

NSERC/NSF - Flash Call for Letters of Intent in quantum science and technology

Sponsor

The Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) and the US National Science Foundation (NSF)

For More Information

[NSERC-National Science Foundation – Collaboration on quantum science and artificial intelligence](#) [1]

- [National Quantum Strategy missions](#) [2]
- [Questions & Answers page](#) [3]

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

- [Alliance Grants: Equity, diversity and inclusion in training plans](#) [4]
- [NSERC guide on integrating equity, diversity and inclusion considerations in research](#) [5]
- [Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Resource Document for Researchers](#) [6]

[Safeguarding your Research Portal](#) [7]

Description

NSERC and the US National Science Foundation (NSF) have signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on research cooperation. The MOU provides an overarching framework to encourage collaboration between Canadian and US research communities and sets out the principles for developing jointly supported activities. This new NSERC-NSF collaborative research opportunity focuses specifically on discoveries and innovations in the areas of artificial intelligence and quantum science.

Through a lead agency model, US and Canadian research teams will submit a single collaborative proposal that will undergo a single review process at the NSF, which will be the lead agency. Canadian academic researchers may receive funding from NSERC, and US researchers may receive funding from the NSF. NSERC funding will be provided as an [Alliance grant](#) [8]. For this collaborative call there is no requirement for partner organizations or contributions in the Canadian component, and they should not be included in the proposal.

The collaborative opportunity is fully described in the [Dear Colleague Letter \(DCL\)](#) [9] available on the NSF website. The DCL provides the complete guidelines for the preparation, submission, review and award of NSERC-NSF collaborative research proposals.

Eligibility

The full requirements are described in the [DCL](#) [10]. Proposals must include eligible applicants from both Canada and the US as described below.

For Canada: One Canadian university researcher, or a team of Canadian university researchers, who is [eligible](#) [11] to receive NSERC funds can apply.

For the US: Please refer to the [DCL](#) [9] and to the [NSF website](#) [12].

Funding Availability

Each selected Canada–US project will be jointly funded by NSERC and the NSF to support the activities of eligible researchers in their respective countries. NSERC's contribution will be awarded to the eligible Canadian applicants in the form of one Alliance grant per successful application, to be administered by the Canadian principal applicant's institution. NSERC's funding is intended to support the activities of the eligible Canadian researchers and must be used in accordance with the [Tri-agency guide on financial administration](#) [13]. Canadian applicants are only eligible to receive funding from NSERC.

Proposals are expected to adhere to the areas of science, funding limits and grant durations for the NSF-participating programs and NSERC's [Alliance grants](#) [8].

Project Duration

One to five years

Special Notes

The full proposals will be reviewed by NSF in competition with other proposals received for the same funding round of the program to which the proposal is submitted. Proposals will be reviewed using NSF's [merit review process](#) [14] and must succeed on the strengths of their intellectual merit and broader impacts. NSERC will not conduct a parallel review and will not rank proposals. NSF and NSERC will determine recommendation outcomes. NSERC's funding decision will take into consideration the merit review and, where applicable, the potential risks for Canada's national security.

Deadlines

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

Type	Date	Notes
Internal Deadline		LOIs for this Flash Call are accepted by NSERC on a rolling basis up until September 14, 2023 . Applications will be evaluated as they are received. OR-5 and full application must be submitted to the Office of Research Services (research.services@uoguelph.ca) a minimum of two (2) weeks prior to the intended submission date to NSERC, no later than September 1, 2023 . Please be sure to "submit" in NSERC's online system.
External Deadline	Thursday, September 14, 2023 - 8:00pm	The Office of Research Services will submit the full application on behalf of the applicant to NSERC through NSERC's online system.

How to Apply

STEP 1 - LETTER OF INTENT

The Canadian researcher or team of researchers must submit a letter of intent (LOI) to NSERC using the [NSERC online system](#) [15] at least eight weeks prior to the planned submission of the full proposal to the NSF. The [NSERC eligibility criteria for faculty](#) [16] and the [national security guidelines](#) [17] apply. The LOI must not exceed **three pages**, excluding references, and must respect [NSERC online presentation and attachment standards](#) [18].

The LOI must outline the research proposed, research teams involved from both countries and annual estimates of funding to be requested from both the NSF and NSERC (\$CAD). You must also indicate the NSF program to which you are applying.

The LOI must also include:

- a brief summary of the main objectives and research challenges of the proposed research and the expected outcomes and benefits
- a plan to foster equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) within the research and training environment

The LOI and the eligibility of the Canadian researchers will be reviewed internally by NSERC. The plan to foster EDI within the research and training environment is a screening criterion, and only those LOIs that provide a satisfactory EDI training plan will be invited to submit full proposals to the NSF. For guidance, consult the [Equity, diversity and inclusion in your training plan](#) [19] web page as well as Alliance grants' [Merit indicator 4.2](#) [20].

No changes in the Canadian research team composition are permitted after a LOI is reviewed and approved by NSERC.

Instructions

To start your LOI

- log in to the online system and choose Create a new form 101
- select Research partnerships programs, then Alliance Grants
- for the Proposal type field, select Letter of intent
- for the Type of call field, select NSF Quantum Technologies/AI from the drop-down menu

STEP 2 - FULL PROPOSAL (BY INVITATION ONLY)

Based on the review of your LOI, you may be invited to proceed with a full proposal to the NSF. NSERC will provide an **Invitation to submit** letter to Canadian applicants, which must be appended to the full proposal as a supplementary document. Only proposals that have been invited to submit will be accepted. The [NSERC eligibility criteria for faculty](#) [16] apply. The collaborative proposals must be submitted by US principal investigators to a participating NSF program using the appropriate NSF submission process. **Full applications are not submitted to NSERC.**

If you submit a proposal under this call, you agree that information contained in your proposal will be shared between NSERC and the NSF for purposes consistent with the program objectives. Participants are responsible for ensuring that they are aware of the NSF rules concerning the disclosure of information contained in the proposal. Participants should also ensure they are aware of the policies surrounding NSF programs and [post-award policies](#) [21].

The information you provide in your application is collected under the authority of the [Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council Act](#) [22]. NSERC is subject to the [Access to Information Act](#) [23] and the [Privacy Act](#) [24]. The information you provide is stored in a series of NSERC data banks as described in [Information about programs and information holdings](#) [25]. You must ensure that others listed in the application have agreed to be included.

For Questions, please contact
rp-initiatives-pr@nserc-crsng.gc.ca [26]

Rachel Lee, Senior Grants and Contracts Specialist

Research Services Office

rachell@uoguelph.ca [27]

Alert Classifications **Category:**

Funding Opportunities and Sponsor News

Disciplines:

Health and Life Sciences

Information and Communications Technology

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Source

URL: <https://www-research.uoguelph.ca/research/alerts/content/nsercnsf-flash-call-letters-intent-quantum-science-and-technology>

Links

- [1] https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/NSERC-NSF-CRSNG_eng.asp
- [2] <https://ised-isde.canada.ca/site/national-quantum-strategy/en/canadas-national-quantum-strategy#s5>
- [3] https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/NSERC-NSF-CRSNG-FAQ_eng.asp
- [4] https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/innovate-innover/alliance-alliance/edi_training-edi_formation_eng.asp
- [5] https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/Policies-Politiques/EDI_guidance-Conseils_EDi_eng.asp
- [6] <https://www.uoguelph.ca/research/alerts/content/equity-diversity-and-inclusion-edi-resource-document-researchers>
- [7] https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/063.nsf/eng/h_97955.html
- [8] https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/innovate-innover/alliance-alliance/index_eng.asp
- [9] https://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf22031
- [10] http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf22031
- [11] https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/Eligibility-Admissibilite/faculty-corpsprof_eng.asp
- [12] https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/pappg19_1/pappg_1.jsp
- [13] https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/InterAgency-Interorganismes/TAFA-AFTO/guide-guide_eng.asp
- [14] https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/pappg22_1/pappg_3.jsp
- [15] https://ebiz.nserc.ca/nserc_web/nserc_login_e.htm
- [16] https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/eligibility-admissibilite/faculty-corpsprof_eng.asp
- [17] <https://science.gc.ca/site/science/en/safeguarding-your-research/guidelines-and-tools-implement-research-security/national-security-guidelines-research-partnerships/national-security-guidelines-research-partnerships-risk-assessment-form>
- [18] https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/OnlineServices-ServicesEnLigne/pdfatt2_eng.asp
- [19] https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/alliance-alliance/EDI_training-EDI_formation_eng.asp
- [20] https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/_doc/alliance/Merit_Indicators-Alliance_Grants_e.pdf

[21] https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/pappg20_1/index.jsp

[22] https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/Council-Conseil/CouncilAct-LoiSurLeConseil_eng.asp

[23] <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/A-1/index.html>

[24] <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/P-21/index.html>

[25] <https://www.canada.ca/en/treasury-board-secretariat/services/access-information-privacy/access-information/information-about-programs-information-holdings.html>

[26] <mailto:rp-initiatives-pr@nserc-crsng.gc.ca>

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