

University of Lethbridge

2022 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	2; Quantum and DFG applications are not included in the quota.
Internal Expression of Interest deadline	April 6, 2022
Expression of Interest notice of decision	Mid-April
NSERC Letter of Intent (LOI) deadline	May 2 (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)

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.

***New Quantum Call:**

NSERC will fund at least three CREATE initiatives through the Government of Canada's Budget 2021 launch of a National Quantum Strategy (NQS). The initiatives will develop diverse research trainees ready to transition to the Canadian workforce in areas including, but not limited to,

quantum communications, quantum sensing, quantum materials, quantum computing and quantum algorithms/encryption. Applications will be evaluated through the normal CREATE peer review process, but applications should include “**Quantum**” in the title. Letters of intent submitted to the Quantum call are not included in each university’s quota. Each university can submit up to two letters of intent for this call.

Streams:

- Regular Stream
- International ([collaboration with the German Research Foundation, the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft \(DFG\)](#))
- 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:

- **April 6, 2022:** Internal Expressions of Interest deadline
- **Mid-April:** EOI—NOD (Notice of Decision)
- **May 1:** NSERC Letter of Intent (LOI) deadline
- **June 30:** NSERC LOI -- NOD
- **September 2:** Deadline for a solid draft of the full application to be uploaded to a Research Proposal Form on the Bridge (for those invited by NSERC to apply)
- **September 22:** Full application deadline
- **March 2023:** 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 2022 NSERC CREATE competition must submit an Expression of Interest as part of the internal selection process. The **deadline for Expressions of Interest is April 6, 2022.**

Expression of Interest requirements: See Appendix A – NSERC CREATE LOI Outline

General Presentation Standards for NSERC attachments must be followed: Times New Roman 12 pts, 3/4 of an inch margin (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 Fasanwon (sola.fasanwon@uleth.ca) no later than April 6, 2022.

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

- Vice-President (Research) – Chair of the committee.
- Associate Vice-President (Research) & Dean, School of Graduate Studies
- Faculty Dean
- Associate Dean (Research)
- A member of the GFC RPC

The criteria of the internal selection will be like 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

Contact:

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

APPENDIX A

NSERC CREATE LOI OUTLINE

Outline of training program - Maximum of two pages; EXTRA 1 page to explain previous involvement in CREATE research program or team.

- State the objectives of the proposed research training program, and summarize the approach, originality and novelty, and the expected significance of the proposed program.
- Briefly indicate the type of research that the trainees will be involved in during the program. Your proposal must describe how the proposed approach, including the role of mentoring, would better prepare students and/or postdoctoral fellows for their future careers in industry, government or, to a lesser extent, 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.
- A description of the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on your proposed training program should be included.
- Provide an estimate of the total number of students who are expected to graduate by category (Only UGs' not accepted, justify if only one group or no MSc will be supported)

	No. in year 1	No. in year 2	No. in year 3	No. in year 4	No. in year 5	No. in year 6	Total* (http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/#Total)
NSE							
Undergraduates							
Graduates							
Postdoctoral							
Non-NSE							
Undergraduates							
Graduates							
Postdoctoral							
Total							

***If applicable, indicate in the first sentence of the outline of the training program that you are applying to the industrial stream of the CREATE program. ***

Excellence of proposed team of researchers - Maximum of three 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.

- Describe how they have implemented and/or will implement policies and practices to support equity, diversity and inclusion within the team (e.g., recruitment of team members, management of the team, mentorship).
- Provide information on the team’s past contributions to the training and mentoring of highly qualified personnel (HQP).
- Describe specific actions implemented to support equity and inclusion in recruitment practices, mentorship approaches and initiatives aimed at ensuring an inclusive research and training environment and trainee growth.
- 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 a co-applicant. ***

Letter from vice-president of research (For LOI only) -- The letter must clearly confirm that your proposal has been selected as part of your university’s CREATE quota for this competition year, and it must describe your university’s support and commitment for this new initiative.

Letter from industry (for industrial stream only – LOI only) -- submit one letter or email from the industrial collaborator, confirming their commitment to:

- host internships for three to four months for M.Sc. and seven to eight months for PhD
- have a representative on the program committee

This commitment letter or email is mandatory. If two industrial partners are required to satisfy these two conditions, combine both letters and/or emails in a single PDF file for uploading purposes. Note that, at the LOI stage, a support letter from a consortium of companies is acceptable.

Checklist for submitting the LOI ONLY.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Form 187: Letter of intent for a Collaborative Research and Training Experience program grant
<input type="checkbox"/>	Letter from the vice-president of research at the applicant’s university
<input type="checkbox"/>	For industrial stream only: single letter (or email) from industrial collaborator(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Applicant’s form 100