

Memorial University
Canada Research Chairs Program
Call for Proposals
Internal deadline: October 1, 2026

Memorial's Canada Research Chair Oversight Committee is currently seeking proposals from academic units to initiate searches for internal and external nominees for **5** available Canada Research Chair (CRC) positions:

| Tier | Agency | Number Available |
|-------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| Tier 1 | NSERC | 2 |
| Tier 1 | CIHR | 1 |
| Tier 2 | CIHR | 2 |
| TOTAL | | 5 |

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 allocated for full salary costs, and an itemization of any other support that the academic unit(s) will allocate for the position.

*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 required at the time of proposal submission and is included at the end of this document.

CRCP Policy and procedures

Memorial's CRC program is managed in accordance with the institution's CRC policy ([Canada Research Chairs \(CRC\) Administration and Management at Memorial University](#)), which includes the [procedures for allocation, renewal and increase or reduction of CRCs at Memorial University](#).

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.

Unbiased search

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 units should not pre-select a candidate before the search process begins or 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 RIS to begin a search for a CRC nominee who identifies as a member of one or more employment equity groups, including women and gender equity-seeking groups; Indigenous peoples; racialized persons; and persons with disabilities as per approval granted by the Newfoundland and Labrador Human Rights Commission pursuant to Section 8 of the Human Rights Act.

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 nominee. Once completed, the unit and the CRC nominee will work with RIS to complete the application for submission to the [CRC Program](#). Please note that nominees only become Chairholders once their application has been successfully awarded by the CRC Program.

It is the responsibility of the Faculty/School to obtain written confirmation from the Provost that they have access to each position they wish to fill. This written confirmation must be included with each proposal submission.

If units do not successfully identify a nominee within 12 months (barring approval by the CRC Oversight Committee for a search extension due to exceptional circumstances) or if 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 4:00 pm on October 1, 2026**. All applicants will normally be notified via email of the results within 4 -5 weeks of the internal deadline.

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

Background

Established in 2000, the 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 the Program for peer review. Successful applications will see positions taken up by individual Chairholders on a full-time basis. More about research chairs at Memorial University can be found [here](#).

