NSERC Discovery Grant launch communication: 2016-17 Competition
(May 11, 2016)

This message signals the start of another competition cycle. Researchers who intend to apply for a Discovery Grant in the 2017 competition must submit a Notification of Intent to Apply (NOI) by the deadline date of August 1, 2016, 8:00 p.m. (ET).

**REMEMBER:** NSERC will not accept any NOI after the deadline. We recommend that you monitor the status of the NOIs in the research portal regularly and follow up with researchers who have started but not completed the process to avoid any issues.

A list of known potential applicants (researchers on the last instalment of a Discovery Grant or who applied unsuccessfully in the 2016 competition) is available on NSERC’s Secure Site. We have contacted these researchers directly by email. Consult the [Memo to Potential Applicants](#) for more information.

Some potential applicants are unknown to us. We ask you to direct these researchers to the Memo to Potential Applicants and to the program description for more information. These researchers could be new faculty members or researchers who have not applied in the recent past.

Grantees are encouraged to verify the balance of their current Discovery Grant (DG) account before applying. If the available funds are sufficient to cover anticipated expenditures through the next fiscal year, they can choose to request a deferral of installment or take advantage of the automatic one-year extension to use the accumulated funds prior to submitting a new request for funding. Refer to the Administration Matters and the Annual Funding of Grants sections of the Tri-Agency Financial Administration Guide for more information. Postponing an application does not adversely affect the review of the next application, but rather demonstrates good fiscal management of the funds and allows the grantee to re-organize his/her activities and postpone the application date by one year. It also provides the opportunity for NSERC to fund other researchers with more urgent needs.

**Phase-out of Discovery Team Grants**

NSERC no longer accepts Team Grant applications. While applications must be submitted individually, applicants are encouraged to continue incorporating collaboration into their applications. Existing team grants will continue to receive support until their last instalment. Researchers who are supported by an NSERC Team Grant should submit an individual Discovery Grant application when submitting a new request for funding.

**Improvements to the CCV**

We continue to gather feedback from the research administrator community, applicants and reviewers to ensure our systems are as user-friendly and technically sound as possible. In response to what we have heard, applicants can expect the following improvements for the Canadian Common CV (CCV):

- In several sections of the CV, exact dates are no longer required. Note: dates previously entered in the CCV have automatically been converted.
- “Technicians” have been added to the drop down menu in the Supervisory Activities section.

**Useful Links**

- [Research Portal resource page](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Instructions](#)