

# Innovation Immersion Placement

Innovation Immersion Placements embed researchers in dynamic start-up environments where they can develop skills that provide a new lens to viewing research problems. These placements will help our research community to be more agile, innovative and impactful. Offered by the Research Innovation Office these grants, funded by Food from Thought, are offered to early stage researchers, post docs and grad students who have participated in entrepreneurial training or activities in the past.

**Program Page:** <https://www.uoguelph.ca/research/innovation/food-thought-grants>

## Program

Designed for research teams who identify opportunities to learn new problem-solving skills through partnerships with dynamic technology, engineering and other innovative partners, a Research Innovation Immersion Placement Grant supports the cost of researchers, postdoctoral and graduate students being off campus for a semester to immerse themselves in the culture and cadence of work at innovative companies.

The program is open to research teams in various fields.



MSc. Student Patrick Egan in a business development team meeting during his 2019 placement at Mirexus Inc.

## Admission Requirements

- A current UofG faculty member, postdoctoral or graduate student (with advisor sign-off)
- Openness to new experiences and demonstrated desire to learn
- Some fundamental knowledge of business practices recommended
- Commitment to become fully immersed in the experience

**Application Deadline:** April 15, 2020

## Program Dates:

- Summer 2020 (2 placements)

## Program Take-Aways

“The Immersion Placement program allowed me to step out of the traditional research setting and dive right into the fast-paced work environment associated with a young, thriving company. My academic experiences prepared me for the extensive technical and regulatory concerns that must be explored. However, working in industry I learned various methods to validate target markets for specific products as well as how to use financial forecast models to evaluate market potential.”

- Patrick Egan, 2019 Immersion Innovator

## ARE YOU INTERESTED IN:

- Learning new strategies and skills to apply to research problems?
- Developing new problem solving skills?
- Working with dynamic and innovative companies?
- Honing your Entre/Intra-preneurship skills?

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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