

President's Research Seed Grant and SSHRC Explore Grant

Office of Research Services

March 24, 2023



University
of Regina

Go far, together.

Objectives

- Promote research and scholarly work at the U of R that has the potential to be developed into larger scale, externally funded research projects.
- Support small-scale, early stage research projects.
- Short-term projects that can be completed within the timeframe of the award (2 years).

Funding Sources

- Funds for the PRSG are made available from:
 - Allocation from operating funds made annually by the President
 - Vice-President (Research) – an allocation from the NSERC GRF if sufficient funds exist
- Funds for the SSHRC Explore Grant are made available from:
 - SSHRC Institutional Grant
 - Vice-President (Research) – an allocation from the SSHRC GRF if sufficient funds exist

Funding Overview

- Duration: 2 years
- Value: Up to \$6,000
- **Deadline:** May 15, 2023
- Only **one** application as principle investigator may be submitted
- Subject matter:
 - PRSG supports proposals in the areas of health, science and engineering
 - SSHRC Explore Grant supports proposals in the social sciences and humanities

Frequency:

- Awards are limited to 2 every 5 years.

Application Overview

- Complete applications include:
 - Application form, including a budget table
 - Research proposal (3 pages)
 - References (1 page)
 - CV and Scholarly Record for applicant and co-applicants (approved format):
 - Canadian Common CV
 - NSERC Form 100 & research contributions
 - SHRF
 - SSHRC Web CV & research contributions
- All attachments must be in **Times New Roman, 12 point font** with **minimum margins of 3/4” or 1.87cm.**

Application Form

Research Plan – 3 pages maximum

- Describe your research plan using the following headings
 - Objectives/key research questions
 - Context/theoretical framework
 - Methodology
 - Impact
 - Roles/responsibilities of team members (including students)
 - Potential to secure external funding

- Make sure embedded figures are legible (if applicable)

The Research Plan should be accessible to a multi-disciplinary committee of non-experts.

Application Form

Budget

- Indicate the amount requested, and provide a detailed justification of the need for each item and how it will support the project.
- Total funding requested is limited to \$6,000.
- Eligible and ineligible expenses are listed in the Guidelines.
- Ineligible budget items will be removed and the total amount awarded will be reduced accordingly.
- Funds **will not** be awarded for conference travel, course releases, open access fees, KM costs, computers/laptops.

Application Form

Additional Funding

- If you have, or are seeking, additional funds for this project:
 - Indicate the source, amounts, and plan for spending any additional funding that will be used to support the project (if applicable).

- Provide a brief justification for the need for additional internal funding.

Consideration of Applications

- Applications will be reviewed by the Office of Research Services for completeness and eligibility of proposed expenses.
- Applications are considered by a multi-disciplinary Committee appointed by the VP (Research).
- Applications should be written as clearly as possible for specialists and generalists alike.



Consideration of Applications

Evaluation Criteria:

- The completeness and clarity of the proposal;
- Aim and importance of the proposal, including originality/innovation, expected contribution to knowledge, and the potential impact of the outputs;
- Quality and feasibility of the research design;
- Potential to secure external funding and the plan to apply for funding;
- The appropriateness and justification of the requested budget; and
- The scholarly record of the applicant(s).

Consideration of Applications

Funding Priority:

1. 2023 Cohort Program participants.
2. Emerging scholars (pre-tenure faculty who do not currently hold external funding).
3. Established scholars (tenured faculty, pre-tenure faculty holding external funding).
4. Postdoctoral fellows.
5. APT members (where independent research is a requirement of their appointment).

Strategies for Success

- Make sure the application is accessible for a multi-disciplinary review committee of non-experts.
- Be detailed and provide all specific information requested in the application form and guidelines.
- Anticipate potential risks in the project and explain how they will be addressed or mitigated (e.g. recruiting enough participants).
- Use space wisely in the research plan, and make sure all information is adding value (e.g. figures legible and relevant).

Writing Tips

- **Apply sound time management:**
 - Start now!
 - Leave enough time to allow for several reviews and a lot of revision
- **Write clearly and concisely:**
 - Make sure your proposal is understandable to a non-expert
 - Use simple language and avoid jargon
 - Define all acronyms
- **Review and follow all instructions and guidelines:**
 - Use all recommended formatting styles, headings, etc.
 - Follow all instructions precisely
 - Review evaluation criteria and focus your application to address them explicitly
- **Have your submission reviewed by:**
 - A trusted mentor in your field (i.e. former, current, or future supervisor)
 - A peer(s) outside your specific field

Questions?

- If you have any questions, please contact the Office of Research Services: Research.Services@uregina.ca
- The 2023 Guidelines and Application Forms are found here: <https://www.uregina.ca/research/for-faculty-staff/find-funding/internal-grants/seed-grant.html>