

Memo - Canada Impact+ Research Training Awards (CIRTA) - 2nd Phase Call
April 23, 2026

Competition Announcement	https://nserc-crsng.canada.ca/en/news/launch-new-canada-impact-research-training-awards
Competition Frequency	One time only (2026)
Internal application deadline	Friday, May 1, 2026 – 4:00 pm NDT Allocation of scholarships/fellowships amongst interested faculty members will be carried out through an internal selection process.
Sponsor nomination deadline	Wednesday, June 3, 2026 – 9:30pm NDT
Opportunities	Memorial's allocation for the 2 nd phase: two awards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>One doctoral scholarship</u>: \$40,000 per year for three years • <u>One postdoctoral award</u>: \$70,000 per year for two years.
Nominator edibility	Researchers (nominators) must hold an eligible <u>active grant</u> from one of the three federal research funding agencies (<u>CIHR</u> ; <u>NSERC</u> ; <u>SSHRC</u>) and must be eligible to supervise doctoral and/or postdoctoral trainees. Researchers who previously applied to the CIRTA 1 st Phase Call are also eligible to apply to this call.
Nominee eligibility	Only trainees (nominees) who are internationally based (<u>both working and residing outside of Canada</u>) at the time of nomination are eligible.
Results announced	Summer 2026
CIRTA program information and Q&A	https://sshrc-crsh.canada.ca/en/funding/opportunities/canada-impact-plus-research-training-awards.aspx https://nserc-crsng.canada.ca/en/canada-impact-research-training-awards-qa

Canada Impact+ Research Training Awards (CIRTA)

Introduction

The Canada Impact+ Research Training Awards (CIRTA) is a one-time-only initiative designed to support institutions to recruit top international research talent. CIRTA recognizes and supports international researchers at the doctoral and postdoctoral levels by providing high-quality training opportunities in priority fields.

Strategic Priorities

This initiative will invest in eight priority research areas as follows:

- advanced digital technologies (including artificial intelligence, quantum and cybersecurity);
- health, including biotechnology;
- clean technology and resource value chains;
- environment, climate resilience and the Arctic;
- food and water security;
- democratic and community resilience;
- manufacturing and advanced materials; and
- defence and dual-use technologies.

Applications

Nomination allocations will be distributed in alignment with program objectives and institutional research strategies. Eligible nominators (researchers) will select nominees (trainees). Each allocation allows a researcher to nominate one trainee for one award, and researchers can submit more than one nomination. Nominations must be used at the academic level specified in the proposal (e.g. a doctoral nomination cannot be used to recruit a postdoctoral trainee).

Institutions will send each completed nomination package to the appropriate funding agency (CIHR, NSERC, or SSHRC) for adjudication.

Eligible nominators

A nominator (researcher) must be eligible to supervise doctoral and/or postdoctoral research, and must hold an active grant awarded under an eligible funding opportunity.

The Tri-Agency affiliation of the nominator's active research grant does not limit them from being a nominator for a proposed area of research that falls under a different Tri-Agency program, so long as the proposed research falls within one of the eight priority research areas.

The list of eligible funding programs is as follows:

Tri-Agency

- Canada 150 Research Chairs
- Canada Excellence Research Chairs
- Canada Research Chairs

CIHR

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Catalyst Grant• Network Grant• Operating Grant | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project Grant• Team Grant• Training Grant |
|--|---|

NSERC

- Alliance grants - including peer reviewed special and joint opportunities
- Collaborative Research and Development grants (including DND/NSERC Research Partnership grants)
- Collaborative Research and Training Experience (CREATE) program
- Discovery Grants program
- Discovery Grants – Subatomic Physics (individual, project and major resources)
- Discovery Grants – Discovery Development Grants
- Discovery Horizons
- Idea to Innovation grants
- Industrial Research Chairs (research project)
- NSERC-CSE Research Communities Grants
- Sustainable Agriculture Research Initiative

SSHRC

- Artificial Intelligence Humanities Sandpit
- Canada-France Calls for Proposals on Artificial Intelligence
- CMHC-SSHRC National Housing Strategy Longitudinal Outcomes Research
- Department of National Defence Research Initiative (DNDRI)
- Gender-Based Violence Research Initiative
- Indigenous Science and the Impacts of Plastic Pollution
- Insight Development Grants
- Insight Grants
- National Science Foundation Global Centres
- New Frontiers in Research Fund - Exploration
- New Frontiers in Research Fund - Global
- New Frontiers in Research Fund - International
- New Frontiers in Research Fund - Nordforsk-led Joint Initiative
- New Frontiers in Research Fund - Transformation
- Open Research Area
- Partnership Development Grants
- Partnership Grants
- Partnership Grants - Partnered Research Training Initiatives
- Policy Innovation Partnership Grants
- Reconciliation Network in Response to Call to Action 65
- Research on Research Joint Initiative
- Social Sciences and Humanities Research Network on Sustainable Agriculture in a Net-Zero Economy
- Sustainable Agriculture Research Initiative
- Trans-Atlantic Platform Democracy, Governance and Trust

Eligible nominees

Nominees can be of any citizenship, including Canadian citizens, permanent residents and protected people. Nominees cannot have a current affiliation with a Canadian institution, and must be currently studying or working abroad.

- For the doctoral award: nominees must be eligible to enroll in a doctoral program at the nominating institution in Canada as of the award activation date.
- For the postdoctoral award: Nominees must be qualified to undertake postdoctoral research at the nominating institution in Canada as of the award activation date.

Participation of Canadian citizens in this program is intended for those who have previously left Canada for research and/or work experience, who wish to return to Canada to continue their research.

Unlike the existing limiting eligibility windows in the CGRS D (must be within 36 months of starting the doctoral program) and CPRA programs (must be within 3 years of completing the doctoral degree), the Canada Impact+ Research Training Awards do not have any windows of time that limit eligibility.

All Canada Impact+ Research Training Awards must be activated by March 31, 2027. Please note that relocation time may be lengthy due to required immigration processes.

Memorial University's Institutional Allocation

For this 2nd phase, **Memorial's maximum allocation is one doctoral scholarship and one postdoctoral award**. Proposals will be evaluated internally through an internal selection process, which will select the successful proposals to be awarded the opportunity to nominate candidates. Nominations must be used at the academic level specified in the proposal (e.g. a doctoral nomination allocation cannot be used to recruit a postdoctoral trainee).

Application Format

All submitted proposals are to be a maximum of 2 pages in length, with margins of 1 inch around each page, and 12-point font with single line spacing. Proposals must conform to the following format:

1. An introduction including confirmation of the requested trainee type (doctoral/postdoctoral), and an overview of the planned focus of the proposed nominee's research within the eight priority research areas.
2. A brief overview of the nominator's active grant awarded under one of the eligible funding opportunities listed above (i.e. title, role in project, term, amount);
3. A description of the nominator's vision and plans for a successful training opportunity, including:

- a. the proposed research area of the nominee's project,
- b. existing research excellence to support the trainee in the proposed research area,
- c. planned support (i.e., financial and non-financial) for the trainee, including EDI and immigration support;

4. A completed Approval Form is also required, and is included at the end of this Call.

Please note that any additional information provided beyond that requested above will not be considered during the internal assessment process.

Review Process

All proposals received will be assessed by an internal Selection Committee whose members will be drawn from Memorial's campuses, and chaired by the Vice-President (Research). For those proposals selected, nominators/nominees will work with Memorial's Research Initiatives & Services (RIS) to prepare the application package.

Recruitment

Once the nominee has been identified, the nominator and the nominee will work with RIS to complete the application that will be submitted by the June 3, 2026 application deadline. Please note that nominees only become doctoral students/postdoctoral researchers at Memorial once their application has been successfully awarded.

Nominators are encouraged to engage with SGS and the Internationalization Office to discuss the institutional supports available for arriving international trainees.

Please be advised that any postdoctoral trainee awarded through this initiative will be classified at Memorial as 'honorary' or 'postdoc-H'

Deadline

All applications are to be submitted via email to RIS (ris@mun.ca), and must be received by **4 pm on Friday, May 1, 2026**.

Contact

If you have any questions about this competition, please do not hesitate to contact RIS (ris@mun.ca)

**Canada Impact+ Research Research Training Awards Competition
Proposal Approval Form**

Canada Impact+ Research Research Training Award Program:

Intake (i.e., one vs. two):

Nominator:

Academic Unit:

We have prepared the attached Canada Impact+ proposal, and understand that if chosen by the internal Selection Committee, we will identify an external nominee at the appropriate level (i.e. doctoral or postdoctoral). Once identified, we will work with Memorial's Research Initiatives & Services (RIS) to prepare the application package, with the full application submitted in accordance with the appropriate submission deadline.

Signature of Nominator

Date

Signature of Department Head or designate

Date

Signature of Dean or designate

Date