

Memorial University
Canada Research Chairs Program
Call for Proposals

July 16, 2025

Introduction

Established in 2000, the Canada Research Chairs (CRC) Program offers eligible Canadian degree-granting institutions the opportunity to [nominate](#) a diverse cadre of outstanding researchers for professorships in areas that will further an institution's strategic research plan, enabling them to maximize their contributions as centres of research and research training. The CRC Program allocates its Chair positions to eligible institutions via a national reallocation process with eligible institutions receiving a set number of Chair allocations based on the eligible research grant funding received by their researchers from the three federal research granting agencies - the Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR), the Natural Sciences and Engineering Council (NSERC) and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC). Institutions will submit Chair nominations to one of the Program's two annual deadlines - April and October - for peer review. Successful applications will see positions taken up by individual Chairholders on a full-time basis.

CRCP Policy and Procedures

Memorial's CRC program is managed in accordance with the institution's CRC policy ([Reallocation, Renewal and Reduction of Canada Research Chairs \(CRCs\) at Memorial University](#)), which is currently under review. Once the revised policy and procedure documents have been approved, they will take precedence over any discrepancies found within this Call for Proposals.

Research Themes

All received proposals must demonstrate the CRC's support of at least one of Memorial's Strategic Research Themes as per the institution's [Research Strategy 2023-28](#).

In keeping with the goals of the Research Strategy to foster research excellence and interdisciplinary collaborations, joint proposals from Faculties / Schools will be considered.

Available Chair Positions

For this Call, Memorial's CRC Oversight Committee is currently seeking proposals from academic units to initiate searches for **6** available Chair positions which are to be filled

by members of the [four designated EDI target groups](#) (i.e., Racialized individuals, Indigenous Peoples, Persons with disabilities, and Woman and gender equity-seeking groups).

Tier	Agency	Number Available
Tier 1	CIHR	1
Tier 2	CIHR	1
Tier 2	NSERC	2
Tier 1	SSHRC	1
Tier 2	SSHRC	1
TOTAL		6

Proposal Format

Proposals are to be a maximum of 4 pages in length, with margins of 1 inch around each page, and 12-point font with single line spacing. In the following listed order, a proposal must address each of the following criteria:

- i. Consistency with Memorial's [Research Strategy 2023-28](#), Memorial's strategic plan [Transforming Our Horizons](#), and the strategic research plan (or equivalent) of the applicable Faculty/School/Campus;
- ii. Fit with Faculty/School's academic plan (or equivalent) and academic staffing strategy;
- iii. The opportunity to build significant research capacity in the proposed theme;
- iv. Potential for collaborations at Memorial and elsewhere;
- v. Potential for training of Highly Qualified Personnel (HQP);
- vi. Faculty/School and institutional expectations for research leadership*, both inside and outside Memorial, appropriate to the category of the CRC (Tier 1 versus Tier 2);
- vii. Potential/perceived impact of the proposed CRC on Memorial's capacity for and international reputation in research, and;
- viii. In accordance with [Memorial University's 2021 CRCP Financial Arrangements Framework](#), a budget overview of the funding the academic unit will allocate for full CRC salary support, and any other support that will be made available by the academic unit(s).

** Faculties/Schools must also develop explicit CRC leadership expectations, as the research leadership and impact of the CRC are among the criteria that are evaluated in all applications for renewal.*

A completed Approval Form is also required at time of proposal submission and is included at the end of this document.

The CRCP will accept suitable nominations for candidates that have been selected from an open and unbiased search. To ensure impartiality is maintained, proposals must focus on research areas and cannot pre-select a candidate before the search process concludes. It is important to note that the CRCP will evaluate the suitability of all nominated candidates by the same rigorous standards, whether the search process was conducted internally or externally.

Review Process

All proposals received will be assessed by an internal Selection Committee whose members will be drawn from Memorial's campuses. The Selection Committee will make its recommendations to the CRC Oversight Committee who will have final approval. Please note that the Selection Committee will not consider any additional information provided beyond that requested in the Call during its assessment process.

For those proposals selected, units will work with Memorial's Research Initiatives & Services (RIS) to begin an open internal search for a CRC nominee who is currently an employee of Memorial University, and who identifies as a member of at least one of the four designated EDI target groups. All searches must abide by the CRC Program's [Requirements for the Recruitment and Nomination Process](#), with Units having a maximum of 12 months from notification of decision to successfully complete the candidate search and confirm the internal nominee. Once completed, the unit and the CRC nominee will work with RIS to complete the application that will be submitted to the [CRC Program](#) for the earliest program deadline. Please note that nominees only become Chairholders once their application has been successfully awarded by the CRC Program.

For those units who: (i) do not successfully identify a nominee within 12 months, barring exceptional circumstances and approval for a search extension by the CRC Oversight Committee, or; (ii) the submitted CRC application is not successful, the CRC position will be returned to Memorial's recruitment pool for reallocation following a new internal Call for CRC Proposals.

Deadline

All proposals are to be submitted via email to RIS (ris@mun.ca), and **must be received by 4:30 pm on September 15, 2025**. All applicants will normally be notified via email of the results within 4 -5 weeks of the internal deadline.

Future Calls

It is anticipated that Memorial will have another Call in early 2026.

Contact

If you have any questions about this current CRC competition, please contact RIS (ris@mun.ca).

Canada Research Chairs Proposal Approval Form

Program: Canada Research Chairs

Academic Unit(s):

Project Title:

We have prepared the attached CRC Proposal, and understand that if chosen by the internal Selection Committee, we will work with Memorial's Research Initiatives & Services (RIS) to conduct an open internal search for a CRC nominee who is currently an employee of Memorial, and who identifies as a member of at least one of the four designated EDI target groups. Once the nominee is confirmed, RIS will work with the nominee and the unit to complete and submit a CRC application for the earliest possible deadline date.

Signature of Department Head or designate

Date

Signature of Dean or designate

Date

Signature of Department Head or designate

Date

Signature of Dean or designate

Date