

Insight Grants Funding Opportunity

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Overview of the presentation

- Overview of the funding opportunity
- Eligibility process
- Committee structure and selection
- Merit review process
- Application preparation
- SARF



Insight Grants- Objectives and Features

Insight Grants support research excellence in the social sciences and humanities.

APPLICANT

Principal Investigator
Co-applicants and/or Collaborators

DURATION

2 - 5 years

VALUE

\$10,000 - \$125,000 (Stream A)
\$125,001 - \$500,000 (Stream B)

FUNDING

No separate envelope for Emerging Scholars

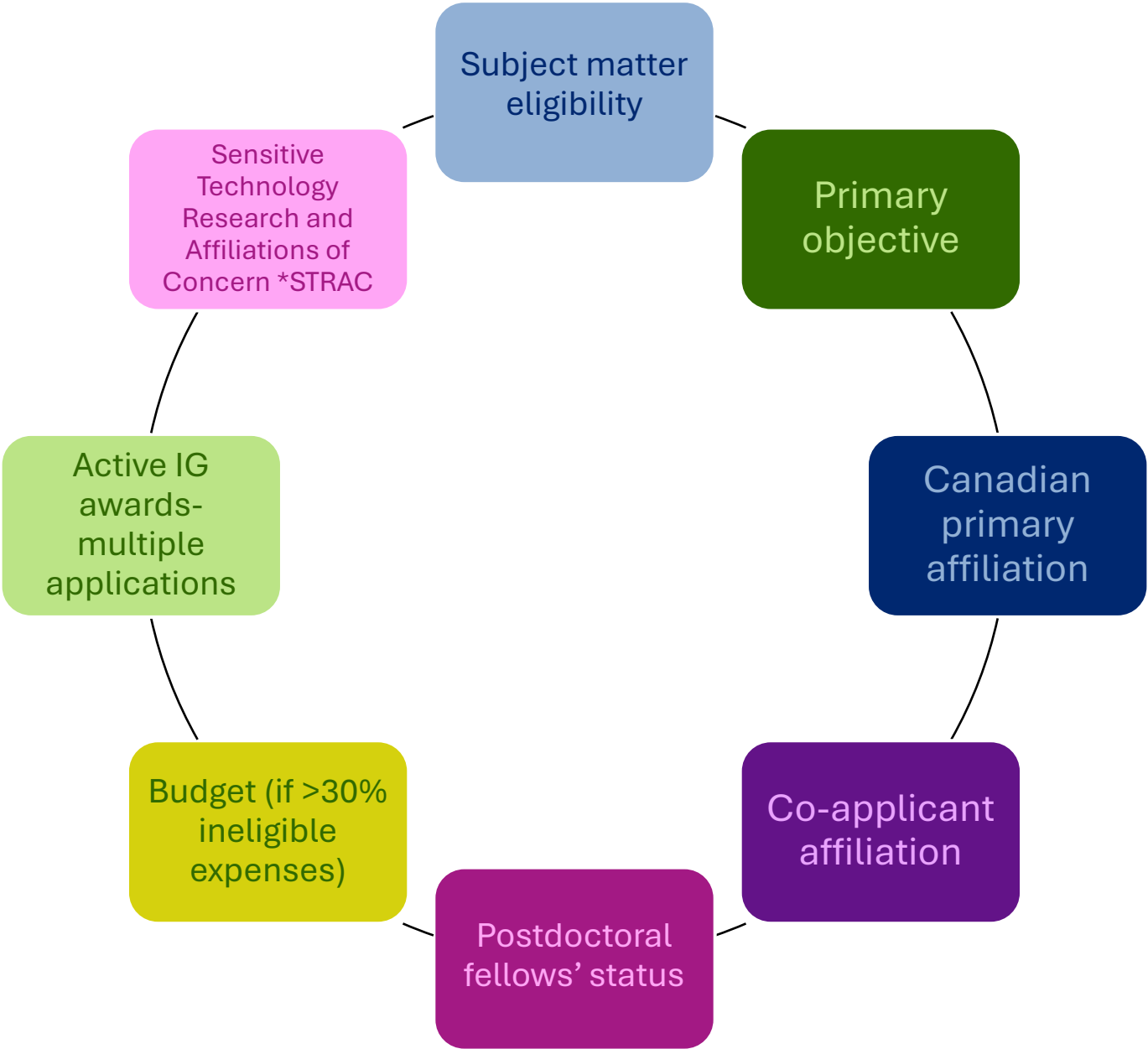
DEADLINE

1 October, 2026, at 8 pm EST (check internal deadlines)

INSIGHT GRANT RESULTS (2021-2025)

	Oct. 2021	Oct. 2022	Oct. 2023	Oct. 2024	Oct. 2025
Number of Committees	26	26	26	26	26
Number of eligible applications	(A) 427	(A) 413	(A) 508	(A) 642	(A) 884
	(B) 657	(B) 732	(B) 969	(B) 1 078	(B) 1 089
	T: 1 084	T: 1 145	T: 1 477	T: 1 720	T: 1 973
Overall success rate	(A) 56.44 %	(A) 50.60 %	(A) 40.75 %	(A) 44.9 %	(A) 45.5 %
	(B) 48.55 %	(B) 41.12 %	(B) 30.55 %	(B) 37.6 %	(B) 37.3 %
Total amount awarded	(A) \$ 19 452 722	(A) \$17 243 859	(A) \$16 929 169	(A) \$24 336 804	(A) \$40 099 870
	(B) \$77 223 393	(B) \$ 72 226 162	(B) \$69 386 084	(B) \$103 344 826	(B) 122 619 749
Average amount awarded per application	(A) \$80 717	(A) \$ 82 507	(A) \$ 81 783	(A) \$ 84 503	(A) \$ 99 751
	(B) \$242 080	(B) \$239 954	(B) \$ 234 412	(B) \$ 255 172	(B) \$ 302 019

Eligibility Verification Process



Subject Matter Eligibility

- SSHRC supports [excellence in research](#) in the social sciences and humanities: what we think, how we live, and how we interact with one another and with the world around us.
- As explained on the [Subject Matter Eligibility](#) and [Selecting the Appropriate Federal Granting Agency](#) webpages, research projects that are eligible for funding from CIHR or NSERC are not eligible for SSHRC funding.
- Decisions regarding SSHRC mandate eligibility focus on the objectives and expected outcomes of the proposed research projects.
- Please note that “the use of theories, methods, and hypotheses from the humanities and social sciences is not sufficient to make a proposal eligible for SSHRC funding.”
- We are happy to review preliminary project summaries. Please send them to our inbox at: insightgrants@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

Objectives

- The objectives of the application must align with those of the [Insight Research Program](#).
- Projects whose **primary objective** is one of the following will be deemed **ineligible**:
 - Development of a teaching program
 - Program evaluation
 - Preparation of teaching materials
 - Organization of a conference or workshop
 - Digitization of a collection
 - Creation of a database



Primary Affiliation and Applicant Status

Primary Affiliation

Applicants and co-applicants:

The primary affiliation must be with an [eligible Canadian postsecondary institution](#).

Collaborators:

no institutional affiliation is required.

PhD Students

Must have completed all doctoral degree requirements, including all coursework and the successful defence of their dissertation.

Must formally establish an affiliation with an eligible Canadian postsecondary institution within five months of the grant start date (30 September, 2027) and maintain that affiliation for the duration of the grant.

Postdoctoral Researchers

Must formally establish an affiliation with an eligible Canadian postsecondary institution within five months of the grant start date (30 September, 2027) and maintain that affiliation for the duration of the grant.

Postdoctoral Researchers and Doctoral Students

- If eligible, they may submit their application directly to SSHRC.
- If funding is awarded, the affiliated institution must agree to administer the grant before funds can be released.
- Applicants are encouraged to contact the research grants office of the eligible institution with which they wish to affiliate **as early as possible** in order to:
 - Determine whether the institution is willing to administer the grant on their behalf; and
 - Identify the requirements for establishing an appropriate affiliation.
- **Reminder:** No member of the research team (applicants, co-applicants, or collaborators), including postdoctoral researchers, may be paid from grant funds.

Budget and Research Tools

- **Budget :**
 - If more than 30% of the proposed budget is allocated to ineligible expenses, the application will be deemed ineligible.
 - Refer to the [Tri-Agency Guide on Financial Administration](#) and the Insight Grants-specific [funding rules](#) for details.
- **Eligible research tools :**
 - Directly contribute to achieving the objectives for which the grant is awarded;
 - Include work that is essential to their design or use;
 - May be used in multiple settings or by multiple groups of researchers;
 - Are modest in scale.
 - Eligible funding range for research tools: \$10,000 to \$100,000
- For more information, please consult the [Guidelines for Support of Research Tools and Instruments and Related Support Material](#).

Multiple Applications

Researchers may not submit an Insight Grant (**IG**) application and an Insight Development Grant (**IDG**) application as an applicant within the same calendar year.

However, researchers whose project was not funded in the February 2026 Insight Development Grants (**IDG**) competition may submit an Insight Grant (**IG**) application in October 2026.

Researchers who submit an Insight Grant (**IG**) application in October 2026 may submit an Insight Development Grant (**IDG**) application in February 2027, *provided that the objectives of the proposed research are substantially different.*

New Application : Grant holders may submit a new application for the same type of grant, but only during the final year of their current grant period (that is, the year in which they receive their final grant payment).

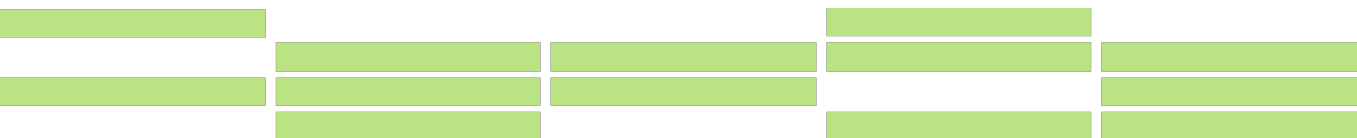
Please consult SSHRC's [Policy on Multiple Applications](#) for additional details.

Policy on Sensitive Technology Research and Affiliations of Concern (STRAC)

- Projects that aim to advance a Sensitive Technology Research Area are subject to specific requirements.
- An application is **not eligible** for funding if any member of the research team:
 - Is affiliated with a military, national defence, or state security organization that poses a risk to Canada's national security; or
 - Receives funding or in-kind support from such an organization.
- This policy is intended to protect Canada's national security and the integrity of Canadian research.
- For more information, please consult the [Guidelines of the three organizations regarding the Policy on Research in Sensitive Technologies and on Concerning Affiliations](#)

Committee Structure

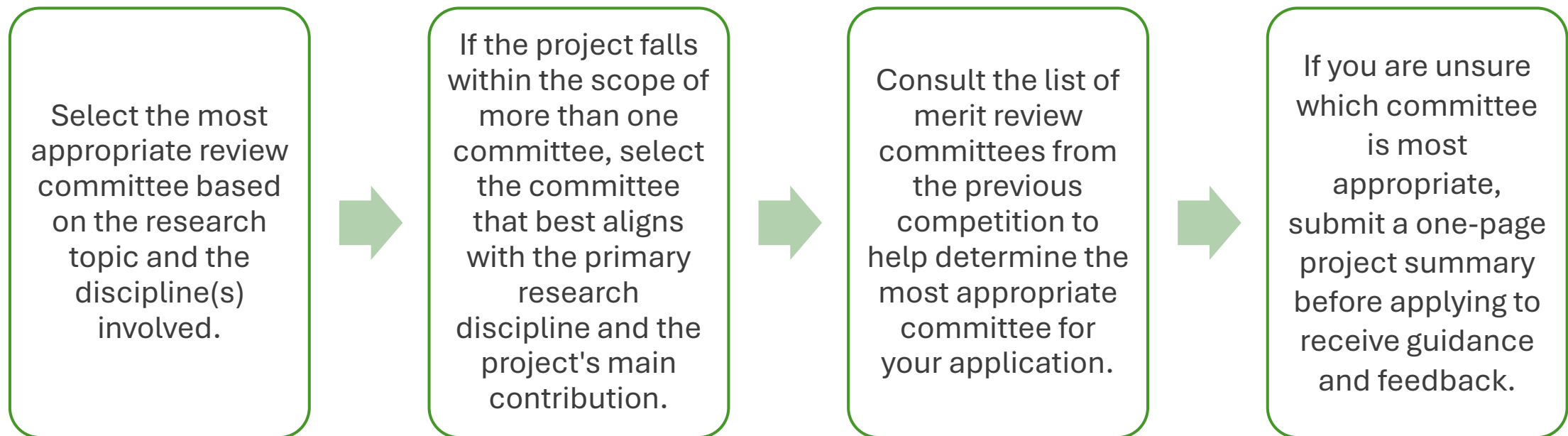
- Discipline-based / Groups of disciplines
- Multi/Interdisciplinary
- Indigenous Research



Committee Structure

Insight Grants Committees	
01	Philosophy
02	History
03	Fine Arts, Research-Creation
04	Literature
05	Medieval, Classics, Religious Studies
07	Economics
08	Sociology, Demography and Related Fields
09	Geography, Urban Planning and Related Fields
10	Psychology
11	Political Science and Public Administration
12	Education and Social Work
13	Anthropology and Archaeology
14	Business, Management and Related Fields
15	Linguistics and Translation
16	Communications, Media Studies, Gender Studies, Library and Information Science, Related Fields
17	Law and Criminology
21	Indigenous Research
22	Multidisciplinary or Interdisciplinary Humanities
23	Multidisciplinary or Interdisciplinary Social Sciences
24	Tri-Agency Interdisciplinary Peer Review Committee

Committee Selection



Official Languages: Equity and Support

- Applications may be submitted in either French or English.
- Program officers provide support to the research community in the official language of their choice;
- Applications are reviewed by fully bilingual committees;
- Committee members may participate in deliberations in the official language of their choice;
- Over the past 10 years, success rates for applications submitted in French and in English have remained relatively stable, with some year-to-year variations.

Indigenous Research: Committee Selection

Indigenous Research Committee (Committee 21)

Accepts research proposals in SSHRC-eligible disciplines or fields of study that are grounded in Indigenous worldviews or are related to Indigenous Peoples.

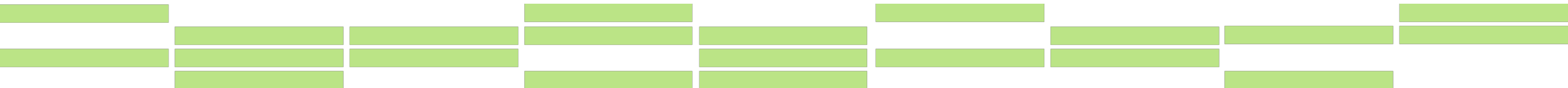
A multidisciplinary committee composed of members with expertise in Indigenous research.

Indigenous Research in Other Committees

Projects related to Indigenous research for which applicants prefer to select a disciplinary committee that is more closely aligned with the proposal or with the researchers' areas of expertise.

Indigenous Research- Key Tools

- [Guidelines for the Merit Review of Indigenous Research:](#)
 - Outline key concepts that are taken into consideration when assessing grant proposals
 - Ensure that Indigenous research incorporating Indigenous knowledge systems is recognized as a scholarly contribution
- Eligible Expenses:
 - [Tri-agency guideline on remuneration for Indigenous people participating in funded projects](#)
 - [Tri-agency guide on financial administration \(TAGFA\)](#)



Inter/Multidisciplinary Applications



A justification for a multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary review request (mandatory, maximum one page) must accompany any application submitted to the Humanities-Focused Multidisciplinary/Interdisciplinary Committee (Committee 22) or the Social Sciences-Focused Multidisciplinary/Interdisciplinary Committee (Committee 23).



For the Indigenous Research Committee and the interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary committees in the humanities and social sciences, relevant expertise may also be sought from the broader pool of members of the Insight Grants adjudication committees to assist in the evaluation of your application.



Please note: these committees are not the appropriate choice for projects with substantive components that fall within the fields of health research or natural sciences and engineering research.

Tri-Agency Interdisciplinary Peer Review Committee (1): Process

- TAIPR is a common interdisciplinary peer review process for research projects that include disciplines supported by more than one federal granting agency.
 - Applicants must submit their application through the agency responsible for the dominant component of the proposed research project: Insight Grants, Insight Development Grants, CIHR Project Grants, or NSERC Discovery Horizons Grants.
- Applicants must clearly articulate the interdisciplinary approach adopted and demonstrate that the research will address at least two of the following disciplines or subject areas:
 - 1) Humanities and social sciences;
 - 2) Natural sciences and engineering; and/or
 - 3) Health and well-being.

Tri-Agency Interdisciplinary Peer Review Committee (2): Merit Review

- This joint committee uses a harmonized peer review process, including assessment criteria, which differs from the standard Insight Grants review process.
- It uses three equally weighted [evaluation criteria](#):
 - Merit of the proposed research
 - Expected outcomes
 - Applicant's track record
- For the Insight Grants competition, select Committee 24 in your application form and complete a one-page request for inter/multidisciplinary evaluation.
- For more information, please consult the committee's [landing page](#), [Committee Peer Review Guide](#) or send us an email.

Overview of the Merit Review Process

- Committee membership
- Merit review components and process
- Evaluation criteria and scoring
- Communication of results and feedback



Committee Membership

Experts drawn primarily from the academic community, as well as the public, private, and/or not-for-profit sectors, as required.

Representation of the committee in terms of:

- Research expertise (disciplinary or sub-disciplinary)
- Institution sizes
- Geographical region
- Bilingualism
- Career stage
- Gender

Merit Review Components and Process

- Two committee members are assigned as **Readers**
- Two **external assessments** per application (where possible)
 - Suggested assessors (maximum 3, no [conflict of interest](#))
 - Exclude evaluators
 - Merit review committees consider but are not bound by the judgements of the external assessors

Evaluation process :



Evaluation and Scoring



SCORE	DESCRIPTION
5 – 6	Very Good– Excellent
4 – 4.9	Good – Very Good
3 – 3.9	Satisfactory – Good
Below 3	Unsatisfactory

Merit Review Measures to Support Researchers at Small Institutions

- Diverse institutional representation (size, type, and region) in committee membership.
- Specific considerations outlined in the Committee Member Guide, along with the distribution of a list of institutions categorized by size and type.
- Flagging of applications from small institutions during the merit review process.
- Considerations for assessment:
 - A “Not Applicable” option for evaluating research training components;
 - Consideration of institution size when assessing the appropriateness of the budget.

Communication of Results

The results are communicated to applicants individually through SSHRC's Extranet.

Applicants receive the following documents:

Notice of Decision
(includes committee and competition statistics)

Notice of Award
(for successful applicants)

Terms and Conditions
(for successful applicants)

External Evaluations Received

Committee evaluation form
(if the application was discussed by the committee)

Joint Initiatives

Joint Initiative	Description	IG
<u>Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI)</u>	Research support packages in the form of infrastructure and a portion of the operating and maintenance costs from the CFI	Up to 40% of a project’s eligible infrastructure costs
<u>Department of National Defence Research Initiative (DNDRI)</u>	Supports research aligned with areas of interest to the Canadian Armed Forces and to the Department of National Defence	\$20,000 / year for 3 years (\$60,000 total)
<u>Mitacs Accelerate – Grants</u>	Supports research internships for students and postdoctoral researchers at Canadian non-academic organizations	Starts at \$15,000 between 3-8 four-month internships
<u>Sport Participation Research Initiative (SPRI)</u>	Supports research on matters related to enhancing participation in sport in Canada	Up to \$20,000

Preparing your application

- The SSHRC CV and the application form
- Review the various sections of the application form
- Tri-Agency Open Access Policy on Publications
- Small institutions: tips and advice
- Guidance on the use of AI



The SSHRC CV and the Application form

Insight Grants: October 2026 Competition

Overview	
Value	Stream A: \$10,000 to \$125,000 Stream B: \$125,001 to \$500,000
Duration	2 to 5 years
Application deadline	October 1, 2026 (8 p.m. eastern)
Results announced	April 2027
Apply	Submit an application Read the instructions

The SSHRC CV and the Application Form

My Portfolio

REMINDER

To be eligible to apply for any SSHRC grant, applicants must have submitted any outstanding final research or activity reports for previous SSHRC grants.

CONSENT TO DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INFORMATION

I understand that maintaining public trust in the integrity of researchers is fundamental to building a knowledge-based society. By submitting an application, by linking my CV to an application led by another researcher or institution, or by accepting funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) and/or the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), I affirm that I have read and I agree to respect all the policies of these agencies that are relevant to my research, including the [Tri-Agency Framework: Responsible Conduct of Research](#). In cases of a serious breach of agency policy, the agency may publicly disclose any information relevant to the breach that is in the public interest, including my name, the nature of the breach, the institution where I was employed at the time of the breach, the institution where I am currently employed, and the recourse imposed against me. I accept this as a condition of applying for, or receiving, agency funding and I consent to such disclosure.

(For further information, see [Questions and Answers on the consent to disclosure of personal information](#).)

Curriculum Vitae +

Status: **In Progress**
Updated: 2023/09/29 - 00:00:00

Preview  Verify

As a general rule, remember to save, in your personal files, a copy of your documents and application information, including text entered into application fields. You can also save a local copy of the PDF preview of your application.

List of application forms +

Select one of the following forms from the drop-down menu: applications, accepted invitations, final research reports.

Applications  [Create New Form](#)

SSHRC CV or Narrative CV (TCV)?

The CV required for the 2026 Insight Grants competition is the **SSHRC CV**.



Preparing Your Application

Response to previous critiques

Opportunity to justify choices related to the research plan or to explain how feedback received during the previous competition was used to improve the current proposal.

Summary of proposal

Must be clear, complete, and written in accessible language (it may be used by the media if the research is funded).

Detailed description

Research objectives: clearly defined and specific. Should answer the questions: Why are you conducting this research? Why is it important?

Literature review: comprehensive and up to date; should clearly situate the proposed research.

Clearly describe the **theoretical framework or conceptual approach**.

Ensure that the **methodology addresses the research objectives** and is aligned with the personnel involved in the project.

Knowledge Mobilization Plan

- Be creative and original. Provide a clear rationale for your plan.
- Reach the target populations or the general public, where appropriate.
- Describe how you will maximize the impact of your research results and ensure their sustainability. Consult the [Guidelines for effective knowledge mobilization](#).
- Open-access publication costs are assessed in relation to the quality and relevance of the knowledge mobilization plan. Applicants must demonstrate and justify their choice of publication venues (journals).
- Effective knowledge mobilization also involves considering the management, storage, and preservation of research data, where applicable, in accordance with the [Tri-Agency Statement of Principles on Digital Data Management](#).

Open Access

- The current [Tri-Agency Open Access Policy on Publications](#) (2015) requires that peer-reviewed journal articles reporting on research funded by the three federal granting agencies **must be made freely accessible** within 12 months of publication through either:
 - *institutional or disciplinary online repositories; or*
 - *scholarly journals that offer open access.*
- The three agencies also encourage the publication of books in open-access format.
- A revision of the policy is currently underway. The [draft revised version of the Policy](#) was released for public consultation in February 2025. The revised policy is [expected to be published by the end of 2026](#).
 - The policy's effective date has yet to be determined.
 - The revised policy will require that articles be made freely accessible immediately upon publication. Articles published with an embargo period will not be eligible.
- Open-access publication costs are assessed as part of the quality and relevance of the project's knowledge mobilization plans. Applicants must demonstrate and justify their choice of publication venues (journals).
- **Coming soon:** The three agencies are currently finalizing an implementation approach for the deposit of research data, in accordance with the [Tri-Agency Research Data Management Policy](#). Publication of this approach is expected by the end of 2026.

Research Team, Previous Outputs and Student Training (1)

Justify the selection of team members based on the nature of the project.

Describe the role and responsibilities of each team member.

Describe the work that will be assigned to students.

The project must provide meaningful research training opportunities, and this training must contribute to the objectives of the research project.

Consult the [Guidelines for effective research training](#).

Research Team, Previous Outputs and Student Training (2)

Program objective:

to advance high-quality research, with funding intended primarily to support the activities and resources needed to achieve the project's objectives.

Budget justification required:

Salaries for highly qualified personnel, including postdoctoral researchers and students, must be clearly justified. If an excessive portion of the budget is allocated to postdoctoral salaries without adequate justification, this may result in a low score on the Feasibility criterion.

Scientific leadership:

the intellectual direction of the project must be provided by the applicant.

Reminder:

Grant funds cannot be used to remunerate members of the research team (including postdoctoral researchers).

Budget and Justification

- Ensure that proposed budgets are reasonable and well justified.
- **Principle of minimum necessary funding.**
- The budget must be directly linked to the research objectives and methodology.
- Describe contributions (cash and in-kind) from other sources.
- Automatic failure on the Feasibility criterion if 50% or more of the expenses are inadequately justified or inappropriate.
- Risk of failure if 30% or more of the expenses are inadequately justified or inappropriate.
- See the [Tri-Agency Guide on Financial Administration](#) and the [Guidelines for cash and in-kind contributions](#).

Career Interruptions and Special Circumstances

- SSHRC asks merit review committees to consider career interruptions and special circumstances that have affected applicants' and co-applicants' record of research.
- **Career interruptions:** when researchers are taken away from their research work for an extended period of time for health, administrative, family or other reasons, including reasons related to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Special circumstances:** involve slowdowns in research productivity or any circumstances that impact the progression of academic careers in a distinctive way.
- Applicants may upload a full page in the Career Interruptions and Special Circumstances section.
- For co-applicants, this page is added as a fifth page to the “Research Contributions” module (for a total of 5 pages instead of 4).

Small Institutions: Tips & Tricks for Applicants

- Applicants from small institutions may describe the impacts of this situation in the section of their CV devoted to career interruptions and special circumstances (during the past six years).
- Examples:
 - a heavy teaching load and/or administrative responsibilities;
 - an impact on their research productivity and/or student training activities (e.g., the absence of a graduate program at the institution, effects on opportunities for supervision).
- **All expenses must nevertheless be clearly justified in the application.**

Guidance on the use of Artificial Intelligence in the development and review of research grant proposals

Applicable Policies : two key requirements described in the [Tri-Agency Framework: Responsible Conduct of Research](#) and the [Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality Policy](#) continue to guide granting agency application and review processes:

1. The named applicant is ultimately accountable for the complete contents of their application.
2. Privacy, confidentiality, data security and the protection of intellectual property must be prioritized in the development and review of grant applications.

See also:

- [Guidance on the use of generative AI in the *preparation* of grant applications](#)
- [Guidance on the use of generative AI in the *evaluation* of grant applications](#)

Acfas and its French-language research support service (SARF)

What is it?

SARF is a research support service that assists researchers in preparing and reviewing their grant applications **submitted in French** to Canada's three federal research funding agency.

We help optimize your applications to make them even **more compelling and strategic**, thereby maximizing their funding potential.

Our services

- *Administrative and strategic review of research grant applications*
- *Information webinars in French on the Tri-Council funding programs*
- *Coordination of external peer reviews of research proposals*

Who is it for?

Exclusively to researchers working in **francophone minority settings** (outside Quebec)

How to use it?

Our services are offered through **partnerships agreements** with post-secondary educational institutions

Partner institutions

- Campus Saint-Jean
- Carleton University
- Université Saint-Paul
- Université de l'Ontario français
- University of British-Columbia
- Simon Fraser University
- University of Victoria
- University of Regina
- Brandon University
- Université Laurentienne
- Université de Moncton
- Université de Saint-Boniface
- University of Saskatchewan
- University of Winnipeg
- University of Toronto
- York University
- Western University

Thierry Drapeau, PhD

Director

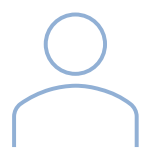
thierry.drapeau@acfas.ca

514-849-0045, poste 236

<https://www.acfas.ca/communaute/sarf>

Submitting Your Application (1)

Be sure to start early if you have a team. **Team members’ CVs will hold up the whole application if they are not complete!**



Applicant

- Complete and verify application and SSHRC CV.
- Ensure all participants have included relevant attachments.
- Submit application for institutional approval.



Co-applicant

- Create and verify SSHRC CV.
- Accept the invitation and upload Research Contributions (PDF).



Collaborator

- Fill out a profile.
- Accept invitation.

Submitting Your Application (2)

- Complete all mandatory fields
- Attach all mandatory electronic uploads
- Verify and preview your application
- Click “Submit” for institutional approval
- Institutions forward applications to SSHRC

Research or financial administrator responsibilities:

- SSHRC expects research administration to validate the information contained in the application. By forwarding the application, the administrator also certifies that the applicant is affiliated with the institution and that the institution is willing to administer any grant received according to SSHRC policies.
- Allow sufficient time and take internal deadlines into account.

Useful links:

- [Applicant Instructions](#)
- [Co-applicant instructions](#)

NOTE: Final-year doctoral students and postdoctoral researchers may submit their applications directly to SSHRC. We recommend that they contact the research office at the institution with which they will be affiliated early in the process to confirm that the institution is willing to administer the grant.

Accessibility in Programs and Services at SSHRC

- Various types of adaptive measures available
- Request an adaptive measure by filling out [this form](#)

Submit your request for an adaptive measure **as early as possible**.

If you have questions about accessibility, please send us an email to accessibility-accessibilite@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

THANK YOU!

Insight Grants

TEL.: 1-855-275-2861

EMAIL : InsightGrants@SSHRC-CRSH.GC.CA

Technical support

TEL. : 613-995-4273

EMAIL : Webgrants@SSHRC-CRSH.GC.CA

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