOdwO9zwXAfygNUnoJ9fB9sCtShl-b2W1CgWUJ5wSWiJiWmgpK0wVL1sW_6fbSKyhNlsqUWt5sVtfYvkWeIYp-sL0tsK4ZVO3JV7GPOKk8WxPNSyJIzVAru8oIh0JIYV8oTRf4BfZy80oV-3JNFDp6l7_7d_YMq73dsfboYk1yr4pROk7ut2RA5sLv9Of9mQkOSLmFVUX_Zf0u4DHrdpE0qlauDClgsYe_zILs53l7t8aU-P3qdhcBlL0OXXRhVM96UmSYCv2NrocjfWpzVgEMhHy70ZnpRTUKS7TI6JG-YZXX9xWhNXnE_y71sYzWCHKsVMIYVG9r-cXAHNIvk3JpBMqAGL5khkeDNZZqfmvnuQDQzuuo5BSifDB0wFmdZx4ECHNrUo79fTKf57f4gDAo0jG0UlDTZLf4d8OeKJxVEEvT-VzHg97Z8yoLfZgVMm3KySAfIQ&response_mode=form_post&nonce=638760185605502459.MzdiODY1MTctNjJhNC00YmViLWE4YjMtYTBhZmU5MzI4ZmVjNGUyZmZkNzgtYmExOC00Y2E5LTk3MDgtMjkyMDc5MTJlYjU3&ui_locales=en-US&x-client-SKU=ID_NET472&x-client-ver=6.35.0.0)
* [EDI Guide](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/nfrf-fnfr/edi-eng.aspx)
* [Evaluation Matrices](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/nfrf-fnfr/transformation/2026/merit_indicators-indicateurs_du_merite-eng.aspx)

**Contact**

Please direct any questions to [Raluca Dubrowski](mailto:raluca.dubrowski@ontariotechu.ca).

## The National Killam Foundation - Dorothy Killam Fellowships

**\*Please notify** [**Ewa Stewart**](mailto:ewa.stewart@ontariotechu.ca) **as soon as possible if you are interested in applying**

**Sponsor/Agency:** National Research Council of Canada (NRC) and The Killam Trust

**Program:** Dorothy Killam Fellowship

**Description:**

The [2026 Dorothy Killam Fellowship](https://programmekillamprogram.powerappsportals.com/en-CA/fundingopportunities/fodetails/?foid=4b490485-049f-ec11-b400-002248d5186d) competition will open on March 26, 2025 (applications are May 22, 2025).

The Dorothy Killam Fellowships provide support to scholars of exceptional ability by granting them time to pursue research projects of broad significance and widespread interest within the disciplines of the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, health sciences, engineering or studies linking any of these disciplines. **These Fellowships are now specifically targeted to mid-career researchers in need of relief from teaching and administrative duties to focus on their research career. Between 5 and 8 fellowships will be awarded annually.** The fellowships are awarded to individuals, but the funds are paid to and administered by the Canadian university or research institute where the individual is employed.

**The Dorothy Killam Fellowships are valued at $80,000 CAD per year for a total of up to $160,000 for 2 years** (beginning no later than January 1, 2027). **A Dorothy Killam Fellow is relieved of teaching and some administrative duties for the period of the fellowship. The funds are intended to assist the institution to cover the costs of replacement of the applicant while still paying regular salary and benefits during the 2-year fellowship period. Recipients must obtain support for research and laboratory costs from other sources.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Program Summary | |
| Deadlines | **March 31, 2025:** Mandatory internal notice of intent deadline (send email to [Ewa Stewart](mailto:ewa.stewart@ontariotechu.ca), Grants Officer, and notify your Faculty Dean)  **April 30, 2025:** Mandatory preliminary research abstract must be submitted through the application portal to facilitate expert review.  **May 1, 2025**: Mandatory internal deadline for Comprehensive Review  **May 22, 2025:** Agency deadline |
| Value | $160,000 (Paid to the university to cover costs of your release time) |
| Duration | 2 years |
| How to Apply | 1. Notify Ewa Stewart and your Faculty Dean as soon as possible if you are interested in applying. 2. Review the [program guidelines](https://programmekillamprogram.powerappsportals.com/en-CA/fundingopportunities/fodetails/?foid=4b490485-049f-ec11-b400-002248d5186d) 3. Request two letters of support: one letter that speaks to the importance, the impact, and the quality of the proposed research; and the other focuses on the quality and impact of the researcher themselves, and their alignment with the Killam Attributes. 4. Create an application in the [online portal](https://programmekillamprogram.powerappsportals.com/en-CA/Account/Login). 5. Submit your completed application package to Ewa Stewart by email by May 1, 2025, for a comprehensive review. 6. Submit your completed application form including supplementary documents (e.g., curricula vitae, letters of support) in the online portal by May 22, 2025. |
| For more information | **ORS Grants Officer**  [Ewa Stewart](mailto:ewa.stewart@ontariotechu.ca)  **Killam Program Officer**  [KillamProgram-ProgrammeKillam@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca](mailto:KillamProgram-ProgrammeKillam@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca)  **Killam Program Webinar**  February 26 @ 1:00-2:00  please RSVP to the National Killam Program Office at [KillamProgram-ProgrammeKillam@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca](mailto:KillamProgram-ProgrammeKillam@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca) |

**Eligibility:**

A Dorothy Killam Fellow is a leading researcher whose superior, ground-breaking, best-in-class research stands to have significant impact on a national or global scale. A Fellow is someone who also reflects some of the Killam attributes:

* Inclusive collaborator – whose work exemplifies inclusion and understanding of people, cultures and needs with participation among economic, social and cultural backgrounds
* Barrier breaker – whose original, transformational, future focused generation of knowledge and technology stands to challenge the way we live
* Research leader – who activates thoughtful cooperation among scholars, disciplines and institutions

The Dorothy Killam Fellowships support scholars who:

* demonstrate commitment to building Canada’s future and alignment with Killam attributes;
* are mid-career researchers who usually completed their PhD no more than 15 years prior, though special circumstances may result in applicants being more or less than 15 years post-PhD;
* are employed at a Canadian research institution.

**To be eligible, applicants:**

* demonstrate commitment to building Canada’s future and alignment with Killam attributes;
* must be an individual living and working in Canada at a Canadian institution(s) in the mid stage in their career (typically no more than 15 years since the completion of a PhD)
* must be employed by a university or other research institute for the duration of the fellowship (2 years) and will submit a proof of employment
* may not have already been awarded a fellowship from the Killam Program of the Canada Council for the Arts. Please note that National Killam Program Office employees, members of the National Killam Program Advisory Board, or the Selection Committee may not apply.
* consent to disclose any information that may constitute a significant departure from generally-recognized standards of public behaviour and which is seen to undermine the public reputation of the National Killam Program.

**Resources/attachments:**

[National Killam Program Website](https://nrc.canada.ca/en/corporate/careers/national-killam-program)

[National Killam Program Portal](https://programmekillamprogram.powerappsportals.com/en-CA/Account/Login)

[Dorothy Killam Fellowship Application Guidelines](https://programmekillamprogram.powerappsportals.com/en-CA/fundingopportunities/fodetails/?foid=4b490485-049f-ec11-b400-002248d5186d)

## The National Killam Foundation - Killam NRC Paul Corkum Fellowships

**\*Please notify** [**Ewa Stewart**](mailto:ewa.stewart@ontariotechu.ca) **as soon as possible if you are interested in applying**

**Sponsor/Agency:** National Research Council of Canada (NRC) and The Killam Trust

**Program:** Killam NRC Paul Corkum Fellowship

**Description:**

The [2026 Killam NRC Paul Corkum Fellowship](https://programmekillamprogram.powerappsportals.com/en-CA/fundingopportunities/fodetails/?foid=2fca8e2f-72b5-ee11-a569-000d3a0a2ad3) competition will open on March 26, 2025 (applications are due June 5, 2025).

The Killam NRC Paul Corkum Fellowships honour Dr. Paul Corkum's outstanding contributions to research in Canada. The fellowships create opportunities for mid-to-late career Canadian and international scholars to collaborate with NRC researchers. This new program provides opportunities for external scholars to have access to the NRC's unique infrastructure and resources, and work with an NRC researcher to further Dorothy Killam's vision of building Canada's future through advanced study.

The program will award up to three fellowships each year, and each fellowship project must align with an [NRC challenge program](https://nrc.canada.ca/en/research-development/research-collaboration/programs/challenge-programs).

Killam NRC Paul Corkum Fellowships provide release time from employment for national and international scholars who have demonstrated outstanding research ability and are proposing collaborative research with an NRC researcher.

**Fellowships are valued at $100,000 CAD per year in the form of a grant that is paid to the institution of each Fellow to cover release time.** An additional grant of up to $50,000 CAD is available to accommodate travel and knowledge dissemination costs of the Fellow, based on budget estimates provided in the proposal. **Fellows will likely require other research funds to cover the costs of research.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Program Summary | |
| Deadlines | **March 31, 2025:** Mandatory internal notice of intent deadline (send email to [Ewa Stewart](mailto:ewa.stewart@ontariotechu.ca), Grants Officer, and notify your Faculty Dean)  **May 15, 2025**: Mandatory internal deadline for Comprehensive Review  **June 5, 2025:** Agency deadline |
| Value | $100,000 (Paid to the university to cover costs of your release time)  Up to $50,000 To cover Fellow’s travel, accommodation, and knowledge dissemination costs (based on provided budget estimates) |
| Duration | 1 year |
| How to Apply | 1. Notify Ewa Stewart and your Faculty Dean as soon as possible if you are interested in applying. 2. Review the [program guidelines](https://programmekillamprogram.powerappsportals.com/en-CA/fundingopportunities/fodetails/?foid=2fca8e2f-72b5-ee11-a569-000d3a0a2ad3) 3. If you require help to connect to an NRC investigator, complete an [Expression of Interest Form](https://programmekillamprogram.powerappsportals.com/Killam%20NRC%20Paul%20Corkum%20Fellowship%20Expression%20of%20Interest%20Form.pdf) and email to the [National Killam Program Office](mailto:KillamProgram-ProgrammeKillam@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca). 4. Create an application in the [online portal](https://programmekillamprogram.powerappsportals.com/en-CA/Account/Login). 5. Prepare the required attachments. 6. Submit your completed application package to Ewa Stewart by email by May 15, 2025, for a comprehensive review. 7. Submit your completed application form including supplementary documents (proposal, curricula vitae, letters of support, etc.) in the application portal by June 5, 2025. |
| For more information | **ORS Grants Officer**  [Ewa Stewart](mailto:ewa.stewart@ontariotechu.ca)  **Killam Program Officer**  KillamProgram-ProgrammeKillam@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca  **Killam Program Webinar**  February 26 @ 1:00-2:00  please RSVP to the National Killam Program Office at [KillamProgram-ProgrammeKillam@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca](mailto:KillamProgram-ProgrammeKillam@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca) |

**Eligibility:**

**Subject matter**

Each fellowship project must align with an [NRC challenge program](https://nrc.canada.ca/en/research-development/research-collaboration/programs/challenge-programs).

The Killam NRC Paul Corkum Fellowship may support a specific collaborative project, a knowledge exchange initiative, a novel multidisciplinary collaboration, or other scholarly pursuits that advances knowledge.

The Killam NRC Paul Corkum Fellowship is intended to:

1. enable new and potentially disruptive technologies to be developed with industry, academics and government;
2. strengthen collaborations with industry, academia, and various levels of government to attain critical mass for addressing national issues of importance to the Canadian economy and quality of life for Canadians;
3. find solutions to some of the most serious public policy challenges; and
4. create stronger innovation ecosystems in specific sectors by enabling industry, academics, and government labs to partner with NRC researchers, leveraging NRC facilities and resources, and share knowledge.

**Applicant**

Killam NRC Paul Corkum Fellows are leading researchers whose superior, ground-breaking, best-in-class research stands to have significant impact on a national or global scale. A Killam NRC Paul Corkum Fellow embodies one or more of the Killam attributes:

* Inclusive collaborator
* Barrier breaker
* Research leader

A Killam NRC Paul Corkum Fellow is relieved of teaching and administrative duties for the period of the fellowship. The funds are intended to assist the institution with replacement costs of the Fellow while still paying the Fellow’s regular salary and benefits during the 12-month fellowship period. Additionally, to maximize collaboration through consistent, in-person contact, the program provides funding to support the Fellow’s travel and access to the NRC facilities. All fellowship dispersals are administered to the research institution of the Fellow.

To be eligible, Fellowship applicants must:

* be willing and able to travel to an NRC location or locations in Canada to collaborate with an NRC co-PI as required;
* obtain a reliability status personnel security clearance;
* demonstrate commitment to building Canada’s future and alignment with Killam attributes;
* agree to participate in community engagement and knowledge mobilization activities. This may include: participation in the Killam Laureate Network, participation in a Fellows lecture series and invited lectures, and/or participation in dissemination activities with relevant University departments, or with other organizations or appropriate scientific societies.
* demonstrate commitment to knowledge exchange with their NRC co-PI;
* be a mid-to-late career researcher, although researchers at earlier career stages may be considered in some cases;
* receive release time to conduct the proposed research, and will continue to be employed by the same institution for up to 12 months from the start of the Fellowship; and,
* consent to disclose any information that may constitute a significant departure from generally-recognized standards of public behaviour and which is seen to undermine the public reputation of the National Killam Program.

**Terms and conditions of the program**

The Killam NRC Paul Corkum Fellowships support advanced study and research excellence by creating opportunities for Canadian and international scholars to partner with NRC researchers, leverage NRC facilities and resources, and share knowledge through new collaborations. The program promotes discovery and innovation through shared exploration, work and growth. The co-PI model encourages the Fellow and the NRC researcher to collaborate on a project for up to one year.

The following are examples of eligible activities for this funding opportunity:

1. Release from teaching and/or administrative duties:
   * to pursue collaborative R&D projects and can include planning, research, development, prototype development, feasibility studies, demonstrations and capacity building intended to support research, development, adoption and/or adaptation of innovative or technology-driven new or improved products, services or processes in Canada up to their commercialization; and/or
2. Collaboration and knowledge dissemination activities:
   * To pursue projects and initiatives including support for science or innovation-based conferences, workshops, symposia, coordination or other outreach and partnership development activities as well as costs related to the travel to such events by non-government employees.

**Application procedure**

The Fellowship is based on a co-PI model, which requires all submissions to propose one co-PI (the Fellow), employed outside of the NRC, and one co-PI employed by the NRC. There are no restrictions on the nature of the proposed project: projects could be technical, based on knowledge exchange, or exploratory, so long as they align with approved activities per [the terms and conditions of NRC Challenge Program funding](https://nrc.canada.ca/en/research-development/research-collaboration/programs/funded-collaborative-rd-programs-initiatives). Proposals are co-defined by the NRC co-PI and the Fellow.

If you are a Fellowship candidate and need help connecting with an NRC investigator, please complete an [Expression of Interest form](https://programmekillamprogram.powerappsportals.com/Killam%20NRC%20Paul%20Corkum%20Fellowship%20Expression%20of%20Interest%20Form.pdf) and return via email to the [National Killam Program Office](mailto:KillamProgram-ProgrammeKillam@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca) (NKPO). The NKPO will consult internally and respond to your inquiry within 10 business days.

Applicants must submit the application form, attestation forms, and all required documents by **June 5, 2025,** in the Killam online portal.

**Resources/attachments:**

[National Killam Program Website](https://nrc.canada.ca/en/corporate/careers/national-killam-program)

[NRC Paul Corkum Fellowship Guidelines](https://programmekillamprogram.powerappsportals.com/en-CA/fundingopportunities/fodetails/?foid=2fca8e2f-72b5-ee11-a569-000d3a0a2ad3)

[National Killam Program Portal](https://programmekillamprogram.powerappsportals.com/en-CA/Account/Login)

## SSHRC Destination Horizon Grants – May 2025 Competition

**\*Please note there is a mandatory internal NOI step for this opportunity as Ontario Tech can submit a maximum of 3 applications.**

**NOI due April 28, 2025. See below for details.\***

**Description:**

SSHRC has launched a new funding opportunity called the [Destination Horizon Grants](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/programs-programmes/destination_horizon-eng.aspx). Valued at $15,000 for one year, these grants are intended to support researchers affiliated with eligible Canadian postsecondary institutions to build capacity, foster existing partnerships, and further develop networks and/or consortia with European Union and other “[associated countries](https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/strategy/strategy-research-and-innovation/europe-world/international-cooperation/association-horizon-europe_en)” researchers, with the ultimate goal of applying to [Horizon Europe—Pillar II calls for proposals](https://ised-isde.canada.ca/site/ised/en/horizon-europe).

This funding opportunity follows the [agreement signed by the Government of Canada and the European Commission](https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/statements/2024/07/03/joint-statement-prime-minister-trudeau-and-president-von-der-ley) allowing for increased Canadian participation in Horizon Europe under Pillar 2. This agreement provides Canadians with greater access to Horizon Europe.

Destination Horizon Grants proposals are expected to respond to the objectives of the [Research Partnerships program](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/umbrella_programs-programme_cadre/connection-connexion-eng.aspx) and **must be led by an applicant whose main area of research is in a social sciences and humanities discipline, and the proposed research must involve disciplines, thematic areas, approaches or subject areas eligible for SSHRC funding and align with** [**SSHRC subject matter eligibility**](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/apply-demande/background-renseignements/selecting_agency-choisir_organisme_subventionnaire-eng.aspx)**.**

Destination Horizon Grants are not intended to support implementation of Horizon Europe projects. Instead, the grants support activities between researchers that facilitate:

* disciplinary and/or interdisciplinary exchanges;
* scholarly exchanges;
* intersectoral exchanges between academic researchers and practitioners from the public, private and/or not-for-profit sectors; and/or
* international research collaboration and scholarly exchanges between researchers affiliated with Canadian postsecondary institutions and researchers, students and non-academic partners from the EU and other associated countries.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Program Summary** | |
| **Deadlines** | **April 28, 2025: mandatory ORS Notice of Intent Deadline (NOI Form attached; see process details below)**  **May 15, 2025:** mandatory ORS internal deadline for administrative review. Please submit the complete application and signed RGA form.  **May 22, 2025:** external SSHRC deadline for full application. Application must be submitted in Convergence Portal by 9am.  *Please note: SSHRC will have one more deadline for this opportunity on September 22, 2025.* |
| **Value** | * Up to $15,000 from SSHRC * **100% cash match required from host institution** |
| **Duration** | 1 Year |
| **Results announced** | March |
| **How to Apply** | 1. Notify [Ewa.Stewart@Ontariotechu.ca](mailto:Ewa.Stewart@Ontariotechu.ca) as soon as possible of your interested in applying. 2. Review the [program guidelines](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/programs-programmes/destination_horizon-eng.aspx), including the eligibility requirements. 3. Discuss your intent to apply with your Faculty Dean and secure required [cash matching contributions](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/programs-programmes/destination_horizon-eng.aspx#3) (see below for details). 4. Submit internal NOI form signed by your Dean by April 28, 2025. 5. Applicants will be notified By May 5 whether they have been selected to move forward to the national competition. 6. Prepare and submit an application through the [Convergence Portal](https://prod.auth.convergence.gc.ca/prodconv.onmicrosoft.com/b2c_1a_shz_signup_signin_mfa/oauth2/v2.0/authorize?client_id=06355998-a224-46e5-a6a9-fa5e6272fe2f&redirect_uri=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.convergence.gc.ca%2Fsignin-aad-b2c_1&response_type=code%20id_token&scope=openid&state=OpenIdConnect.AuthenticationProperties%3DuOzMkC7MocqAm2wpY9JbgCPJxrFzZ0KRUcgJkHIobqfABeyeCx8y1X01dMt9L6b-fBj7_kUYLDpk3gLpcO3KWD0iT0_WT9Le4PXAe0Mf3ZNWbsH8eNu0GQLg7H8hgrGzm-QxYidPm5jGPTCnALsUwU8h9beuw4mbv0kAB5ULT_x6175NrUptGIcBgqZYcUmYRymZBLtQBcWyHhC2MtjyCKDuhB8Lf57eR_LtKDA3pH4IMi9H0rH9Fo7SNG-XByQ2xZ-zjRypYcU7ahKaaG8XfNOf5brRC8TmQq_UJo9HKN-Uc6M8zshBOC5il78aPbYntKTPsBGmB0o1CvrC5rEYBu_fzTjmniloKr2oN5zoze6lFTvU9Al45-Q-JcX6KdgmMQ6wuCCjN2kKMfnomPF2st1R2E3uJOBnuBHyArd5nuEqFOI6xmZMvKOOt8xzEQNVIP7pw08OA9egpqw1dhDYRdWscRHb51FKQhh2hG5ryYo&response_mode=form_post&nonce=638690066171752860.ZjdkODIyOWEtNGQxNS00NWMzLTk4MjktNDcxMTdmMWMyNWI5NTBkMzJiYTAtOWRiZi00NGZlLWJiOWYtMWI2MjVhMTUzNGQw&ui_locales=en-US&x-client-SKU=ID_NET472&x-client-ver=6.35.0.0) following the [application instructions](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/instructions/destination-horizon/applicant-candidat-eng.aspx). |
| **For more information** | **SSHRC Webinars**  SSHRC held a webinar on December 4. Contact Ewa Stewart for the recording/slides.  **ORS Grants Officer**  Contact [ewa.stewart@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:ewa.stewart@ontariotechu.ca)  **SSHRC Program Officer**  **Email:** [partnerships@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca](mailto:partnerships@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca) |
|  |  |

**Eligibility:**

**Subject matter**

Most SSHRC funding is awarded through open competitions. Proposals can involve any disciplines, thematic areas, approaches or subject areas eligible for SSHRC funding. See the guidelines on [subject matter eligibility](http://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/apply-demande/background-renseignements/selecting_agency-choisir_organisme_subventionnaire-eng.aspx) for more information.

Projects whose primary objective is to conduct research activities (e.g., literature reviews, field work, data collection, interviews) are not eligible for funding under this funding opportunity. **These funds cannot be used to pay for research activities, but rather must be used for networking, travel, hosting, and other capacity-building activities.**

To be eligible for this funding opportunity, applicants must demonstrate:

* their eligible affiliation and primary affiliation in the social sciences or humanities;
* their readiness to further develop networks and/or consortia with EU and other associated countries’ researchers, with the ultimate goal of applying to a Horizon Europe—Pillar II call;
* eligible budget requests; and
* 100% matching cash contributions from the host institution.
  + Examples of eligible cash contributions: course release, RA salary, work-study student, startup funds, PD funds
  + Please note: other tri-agency grant funds are not eligible to be counted as match

**Importantly, these grants are meant to fund applicants who have an established relationship with an EU institution or consortium. They are not meant to fund partnership-building activities at the very early stages.**

**Additional Information:**

**Multiple applications and holding multiple awards**

Individuals can, as an [applicant](http://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/programs-programmes/definitions-eng.aspx#a1), only hold one Destination Horizon Grant. There is no limit to how many competitions an individual, as an applicant, may apply to.

A postsecondary institution may only submit up to three Destination Horizon Grant applications for a given deadline.

**Ontario Tech Internal Selection Process**

Since Ontario Tech can only submit three applications per deadline to SSHRC, we are implementing a mandatory internal Notice of Intent step to assess potential applicants’ eligibility for the program and, if necessary, select three applications to submit to the national competition. A Grants Officer will review submitted NOIs for program eligibility and if more than three eligible applications are submitted, ORS will randomly select the three applications to move forward to the national competition (in line with [SSHRC’s selection process](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/programs-programmes/destination_horizon-eng.aspx#6) for this program). Any eligible applicants not selected to move forward in the current round will be given priority to apply in the subsequent round.

**Please complete the attached Notice of Intent form, including the Dean’s signature to show approval of faculty cash matching contributions, and submit to** [**Ewa Stewart**](mailto:ewa.stewart@ontariotechu.ca) **by April 28, 2025**. *Please note that the tight internal deadline is necessary due to the funder’s competition timeline and the upcoming university holiday closure. ORS will provide longer notice for subsequent Destination Horizon deadlines in 2025.*

**SSHRC’s Selection Process**

All applications deemed eligible will be entered into a randomized selection process.

**Randomized selection process**

Eligible applications will have their application number entered into a random number generator. This random number generator operates by using an independent random number generation code as a seed value to then inform the Excel RAND function. Grants will then be selected, in order, from the lowest random number to the highest random number until the financial resources allocated to the competition are exhausted.

**Resources/attachments:**

* [Destination Horizon Grant Program Guidelines](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/programs-programmes/destination_horizon-eng.aspx)
* [Application Instructions](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/instructions/destination-horizon/applicant-candidat-eng.aspx)
* [Guidelines for Effective Research Training](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/policies-politiques/effective_research_training-formation_en_recherche_efficace-eng.aspx)
* [Guidelines for Effective Knowledge Mobilization](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/policies-politiques/knowledge_mobilisation-mobilisation_des_connaissances-eng.aspx)
* [Guidelines for Cash and In-Kind Contributions](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/policies-politiques/cash_inkind-especes_en_nature-eng.aspx)
* SSHRC’s [Indigenous Research Statement of Principles](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/about-au_sujet/policies-politiques/statements-enonces/aboriginal_research-recherche_autochtone-eng.aspx) and [Guidelines for the Merit Review of Indigenous Research](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/merit_review-evaluation_du_merite/guidelines_research-lignes_directrices_recherche-eng.aspx) for applications involving [Indigenous research](https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/programs-programmes/definitions-eng.aspx#a11)
* [Tri-Agency Guide on Financial Administration](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/InterAgency-Interorganismes/TAFA-AFTO/guide-guide_eng.asp)

## 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: **March 31, 2025**   + IP Officer review: **February 21, 2025**   + Administrative check (upload to NSERC portal): **February 28, 2025** * NSERC: **June 20, 2025**    + IP Officer review: **May 23, 2025**   + Administrative check (upload to NSERC portal): **TBD** * NSERC: **September 22, 2025**   + IP Officer review: **August 25, 2023**   + Administrative check (upload to NSERC portal): **TBD**   **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 | **(Yiming) Peter Shao**  **IP Officer, ORS**  Yiming.Shao@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)