



# **CREATE**

## **Collaborative Research and Training Experience Program**

**Information Session**

**January 28th 2013**



CREATE Website will be updated in March

CREATE - Designed to improve the mentoring and training environment for the Canadian researchers of tomorrow by improving communication, collaboration and professional skills and by providing experience relevant to academic and non-academic working environments.

Objective - to give students a much broader experience than the traditional training methods.

# CREATE

- Launched May 2, 2008
- Based on existing models (CIHR-STIHR, NSF-IGERT, DFG-RTG)
- Supports the training of teams of highly qualified students and postdoctoral fellows from Canada and abroad through the development of innovative training programs that:
  - encourage collaborative and integrative approaches that address significant scientific challenges
  - facilitate the transition of new researchers from trainees to productive employees in the Canadian workforce

Innovative programs must include the acquisition and development of important professional skills among students and PDFs that compliment their qualifications and technical skills.



The training program should improve employability and help future researchers to take on the role of productive employees.

# CREATE encourages :

- Job readiness – prepare for an easier transition
- Industrial collaboration -is encouraged
- Student mobility can be between universities (even internationally) or to industry/government settings to gain valuable experience
- Interdisciplinary research

This program promotes and furthers the development of new researchers within the Natural Sciences and Engineering (NSE) discipline and or the interdisciplinary frontier between the Natural Sciences and Engineering and/or the medical or social sciences, if by combining the strength of these various disciplines a greater impact is achieved for training.

Even though NSERC supports interdisciplinary research training in the CREATE program, the proposal must still fall within NSERC's mandate to promote and assist research within the Natural Sciences and Engineering rather than the Health or Social Sciences.



1. Less experienced researchers can be included in the group. It is the complementarity of the expertise of the members of the group that is important. Applicants will be assessed based on their contributions to the training of HQP.

## CREATE initiatives should:

2. \*It is important to note that it is the quality and impact of the training that is assessed, not just the number of students trained\* For example, have the students gone on to further their research training? Have they made contributions in their field? Are their opportunities for students to make original contributions to the knowledge base?

- Be led by a group of accomplished researchers <sup>1</sup>
- Work collaboratively to offer a defined training program to a group of trainees <sup>2</sup>
- Provide experience relevant to academic or non-academic careers

Should

- Focus on providing an enriched training experience for graduate students It should provide a value added experience for the University training environment
- Be recognized for:
  - **Innovative nature**
  - **Excellence of the researchers and their training success**
  - **Capacity to raise the standard for best practices in training**
  - **Encouraging student mobility**



# What Conditions Apply?

- Tenable only at NSERC-eligible Canadian universities

While Colleges can be collaborators, College students cannot be paid off of the grant

- Lead applicant must be from an NSERC-supported field at an NSERC-eligible university
- **Seventy** percent of the group must be from the NSE  
30% from SSHRC and/or CIHR
- Co-applicants may be from SSHRC- or CIHR-eligible fields
- Participation in maximum of two active CREATE initiatives  
-as either an applicant or co-applicant
- Each training program will be overseen by a program committee (applicant may not be the committee Chair)

Committee of 3-5 people depending on the size of the initiative. Composition of the program committee should include a variety of stakeholders relevant to the objective of the training program. The chair is chosen from among the membership and may not be an applicant, co-applicant, collaborator or anyone with a vested interest. Graduate or PDF trainee representation is encouraged.

For industrial stream applications a representative from industry is MANDATORY!

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# Addressing Research Priorities

60% of CREATE funding will be directed to 4 priority areas:

These 4 priority areas are the same as the NSERC Strategic Grant priority areas.  
Applications outside of these areas can still be submitted.

- Environmental science and technologies
- Natural resources and energy
- Manufacturing
- Information and communications technologies



# Size of the Awards

|              |                          |
|--------------|--------------------------|
| Year 1:      | up to \$150,000          |
| Years 2 – 6: | up to \$300,000 per year |
| Total max:   | \$1,650,000              |

Maximum of 6 years of funding, there are NO renewals for this type of grant.

# What expenses are allowable?

- 80% to stipends for training  
30% of the 80% can go to non-NSE trainees on an annual basis.
- 20% to:
  - training program structure (e.g. salary of program coordinator; first 2 years only)
  - books, equipment, advertising, travel
  - dissemination of training materials and research results
  - miscellaneous

This ratio (80/20) is over the entire course of the grant.



If a training proposal focuses primarily on 1 group of trainees, it must be justified.

# Support to Students and Postdoctoral Fellows

- Harmonization of federal granting agencies' policies

Previous regulations on minimum and maximum stipends from grants no longer applies.

- Concurrent scholarships funding

Researchers are not restricted from using their grant money to supplement support for trainees.

- Categories of trainees

encouraged to ensure that students and PDF's are properly compensated for the contributions they make to the University. Students holding Alexander Graham Bell Scholarships, NSERC PGS or other federal granting agency should be encouraged to participate in the training program even though they might not receive a stipend from the University of their scholarship. Contributions from partners, collaborators or any other private organizations may be used to partially fund them in combination with NSERC funds.

NSERC should focus on providing an enriched training experience for graduate students.

Graduate students can be supported and integrated into the training program as potential graduate students, but a proposal for the support of Undergraduate Students will not be considered.

Postdoctoral fellows can also be supported as they often play an integral part in the training of Grad and UG students. If a proposal

applies to the training program and the enhanced benefits of their involvement must be clearly stated in the full proposal must indicate clearly how the candidates will meet the training needs for each trainee listed.



Letters of intent are assessed by the CREATE selection committee  
Applicants will be notified June 30 if they are invited to apply.

# Application Process is highly selective

University quotas are the same as last year, Small Universities-2, Medium-4, Large-6  
The University of Regina can submit 4 letters of intent to NSERC.

## Phase 1: Letter of Intent (Quota based) LOI NSERC Deadline MAY 1

Individual Universities will have their own internal selection process for selecting applications  
to go to NSERC.

## Phase 2: Application (invited) September 22 Deadline for invited applications to NSERC.

If deadline falls on a holiday or weekend, applications must reach NSERC by the following working day.



Selection Committee will review the LOIs and chose which will be invited to submit applications based on novelty (focus should be on graduate training) and also on the excellence of the group of researchers.

# Phase 1 - Letter of Intent

- Letter of intent to apply for a CREATE grant (Form 187)
- Personal data form (form 100) for the lead applicant <sup>only</sup>

- Letter from VP Research

Letter must clearly confirm that the proposal has been selected by the Universities quota. The letter must describe the support and commitment for this initiative, cash or in-kind. The support can be described as being conditional on the funding of the proposal.

- Industrial stream – Letter or e-mail from industrial collaborator

For stream applications the committee will look at the extent to which the program will be useful in developing professional skills of the industrial employer by improving job readiness immediately after graduation. NSERC will also look at the extent to which the program will improve the quality of HQP for the industrial sector, and the extent to which the program will improve linkages between the industry and academia. For stream applications the letter or e-mail from the industrial collaborator to you, must indicate its intent to host internships (for example, 1 day per week or 3 months during the summer), and to have a representative on the Program Committee. It is MANDATORY. If 2 industrial partners are required to satisfy these two conditions, please combine both letters/e-mails into one. Applicants must list industrial collaborators on Form 187. On the online system there is a page where you list your co-applicants for your collaborators.



to a lesser degree in academia. The proposal should indicate how these stakeholders as future employers will bring value to the description of the potential employers, as well as a qualitative assessment of the job prospects for trainees should be included. Every proposal should describe how the trainees from different disciplines will interact and gain from the different training environments.

# Form 187 – CREATE LOI

- Applicant information

70% of co-applicants must be from NSE. Applicants co-participating in a create initiative must explain their role in the proposed application.

- Co-applicants (min 1, max 10)

- Collaborators – no letters at this phase (**except industrial**)

Collaborators are considered other scientists either academic, government etc. and must bring resources to the initiative, they do not have access to the grant funds.

- Outline of Training Program (2 pages)

State the objectives of the proposed training and summarize the approach, the originality of the proposed program and the expected outcomes.

The proposal must describe how the proposed approach will better prepare students and PDFs for their future careers in the field.

- Excellence of Proposed Team of Researchers (2 pages)

Provide a letter for the team composition, how it has the necessary expertise, everyone's roles and responsibilities, and the complementary skills.

- Referee suggestions (6) One must be from outside of Canada

- LOIs will not be sent for external review

For every application each University must have at least 1 co-applicant listed in the proposal. This ensures access to CREATE funds in the proposal and PDFs involved at that university. The funds will be administered by the co-applicant on behalf of all other co-applicants.

Industrial co-applicants are under direct supervision of the co-applicant of not. For industrial Stream applicants, the letter or e-mail outline the extent of the collaboration and includes the internship opportunities.



# Phase 2 – Application (If invited)

- Application for a CREATE grant (Form 102)<sup>-by lead applicant</sup>
- Personal data form (Form 100) for the applicant and up to 10 co-applicants

- One letter of support from the university

Letter should include a list of all contributions from the University. Financial contributions should be reflected and match the information in the budget page. Letter should specify what support in-kind or financial is included.

- Letters from collaborators (max 3), if applicable<sup>For regular and industrial stream</sup>

For industrial stream applications, one of these letters must be from the Industry Collaborator. The letter should include specific information on the nature of the support that the collaborator will offer for the training program - financial, in-kind, or training facilities.



Refer to the Form 102 instructions on the NSERC website

# Form 102 - Application

- Application profile

Please use

- Plain language summary of proposal

in the

- Co-applicants and collaborators

- Research training program proposal

(free form, 12 pages + 1 for references)

- Proposed expenditures
- Budget justification (free form, 2 pages)

The total requested from NSERC is the total proposed expenditures minus the total cash contributions from all other sources. Justify all budget items besides stipends.

th short and long term objectives. Insert a table including info on the number of students and PDFs participating in the y is from CREATE. Provide a description of potential employers, and a qualitative assessment of job prospects for trainee benefit to the training that the trainees will receive through their participation in the program. For industrial applicat training program will support improved job readiness within the industrial sector. Include which skills have been identif er thereby improving job readiness immediately after graduation. Provide information on the duration of the trainees int rty(s) for a minimum of 20% of the training time (1 day/week, 3 months of the year etc). At the time of application the e guaranteed, but can be described as being conditional on funding of the proposal.



Industrial stream applications MUST have 1 or more confirmed and named industrial members on the program committee at the time of the application.

# Form 102 - Application

- Program Committee Actual names of individuals on the Program Committee do not have to be confirmed at the time of the application, but should be included if they are known.
  - Support from other sources (free form, 2 pages)
  - Maximum 1 Letter of support from lead university which includes: (REQUIRED)
    - List of all contributions from the university
    - Describe the details of support
    - Involvement in the training program
    - Plans to ensure sustainability of the program after the term of the grant.
- Any financial commitments and in-kind contributions from other Universities involved in the proposal  
- Outline what support, Financial or In-kind is incremental

Describe in detail other sources of financial support for the proposed training program. This can include cost sharing and in-kind arrangements with other institutions, industry or other agencies; institutional expenditures involved in upgrading or constructing facilities to house equipment; indirect institutional support such as provision of services and computing resources; or provision of adequate facilities to carry out the research.

# Selection Criteria

Refer to program description on NSERC CREATE site for more details.

## Letter of Intent:

- Merit of proposed training program (40%)
- Excellence of the research team (60%)

## Application:

- Merit of proposed training program (50%)
- Excellence of the research team (25%)
- Program management and long-term sustainability (25%)



Industrial Collaborator - Defined as a Canadian based business providing products or services which derives the majority of their revenue from the sale of these products or services and NOT government aid.

# Industrial Stream

Such partners must be able and willing to exploit these results for the economic benefit of Canada.

|  |  | Program Committee<br>(PC)   | Internships  | Confirmation from<br>Industrial<br>Collaborators                    |
|--|--|---|--|---|
|  |  |   |  |   |
| <b><u>PHASE 1</u></b><br><b>Letter of Intent</b>   |  | Confirmation of willingness to participate in the PC<br><br>If no confirmed name, indicate the position of the person | Intent of the industrial collaborator to host internships should be indicated            | E-mail or letter must be included                                   |
| <b><u>PHASE 2</u></b><br><b>Application</b>  |  | One or more confirmed and named industrial member(s) on the PC  | Confirmation that all the CREATE trainees will hold at least one (industrial) internship | Letter(s) confirming commitment to both conditions must be included |
| The same company can host internships and have representatives on the Program Committee as long as the representative does not directly benefit from the internship. |  |   |  |   |

Multinationals may be eligible if they have commercial activities that take place in Canada such as R&D or Manufacturing related to the research proposed and if the funded activity will result in significant economic benefit to Canada.



# International Collaboration

- NSERC has established agreements with:
  - Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)
  - La Fundação de Amparo à Pesquisa do Estado de São Paulo (FAPESP)

If interested in either of these international collaborations,  
additional information can be requested from NSERC.



# International Collaboration - DFG

- LOI at NSERC / Pre-proposal at DFG
- Funding from **both** Agencies
- Selection process
- Funding Decision

Canadian applicants submit a CREATE Proposal in parallel with a German Collaborator applying for an international research training grant from the DFG. NSERC and the DFG will provide support to the research training group in their respective country. To begin, Canadian researchers should establish a collaboration with a German researcher.

The German process is longer.

Both proposals must be successful to move forward to the application phase.



# International Collaboration – FAPESP

- LOI at NSERC with brief joint plan 2 pages, submitted as part of LOI
- Application at NSERC and FAPESP review
- Selection process
- Funding decision

\*\*Website will be updated in March\*\*

# Important Information

NSERC – Collaborative Research and Training Experience Program - Windows Internet Explorer

http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/Grants-Subs/CREATE-FONCER\_eng.asp

[Favorites](#) | [Secure submissions](#) | [Human Resources login](#) | [Extranet Login](#) | [Enterprise Favorites](#) | [Web Slice Gallery](#)

NSERC – Collaborative Research and Training Exp...

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## Collaborative Research and Training Experience Program

### Overview

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| Duration             | Up to six years  |
| Application Deadline | May 1 (Letter of Intent)<br>September 22 (Application if invited to apply)   |
| Application Forms    | <p><b>Letter of Intent</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Form 187 – Letter of Intent to apply for a Collaborative Research and Training Experience Program</li> </ul> <p><b>Application (if invited to apply)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Form 100 – Personal Data Form</li> <li>Form 102 – Application for a Collaborative Research and Training Experience Program Grant</li> </ul> <p>To create or access an application, select <a href="#">On-line System Login</a>. To view forms and instructions, select <a href="#">PDF Forms and Instructions</a>.</p> |
| How to Apply         | <a href="#">See below</a>  |
| Contact              | View the <a href="#">Contact Directory</a>   |

### Important Information

- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Summary of Changes to the CREATE Program for the 2013 Competition](#)
- [Competition Results](#)

### Objectives

The Collaborative Research and Training Experience (CREATE) Program supports the training of teams of highly qualified students and postdoctoral fellows from Canada and

**Professors**

**Grants Programs Overview**

Partnerships Programs Overview

Chairs and Faculty Support Overview

Research Tools and Instruments and Infrastructure Programs

Other Programs

Resource Videos

Contact Newsletter

Frequently Asked Questions

Eligibility

Application Deadlines and Notification of Decisions

Policies and Guidelines

Tri-Agency Financial Administration Guide

Summary of Changes – 2012-13 Program Guide for Professors

Discovery Grants Information Centre

Grants Information Sessions

**Site Tools**

[Resource Centre](#)

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# Important Dates

April 1 - Deadline to notify the Office for Research, Innovation and Partnership of intention to submit LOI. If more than 4 potential applicants, a committee will be formed to determine which letters will go forward to NSERC

March/April: Letter of Intent deadline (Univ.)

May 1: Letter of Intent deadline (NSERC)

June 30: Invitation to submit application

September 22: Application deadline (NSERC)

April 15- Deadline to Submit LOI to the Office for Research, Innovation and Partnership. Institutional letter of support will be written at this time.



# 2013 Competition

|                        |     |
|------------------------|-----|
| LOI received:          | 103 |
| Candidates invited:    | 50  |
| Applications received: | 48  |

# Information

- Program description:  
[www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/Grants-Subs/CREATE-FONCER\\_eng.asp](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/Grants-Subs/CREATE-FONCER_eng.asp)
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