Carleton University Research Development Grants
NSERC Early Career Researcher
Guidelines

Source: Office of the Vice-President (Research and International) (OVPRI)

Purpose: Support **early career researchers** (within the first 5 years* of a tenure-track appointment) to develop their **first successful application as a PI** to the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC). *(See Terms and Conditions)*

Deadline: This competition is held twice annually, with applicant submission deadlines on 30 June and 15 November. Should either of those dates fall on a weekend or statutory holiday, the deadline will be the next business day.

Value: Maximum award is $10,000

Duration: Grants will be tenable for a period of one (1) year. No extension will be granted.

Eligibility

Principal Investigator Eligibility:
- Hold a full-time tenured or tenure-track position at Carleton University at the time of application (i.e. appointment date on or before the applicant submission deadline)
- *Be within the first 5 years of an academic appointment at the time of application, minus the length of delays that have affected research productivity or outcomes, adjusted at a 2:1 ratio. The time added to the ECR window will be adjusted by month, semester, etc. as appropriate.
- Do not hold Tri-Council funds (SSHRC, NSERC, CIHR, NFRF) as a PI at the time of application. (*Excludes fellowships/scholarships*).
- Intend to submit a competitive proposal to NSERC as a PI within the next 12-18 months.
- Have not been awarded a CU Research Development Grant (SSHRC Explore, NSERC or CIHR)[1] within the past three (3) years.
    - Previous recipients of a CU Research Development Grant (SSHRC Explore, NSERC or CIHR) proposing a similar research project must clearly explain how they are planning to respond to committee comments
    - and (*NEW*) the final report for the previous award must have been submitted
- Are not holding a CU SSHRC Exchange - Knowledge Mobilization Grant
- A professor may only submit one application in a given gate as PI or Co-Principal applicant (Co-PI) to the CU Research Development Grant (SSHRC Explore, NSERC or CIHR)

Co-Principal Investigator Eligibility
Must meet the following eligibility criteria:
- Hold a full-time tenured or tenure-track position at Carleton University at the time of application (i.e. appointment date on or before the applicant submission deadline)
- Have not been awarded a CU Research Development Grant (SSHRC Explore, NSERC or CIHR) within the past three (3) years.
    - Previous recipients of a CU Research Development Grant (SSHRC Explore, NSERC or CIHR) proposing a similar research project must clearly explain how they are planning to respond to committee comments

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[1] Previously referred to as NSE and Health CU Development Grants.

- o and (*NEW*) the final report for the previous award must have been submitted
- Are not holding a [CU SSHRC Exchange - Knowledge Mobilization Grant](#)
- A professor may only submit one application in a given gate to the CU Research Development Grant (SSHRC Explore, NSERC or CIHR)

Team Member Eligibility:
- Anyone is eligible. No CV is required to be submitted.

Budget

Expenses: Expenses must be eligible under the [Tri-Agency Guidelines for Use of Grant Funds](#).
- Eligible expenses include:
  - o Stipends to students and postdoctoral fellows
  - o Salaries of technical and professional staff
  - o Materials, supplies and services
  - o Small equipment (i.e. computers) cannot account for more than $1/3^{rd}$ of the total budget
  - o Research travel (e.g. field work) and travel to present papers at technical conferences
- Non-eligible expenses include:
  - o Professional development activities
  - o Partnership-building activities
  - o Large equipment and renovations
  - o Teaching Release

Please note that transfers of funds to other institutions are not permitted.

Evaluation Criteria

Applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- **Scientific or engineering excellence of the researcher (20%)**
  - o Knowledge, expertise and experience of the researcher in the natural sciences and engineering (NSE)
  - o Quality and impact of contributions to the proposed research and/or other areas of research in NSE
  - o Importance of contributions to, and use by, other researchers and end-users

- **Merit of the proposal (50%)**
  - o Originality and innovation
  - o Significance of expected contributions to NSE research, potential for policy and/or technology-related impact
  - o Clarity and scope of objectives
  - o Clarity and appropriateness of methodology
  - o Feasibility

- Extent to which the scope of the proposal addresses all relevant issues, including the need for varied expertise within or across disciplines
- Consideration of Sex, Gender and other identity factors in the research design, if applicable
- Consideration of interdisciplinary methods or practices in research, if applicable
- Appropriateness of, and justification for, the budget

- **Contributions to the training of highly qualified personnel (HQP) (30%)**
  - Past contributions to training of HQP (training environment, HQP awards and research contributions, outcomes and skills by HQP)
  - Training Plan (training philosophy, research training plan)

Application Package

- **Application Form**
- **CV(s)** PI and Co-PI (if applicable), which must include currently active and applied for research grants, publications, student supervisions and, if possible, the record of knowledge translation activities.
- **References** (one (1) page max)

Save as SINGLE pdf file, using naming convention: **PIlastname.PIfirstname.NSERCECR.pdf**.

Submission Steps:

☐ Login to the [cuResearch portal](#)
- Choose "Apply New" from the top right menu, then under Section A: CORIS Awards, select "Approval Form"
- <u>Project Info Tab</u>: Enter your project title and SAVE
- <u>Project Sponsor Info Tab</u>: click on "Add New", then click on "Agency" and select: *<u>Internal – Internal (Carleton) Grants/Awards</u>, select appropriate Program, and SAVE
- <u>Attachments Tab</u>: Upload your completed application package
- <u>Approval Form Tab</u>: Complete all required fields and SAVE

"SUBMIT" on or before the deadline day. *(Your application will be routed for electronic approval by your Department Chair/School Director and Associate Dean, Research (ADR). To view the signing authority routing for your file, consult the "Approvals" tab.)*

Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.