

University of Lethbridge

2021 NSERC Collaborative Research and Training Experience Program (CREATE)

OVERVIEW	
Value	Up to \$150,000 in the first year and up to \$300,000 for up to five subsequent years, for a maximum of \$1.65M over 6 years.
Duration	6 years
University of Lethbridge quota	TBD from NSERC*
Internal Expression of Interest deadline	March 8, 2021
Expression of Interest notice of decision	Late-March
NSERC Letter of Intent (LOI) deadline	May 1 (8:00 pm EST)
NSERC LOI notice of decision	June 30
Internal Research Proposal and Draft Deadline	September 2
Full application deadline (if invited by NSERC)	September 22 (8:00 pm EST)
ORIS Contact	Sola Fasunwon (403-329-2101 or sola.fasunwon@uleth.ca)

*Please note: These guidelines are subject to change pending the release of NSERC's 2020 quota information.

Description:

The [Collaborative Research and Training Experience \(CREATE\) Program](#) 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, and address significant scientific challenges associated with Canada's research priorities; and
- facilitate the transition of new researchers from trainees to productive employees in the Canadian workforce.

These innovative programs **must foster** the acquisition and development of important professional skills among students and postdoctoral fellows that complement their qualifications and technical skills and improve their job-readiness for careers in industry, government, non-governmental organizations, and/or academia.

Streams:

- Regular Stream
- International ([collaboration with the German Research Foundation](#))

- Industrial Stream (up to 50% of CREATE grants will be dedicated to the industrial stream)
 - **Note:** at the Letter of Intent stage, Industrial Stream applicants must have confirmation from the Industrial Partner via email or letter indicating they are willing to host internships and participate in the Program Committee (PC). [For full details see the NSERC CREATE website.](#)

Duration: Up to six years

Value: Up to \$150,000 in the first year and up to \$300,000 for up to five subsequent years, for a maximum of \$1.65M over 6 years.

Eligibility:

Applicants and co-applicants must hold an eligible position at a Canadian university as per NSERC's [Eligibility Criteria for faculty](#) to apply. In addition, please refer to [NSERC's CREATE webpage](#) for further details on eligibility requirements for multi-university or interdisciplinary applications, collaborators, and researchers who currently (or have previously) participate on other CREATE grant(s).

Timeline:

- **March 8, 2021:** Internal Expression of Interest deadline
- **Late-March:** EOI notice of decision
- **May 1:** NSERC Letter of Intent (LOI) deadline
- **June:** NSERC LOI notice of decision
- **September 2:** Deadline for a solid draft of the full application to be uploaded to a Research Proposal Form on the Bridge
- **September 22:** Full application deadline (for those invited by NSERC to apply)
- **March 2022:** Notification of results

How to Apply:

The CREATE competition is held on an annual basis. Universities are provided with a quota for the number of CREATE LOIs that they can submit to NSERC.

The CREATE quota for University of Lethbridge this year is 2.

Given the quota restriction, the university must decide which LOIs to submit to NSERC through an internal selection process.

Internal Selection Process:

University of Lethbridge researchers interested in applying to the 2021 NSERC CREATE competition must submit an Expression of Interest as part of the internal selection process. **The deadline for Expressions of Interest is March 8, 2021.**

Expression of Interest requirements:

1. Outline of Training Program (Maximum of 2 pages)

- State the objectives of the proposed research training program and summarize the approach, the originality and novelty of the proposed research training program, as well as the expected significance of the program. Briefly indicate the type of research that the trainees will be involved in during the training program. Your proposal must describe how the proposed approach would better prepare students and/or postdoctoral fellows for their future careers in industry, government or, to a lesser extent, in academia. In addition, the proposal should indicate how these stakeholders, as future employers, will be involved in guiding the training program. A description of the potential employers and a qualitative assessment of the job prospects for the trainees should be included.
- Include information on the approximate number of students and postdoctoral fellows that you are planning to train. Briefly indicate how the training of each group (e.g. undergraduates, MSc, PhD, postdoctoral fellows) will be handled. Provide an explanation if a particular category of students will not be receiving funding or be included in the program (i.e., if no MSc students will be supported, explain why).

2. Excellence of Proposed Team of Researchers (Maximum of 2 pages)

- Provide information on the core team involved. Explain the rationale for the team composition and how it has the necessary expertise for the successful execution of the training program. Indicate if the members of the team will work together (i.e., collaborative research) and how they will do so. The applicant, co-applicants and collaborators' roles and responsibilities within the training program and its management must be explained.
- If applicable, researchers who currently hold or participate in an active CREATE Grant must clearly describe their distinct contribution to and justification for their participation in the proposed training program. The onus is on the applicant to provide sufficient information to enable the selection committee to evaluate the relationship of researchers with other CREATE initiatives. Researchers can participate in a maximum of two CREATE training programs at the same time—as either an applicant or co-applicant.

General Presentation Standards for NSERC attachments must be followed: Times New Roman 12 pts, 3/4 of an inch margins (min), single space, name at top right corner of every page. [For full details on presentation standards please see the NSERC website.](#)

Expressions of Interest must be emailed in PDF format to Sola Fasunwon (sola.fasunwon@uleth.ca) no later than March 8, 2021.

Expressions of Interest will be reviewed and ranked by a committee consisting of:

- Dean of Arts & Science
- Dean, School of Graduate Studies
- Associate Dean of Arts & Science (Research)

- Vice-President (Research)
- Associate Vice-President (Research)

The criteria of the internal selection will be similar to that used to evaluate Letters of Intent submitted to the national NSERC CREATE competition:

1. Merit of the proposed training program (60%)
2. Excellence of the team of researchers (40%)

Useful links:

NSERC CREATE webpage: http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/Grants-Subs/CREATE-FONCER_eng.asp

NSERC CREATE Letter of Intent instructions: http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/OnlineServices-ServicesEnLigne/instructions/187/create_eng.asp

NSERC CREATE FAQ: http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/Grants-Subs/CREATEFAQ-FONCERFAQ_eng.asp

Please note that this year, a Letter of Intent for the CREATE program requires an NSERC Form 100 (Personal Data Form) for the Applicant.

Contact:

Sola Fasunwon (sola.fasunwon@uleth.ca; x2101), Office of Research and Innovation Services.