

If you are not able to hear me, please follow the instructions below

If you are experiencing **technical difficulties with the audio**, please connect with a **landline or cell phone**.

Under "Select Audio Connection"

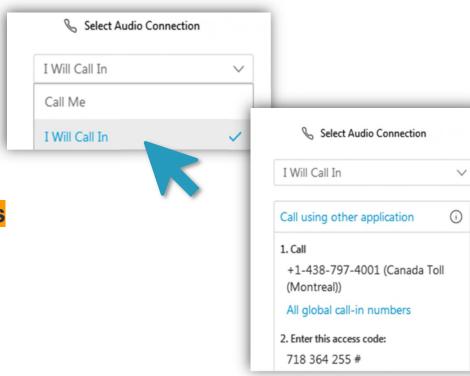
choose one of the following:

1. "Call Me" or;

2. "I Will Call In"

Follow the instructions

Use the Q&A box for questions





2023 Exploration Competition

Full Application

Webinar for Applicants and RGOs

October 31st, 2023















Overview

- 1. Funding opportunity description
- 2. Eligibility and roles
- 3. Review process
- 4. Full Application requirements
- 5. Information for RGOs
- 6. Questions and resources



Funding Opportunity Description 2023 Exploration Competition















Exploration Stream Objective

The objective of the Exploration stream is to support high-risk, high-reward and interdisciplinary research.

Funding is meant to support projects that:

- bring disciplines together beyond traditional disciplinary or common interdisciplinary approaches;
- propose to explore something new, which might fail; and
- have the potential for significant impact.

Impacts

Social, cultural, economic, healthrelated, technological, national or global in scope.

Disciplines

Projects led by researchers in social sciences and humanities, health, natural sciences, engineering, and which are interdisciplinary



Value and Duration

Value → Up to \$125,000 per year (including indirect costs of up to 25% of direct costs)

Funds should be used primarily to support research activities

*Tri-Agency Guide on Financial Administration

Duration \rightarrow Up to 2 years

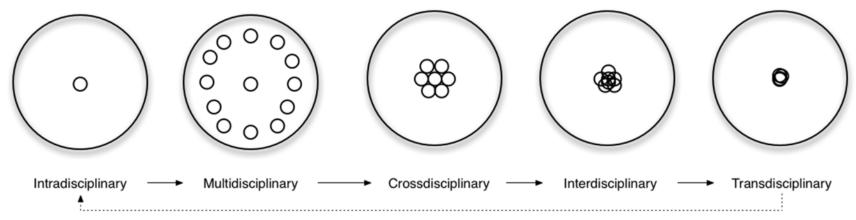
Number of grants → Minimum of 100 grants

A proportion of awards will be reserved for **Early Career Researchers (ECR)***



Interdisciplinarity / Fit to Program

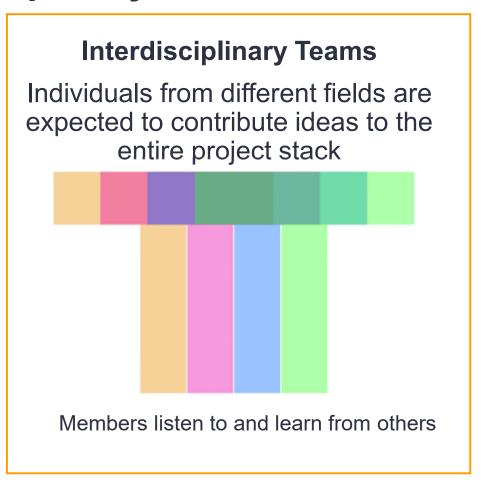
- **Multidisciplinary**: people from different disciplines working together, each drawing on their disciplinary knowledge.
- Interdisciplinary: integrating knowledge and methods from different disciplines, using a real synthesis of approaches.
- **Trans**disciplinary: creating a unity of intellectual frameworks beyond the disciplinary perspectives.





Multidisciplinary versus Interdisciplinary Teams

Multidisciplinary Teams Each member operates as a part of a chain of responsibility Members working in silo, by disciplines





Competition Timeline

October 12, 2023 8:00 p.m. (EST)

NOI Deadline (over 600 NOIs submitted!)

December 12, 2023 8:00 p.m. (EST)

Full Application deadline

March 4-8, 2024

Multidisciplinary review panel meeting

March 31, 2024

Start date of awards



Eligibility and Roles 2023 Exploration Competition















Eligibility and Roles

Team Roles

Nominated Principal Investigator (NPI)

- Responsible for the direction of the project and the coordination of proposed research activities.
- Completes the NOI and full application on <u>Convergence portal</u> and submits to their research administrator.
- Assumes administrative and financial responsibility for the grant.
- Is an Independent Researcher

Co-Principal Investigator (co-PI)

- Shares responsibility with the NPI for the direction of the proposed activities
- May access grant funds
- Is an Independent Researcher

Co-Applicants (co-App)

- Contribute to the execution of the project
- Various backgrounds and affiliations
- May access grant funds

Collaborators

- Can be any individual who contributes to the project
- Cannot be supervised by the team
- Do not have access to grant funds



Review Process 2023 Exploration Competition















Overview

Purpose:

 to identify the most meritorious applications to be recommended for funding by the multidisciplinary review panel

Five members of the Multidisciplinary Review Panel review the application for all criteria to make funding recommendations

Consult the Reviewer Manual for more detail





Multidisciplinary Review Panel

Adjudication involves scoring according to the evaluation <u>matrices</u> for the selection criteria:

- equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) (pass/fail);
- interdisciplinarity / fit to program (pass/fail);
- high risk: 40% of overall score;
- high reward: 40% of overall score; et
- feasibility: 20% of overall score.

Each application will be adjudicated by 5 members:

- 3 with expertise in the application
- 2 provide non-expert perspective

Members have access to all content from the NOI and Full application stages

This is **not** a double-anonymous review process



High Risk



High risk can be defined by elements such as, but not limited to:

- proposing unique directions;
- challenging current research paradigms;
- enhancing understanding of complex and challenging issues;
- bringing new disciplines together with different perspectives, to use novel approaches for solving existing problems; and/or
- developing or adapting frameworks, methods and techniques.



High Reward



High reward can be defined by elements such as, but not limited to:

- having an economic, scientific, artistic, cultural, technological or health impact;
- impacting and/or affecting large communities, or unique communities or subpopulations with the potential to provide lessons for other contexts;
- transforming and/or disrupting conventional thinking;
- resolving a longstanding issue or debate; and/or
- significantly advancing current knowledge, methods and/or technologies.



Feasibility

While a focus on high risk may seem at odds with **feasibility**, risk must be related to the idea being proposed, and not to a lack of a concrete plan or inability to execute the activities.

Feasibility considers elements such as the:

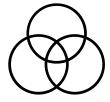
- research problem being addressed;
- knowledge, expertise and capacity of the research team;
- current research in the field;



- workplan and timeline;
- proposed approach, including EDI in research design (formerly GBA+) where appropriate;
- project's engagement and reciprocity with First Nations, Inuit and/or Métis peoples (for Indigenous research), where appropriate; and
- suitability of the research environment.



Interdisciplinarity / Fit to Program



Interdisciplinarity can be defined by elements such as, but not limited to:

- Novelty of the Perspective → integrating two or more disciplines not commonly combined.
- Novelty of the Approach → application or adaptation of frameworks/ tools/ methods/ techniques from one discipline to solve a problem in another discipline.
- Project Design → designed from an interdisciplinary perspective.
- Fit to Program → pushes the boundaries of what can be funded through the agencies.
- The onus is on the applicant to explain the novelty of the interdisciplinary approach to justify the fit to program.



Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Research Practice (EDI-RP)

EDI in research practice is a core element of the NFRF program and is comprised of **three key areas:**

- 1. team composition and recruitment processes;
- 2. training and development opportunities; and
- 3. inclusion.

For each of the three key areas, applicants must explain:

what actions they will take;

the outcomes expected; and

■ the assessment planned.



Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Research Practice (EDI-RP)

Actions proposed are expected to:

- remove barriers; and
- provide opportunities for the meaningful integration of individuals from all groups, including the four designated groups (women, Indigenous peoples, members of visible minorities and persons with disabilities).

Refer to the

NFRF Best Practices in Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Research



Resources for Implementing EDI in Research (CSFG)



Full Application Requirements 2023 Exploration Competition















Deadline

NPIs who submitted a NOI by October 12th, 2023 will be able to complete the Full Application using the Convergence Portal.

Application deadline for submission to NFRF:

December 12th, 2023 at 8:00pm EST

Check with your RGO, who may set an earlier internal deadline.



Full Application Content

- Information that was provided at NOI stage; and
- Any new participants (Co-PI's and Coapplicants)
- Any changes to: Collaborators,
 Suggested Reviewers or Reviewer
 Exclusions
- Details of: Budget, EDI in research design, Certifications, Licenses and permits, EDI in research practice

- Supporting documents (4) uploaded as separate attachments
 - Research proposal
 - Biographical information about the research team
 - Budget justification
 - Literature references



Participants and Suggested Reviewers

- Additional members can be added e.g. co-PI (if one not already invited), co-Applicants and/or Collaborators (new members will need to complete Convergence profiles).
- Update the list of suggested or excluded reviewers (a minimum of 3 from each primary research field)
 - Be mindful of conflicts of interest
 - Identify appropriate expertise.
 - Ability to review with confidence (incl. language).
 - Experts familiar with the various disciplinary approaches in the interdisciplinary project.
 - Consider **diversity** in your selection (Canadian and international; private, government and public sectors; gender; under-represented groups; established, mid- and early-career researchers)



Application Components in the Convergence Portal

- Budget Table
- EDI in research design
- Certifications, licences and permits
 - Agreement on the Administration of Agency Grants and Awards by Research Institutions
 - Requirements for Certain Types of Research
 - Impact Assessment Form (Appendix A)

- EDI in research practice
 - Must not include any self-identifying information
 - Consult NFRF's <u>Best Practices in</u> <u>Equity, Diversity and Inclusion</u> <u>in Research</u>





Research Proposal

Maximum 4 pages

- Describe the project and address why it is:
 - High Risk
 - High Reward
 - Feasible
 - Interdisciplinary
 - EDI compliant

- State the objectives
- Describe the project:
 - methodology and design
 - work plan and timeline
- •describe the approaches to Indigenous research (see <u>SSHRC's Guidelines for the Merit Review of Indigenous Research</u>);
- •explain how the EDI considerations in research design are integrated into the methodological approaches.



Biographical Information

Maximum 2 pages

- Provide an overview of the research team's knowledge, background and expertise
- Identify the anticipated contributions of each team member

- Explain how their contributions will be coordinated and integrated
- If self-identifying information is relevant, it may be included only with the team members' consent



Budget Justification

Maximum 1 page

- Provide a breakdown & explanation of the direct costs
 - provide sufficient information to assess appropriateness of requested resources
- Other resources can also be described, if necessary, e.g. funding, materials, equipment
- Breakdown of indirect costs is not required

Literature References

Maximum 5 pages

List of references cited in the application



Instructions for Attachments

- All documents must be converted to Portable Document Format (PDF) before they can be attached to the application
- Be mindful of <u>formatting requirements</u> (page length, font size, margins, no personally identifying information, etc.)

Applications that do not adhere to the requirements can be withdrawn



Finalizing the Application

- Review your application and submit it
- Accept the Terms and Conditions
 - Status will change to Received by Administrator
- If changes are needed ask your institution's RGO to return it to you

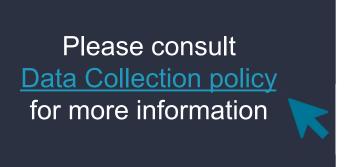
- RGO approves and submits to agency
 - Status will change to Received by Agency
 - No further changes can be made



Collection of Personal Information

Collected for the purpose of program performance management

Self-ID data collected as part of the user profile is **NOT shared with reviewers**





Information for RGOs 2023 Exploration Competition















Information for RGOs

RGO Role

RGOs can:

- view applications from NPIs at their institution (expired, in progress and submitted);
- return submitted applications to the NPI; and
- forward submitted applications to the agency.

Before forwarding an application to the agency, you will be asked to confirm:

- that the participants meet the eligibility requirements; and
- that the proposed research project meets the eligibility requirements.



Information for RGOs

RGO Role

By forwarding the application, you will also be certifying, on behalf of the institution, that the NPI:

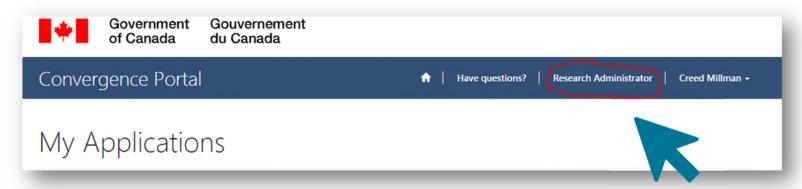
- is affiliated with the institution or organization;
- has the necessary time and resources to carry out the activity; and
- will email NFRF-FNFR@chairs-chaires.gc.ca of any changes during the tenure of the grant, including changes in the composition of the partnership, such as the addition of new co-principal investigators, co-applicants or collaborators.



Information for RGOs

RGO Role

Use the "Research Administrator" button to access your institution's applications



If you do not have this option, please contact websupport@chairs-chaires.gc.ca



Questions and Resources 2023 Exploration Competition















Questions and resources

Questions?





Questions and resources

Video Capsule

NFRFE 2020 Full Application
Convergence Walkthrough









Questions and resources

Resources

Contact Information

NFRF-FNFR@chairs-chaires.gc.ca

On-line Services Helpdesk

websupport@convergence.gc.ca 613-995-4273





Program Links

NFRF Website
Competition Overview
Reviewer Manual
Evaluation Matrices

