# NSERC Discovery Grant - NOI 2018 Competition

 Updated Information
Updated July 10, 2017

- Updated full application details in Special Notes section

Updated May 17, 2017

- Updates to For More Information section
- Updates to Special Notes section
- Updates to Eligibility section

## Sponsor

Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) of Canada

## Program

[Discovery Grants Program](#) [1]

## For More Information

- [NSERC Discovery Grants Program](#) [1]
- [NSERC Discovery Grants Peer Review Manual 2016-17](#) [2]
- [Canadian Common CV (CCV)](#) [3] (required at NOI stage)
- NOI and Application are created in [Research Portal](#) [4]
- [NSERC FAQs](#) [5]
- [NSERC Information Session Presentation and NSERC Discovery Quick Reference Guide](#) [6]

## Description

The Discovery Grants Program supports ongoing programs of research (with long-term goals) rather than a single short-term project or collection of projects. These grants recognize the creativity and innovation that are at the heart of all research advances. Discovery Grants are considered 'grants in aid' of research as they provide long term operating funds to support the costs of a research program. As a grant in aid of research, Discovery Grants are not meant to support the full costs of a research program and they can facilitate access to funding from other programs. NSERC recognizes that, while being of a grant in aid nature, Discovery Grants must be sufficient to support a program of quality research that can have a meaningful impact on the

field of study.

Recipients of Discovery Grants are not restricted to the specific activities described in their applications, but may pursue new research interests, provided they are within NSERC's mandate. This provides researchers with the flexibility to pursue promising research avenues as they emerge and the opportunity to address higher-risk (higher reward) topics. Researchers can use their grants to participate in collaborative efforts.

The Discovery Grants Program assists in:

- promoting and maintaining a diversified base of high-quality research capability in the natural sciences and engineering in Canadian universities;
- fostering research excellence; and
- providing a stimulating environment for research training.

**Application requirements:** Researchers who intend to apply for a Discovery Grant in the 2017-2018 competition must submit a mandatory Notification of Intent to Apply (NOI) by the deadline date. Applicants who do not submit an NOI by the deadline cannot submit a full application later in Fall 2017.

Please review the **Memo to Potential Applicants for Notification of Intent to Apply for a Discovery Grant 2018 Competition** [7]

# Eligibility

- Only applicants and co-applicants are eligible to apply for and hold NSERC funds.
- Eligibility for applying for/holding an NSERC grant:
    - Hold (or have a firm offer) for an academic appointment at an eligible Canadian university at the time of application. This can be a tenured, tenure-track or lifetime professor emeritus position; or a paid or unpaid term or contract position of no less than three years. The position must be finalized no later than six (6) weeks following the competition deadline of November 1, 2017.
    - The position must require the individual to engage in research that is not under the direction of another individual; and
    - The position must authorize the individual to supervise or co-supervise the research of students registered in an undergraduate or graduate degree program, or postdoctoral fellows (e.g. thesis supervision and not supervision of regular course or laboratory assignments).
- While there are no specific sections dedicated to naming or describing specific collaborations, it is at the applicant's discretion if they would like to disclose such information.
- Applicants are categorized as either Early Career Researchers or Established Researchers. Refer to the Discovery Grants - Applicant Categories [8] for more information.
- Researchers can apply for and hold only one Discovery Grant at a time. Researchers who hold a Discovery Grant cannot reapply for another Discovery Grant until the last year of their current award. If you currently hold a team grant and wish to apply

individually, consult NSERC.
- NSERC does not consider requests for supplements to existing Discovery Grants, except for E. W. R. Steacie Memorial Fellows and Discovery Grant Northern Research Supplements holders. Recipients may, however, apply for all other types of NSERC grants.

**Please review the following parameters as well as [NSERC's Eligibility Criteria for Faculty](#)** [9], [UG NSERC Eligibility Criteria for Faculty](#) [10] **and the [Addendum to Guidelines for](#)** [11][Eligibility](#) [11] **to determine your specific eligibility.**

**Overlap**
Applicants cannot submit the same proposal to both NSERC and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) or the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) (see [Selecting the Appropriate Federal Granting Agency](#) [12] and [Relationship Between NSERC Proposals and Other Sources of Funds](#) [13].) NSERC encourages researchers to obtain funds from other sources, but does not allow duplication of funding for the same research.

**Subject Matter**
Applicants to the Discovery Grants Program must apply with a program of research that is eligible under NSERC's mandate, which is to promote and assist research in the natural sciences and engineering, other than health. The intended objectives of the research program must be, primarily, to advance knowledge in the natural sciences or in engineering. If NSERC determines that the subject matter is outside of its mandate at any time during the review cycle, the application will be rejected. Refer to [Selecting the Appropriate Federal Granting Agency](#) [12], the [Peer Review Manual](#) [14], and [NSERC Discovery Grants Process for Decisions on Mandate Eligibility](#) [15] for further information on the eligibility of subject matter.

**If you are uncertain about subject matter eligibility or overlap, please contact NSERC directly.**

# Indirect Costs

0%

# Project Duration

Grants are normally awarded for five years.  Although a shorter duration can be requested, NSERC may award a grant of the normal duration.

# Special Notes

**Information Sessions & Webinars:**

1. NSERC Discovery Grants Information Session ([in-person, University of Guelph campus](#)

[16]): May 1, 2017 - NSERC Information Presentation and Quick Reference Guide above in "For More Information" section.

2. NSERC NOI & Full Application Webinars: "How to Apply" webinars starting June 20, 2017 [17]

**Full Application Details -** more details to come in August 2017**:**

- Internal Deadline: October 25, 2017
- External Deadline: November 1, 2017

# Deadlines

**If College-level review is required, your College will communicate its earlier internal deadlines.**

| Type | Date | Notes |
|---|---|---|
| **External Deadline** | Tuesday, August 1, 2017 - 8:00pm | **Notification of Intent to Apply (NOI):** Researchers submit directly to NSERC via the Research Portal. Researchers do not need to send a copy to the Office of Research Services.<br><br>Note: The system will be closed after this time. |

# How to Apply

**Complete Instructions on How to Apply:** Completing a Notification of Intent to Apply (NOI) for NSERC Discovery **[18]**

- Researchers applying for a Discovery Grant must submit a NOI using the Research Portal [4]  and the NSERC CCV [19]. Completing the CCV the first time can be time-consuming, so applicants should start completing their CCV early and allow ample time to complete this task in order to meet the NOI deadline date. Researchers submit directly to NSERC via the Research Portal.

**Tips for applicants currently holding a Discovery Grant:**

- 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 the installment or take advantage of the one-year extension to use the accumulated funds prior to submitting a new request for funding.

- Refer to the Administration Matters [20] and the Annual Funding of Grants [21] 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 postpose the application date by one year. It also provides the opportunity for NSERC to fund other researchers with more urgent needs.
- If you do not intend to apply this year, please let NSERC know by sending an email, before August 1, 2017 to coord@nserc-crsng.gc.ca [22], with your name, department and institution name.

For Questions, please contact
If you require further information, please contact NSERC at: 613-995-5829 or resgrant@nserc-crsng.gc.ca [23]

## Office of Research

Carolyn Osborn, Senior Manager, Grants & Contracts
Research Services Office
519-824-4120 x52935
cosborn@uoguelph.ca [24]
Alert Classifications**Category:**
Funding Opportunities and Sponsor News

## Disciplines:

Health and Life Sciences
Information and Communications Technology
Physical Sciences and Engineering

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**Source
URL:**https://www-research.uoguelph.ca/research/alerts/content/nserc-discovery-grant-noi-2018-competition

## Links

[1] http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/Grants-Subs/DGIGP-PSIGP_eng.asp
[2] http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/_doc/Reviewers-Examinateurs/CompleteManual-ManualEvalComplet_eng.pdf
[3] https://ccv-cvc.ca/
[4] http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/ResearchPortal-PortailDeRecherche/Index_eng.asp
[5] http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/FAQ-FAQ_eng.asp
[6] https://www.uoguelph.ca/research/document/nserc-notification-interest-discovery-grant-2018-competition
[7] http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/Grants-Subs/DGIGPNotice-PSIGPAvis_eng.asp
[8] http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/Grants-Subs/DFCategories-

FDCategories_eng.asp
[9] http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/Eligibility-Admissibilite/faculty-corpsprof_eng.asp
[10] http://www.uoguelph.ca/research/for-researchers/funding/apply/NSERC/eligibility-criteria-faculty
[11] http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/policies-politiques/Addendum-Addenda_eng.asp
[12] http://www.science.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=En&amp;n=FEE7261A-1
[13] http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/Policies-Politiques/NSERCOtherSources-CRSNGAutreSources_eng.asp
[14] http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/Reviewers-Examinateurs/IntroPRManual-IntroManuelEP_eng.asp
[15] http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/_doc/Professors-Professeurs/mandate_eng.pdf
[16] https://www.uoguelph.ca/research/alerts/content/2017-nserc-discovery-grants-information-session
[17] https://www.uoguelph.ca/research/alerts/content/nserc-discovery-grants-how-apply-webinars
[18] http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/ResearchPortal-PortailDeRecherche/Instructions-Instructions/DG_NOI-AI_SD_eng.asp
[19] https://ccv-cvc.ca/indexresearcher-eng.frm
[20] http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/FinancialAdminGuide-GuideAdminFinancier/AdminMatters-QuestionAdmin_eng.asp
[21] http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/FinancialAdminGuide-GuideAdminFinancier/AnnualFunding-FinancementAnnuel_eng.asp
[22] mailto:coord@nserc-crsng.gc.ca
[23] mailto:resgrant@nserc-crsng.gc.ca
[24] mailto:cosborn@uoguelph.ca