



# Collaborative Research and Training Experience (CREATE) Program

February 1, 2016



# Welcome

- Team Leader: Teresa Jurewicz
- Program Officer (post-award): Lauren Remmler
- Program Officer (competition): Paule Boulanger
- Program Assistant: Lise Bériault

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- Program overview
- Application process
- Selection criteria

[http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/professors-professeurs/grants-subs/create-foncer\\_eng.asp](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/professors-professeurs/grants-subs/create-foncer_eng.asp)



# Program objectives

CREATE supports the training of students and postdoctoral fellows from Canada and abroad through the development of innovative training programs that:

- encourage collaborative and integrative approaches that address significant scientific challenges
- facilitate the transition of new researchers from trainees to productive employees in the Canadian workforce



# CREATE encourages

- **Enriched training experiences**
- **Improved job readiness**
- **Professional skills development**
- Industrial collaboration
- Student mobility
- Interdisciplinary research\*



# Qualities of successful CREATE initiatives

- Innovative nature
- Rich training environment
- Excellence of the researchers and their training success
- Capacity to raise the standard for best practices in training
- Promoting collaboration and international awareness



# Value of the Grant

Year 1:	up to \$150,000
Years 2 – 6*:	up to \$300,000 per year
<hr/>	
Total:	up to \$1,650,000

Non renewable



# Expectations

**\*Year 2-6 funding is dependent on positive performance evaluations by NSERC.**

Regular progress reports are required

Must demonstrate that proposed objectives, training elements, HQP targets, etc., are being met.

**i.e. applicants are held accountable and must follow through on what is promised in the proposals.**





# Allowable expenses

- **At least 80% to trainee stipends**
  - Up to 30% of this may go toward non-NSE trainees
- Remaining 20% may be used for...
  - Trainee travel (conferences, exchanges, internships, etc).
  - Training program administration (e.g. salary of program coordinator; first 2 years only)
  - Dissemination of training materials
  - etc.

Note that travel costs of the applicants and collaborators are not eligible.



# Trainee stipends

- No minimum or maximum
- May be complemented by other sources
  - Supervisors
  - Collaborators
  - Scholarships
- stipend from CREATE is not a requirement for trainee participation in the initiative
- Emphasis of the initiative must be on graduate students, but undergraduate and postdoctoral trainees may also be supported



# Teams leading CREATE initiatives

- A complementary group of researchers
  - From eligible Canadian universities
  - For multi-university applications: must have at least one co-applicant involved for trainees at that institution to be eligible to receive CREATE stipends
- Work collaboratively to offer a defined training program to a group of trainees
- Supporting Gender Representation and Advancement



# Teams leading CREATE initiatives

## Conditions

- Tenable at NSERC-eligible Canadian universities
- Lead applicant must be from an NSERC-supported field at an NSERC-eligible university
- At least **70%** of the group must be in NSE (co-applicants may be from other fields)
- Participation in maximum of two active CREATE initiatives



# Program committee

Program committee (PC) consisting of a variety of stake holders, e.g.

- Potential future employers of graduates
- Collaborators
- Curriculum developers
- Trainees

Program evaluation and guidance



# Addressing Research Priorities

At least 60% of CREATE funding will be directed to priority areas:

- Environmental science and technologies
- Natural resources and energy
- Manufacturing
- Information and communications technologies



# Streams

**Regular stream CREATE** may involve any collaborations: academic/government/industry/NGO, Canadian/international

**CREATE + Germany's DFG-IRTG:** for collaboration with German researchers

**CREATE + Sao Paulo's FAPESP:** for collaboration with Sao Paulo researchers

**Industrial stream CREATE:** required industrial participation



# Industrial Stream

Up to 50% of CREATE grants are dedicated to industrial stream applications.

- Increased emphasis on preparing trainees for non-academic careers; enhanced academic-industrial collaboration
- Requires participation of industrial collaborators on the program committee
- Requires industrial internships of at least 20% of their studies





# Industrial collaborators

- Canadian-based businesses, able to exploit the research results for the economic benefit of Canada.
- International companies eligible if activities related to the proposed research take place in Canada (e.g. R&D, manufacturing); if their participation will result in a benefit to Canada.



# Application Procedures

Phase 1: **Letter of Intent**

Phase 2: **Application** (if invited)



# Phase 1: Letter of Intent

## Selection process & criteria

1. Internal selection at university (quota based)
2. CREATE Selection Committee
  - Merit of proposed training program (60%)
  - Excellence of the research team (40%)



# Phase 1: Letter of Intent

## □ Form 187: Letter of Intent to Apply for a CREATE

- List co-applicants (min 1, max 10)
- Collaborators
- Referee suggestions (6)
  - LOIs will not be sent for external review



# Phase 1: Letter of Intent

- Personal Data Form (Form 100)
- Letter from VP Research of the lead university



# Phase 1: Letter of Intent

## □ Outline of Training Program (2 pages)

- Objectives
- Novelty
- How trainees would be better prepared for careers
- Involvement of stakeholders
- Description of potential future employers, assessment of job prospects for trainees



# Phase 1: Letter of Intent

## □ Excellence of Proposed Team (2 pages)

- Complementarities
- Expertise
- Roles, responsibilities
- Training experience



# Phase 2: Full application Selection process & criteria

## Only if invited

Criteria:

- Merit of proposed training program (50%)
- Excellence of the research team (25%)
- Program management and sustainability (25%)





# Phase 2: Full application

- ❑ **Personal data form (Form 100) for the applicant**
- ❑ **Personal data form (Form 100) or CCV for all co-applicants (max 10)**
- ❑ **One letter from the lead applicant's university**
  - Support, financial commitments
- ❑ **Up to 3 letters from collaborators, if applicable**
  - Nature of support



# Phase 2: Full application

- **Form 102 – Application for a CREATE grant**
  - Application profile
  - Plain language summary of proposal
  - Co-applicants and collaborators
  - Proposed expenditures



# Phase 2: Full application

## □ Research training program proposal

(free-form, 12 pages + 1 for references)

- Objectives
- Elements of the training program
- Estimated number of trainees
- Job prospects
- Program Committee



# Phase 2: Full application

- ❑ **Budget justification (free form, 2 pages)**
- ❑ **Support from other sources (free form, 2 pages)**
- ❑ **Maximum 1 Letter of support from lead university:**
  - List of all contributions from the university
  - Describe the details of support
  - Involvement in the training program
  - Plans to ensure sustainability



# Additional requirements for industrial stream applications

- Skills identified as needed for a career in industry
- Description of improved job-readiness for industry sector
- Details about trainee internships



# Additional application requirements for industrial stream

## Letter of Intent (phase 1)

- ❑ **ONE e-mail/letter** from industry partner confirming:
  - Willingness to participate on the **program committee**
  - Intent to host **internships**



# Additional application requirements for industrial stream

## Application (phase 2)

- ❑ Max 3 letter(s) from industry partner(s) confirming
  - Commitment to participate on the **program committee**, with confirmed name of the industrial member
  - Commitment to host trainee **internships** of at least 20% of the duration of trainees' studies. **Agreements must be in place and should be guaranteed** (may be dependent on success of application).



# Application procedures for DFG collaborations

## Phase 1

Pre-proposal at DFG

## Phase 2

German researchers submit full application to DFG

Canadian researchers submit full application to  
NSERC





# Application procedures for FAPESP collaborations

- LOI at NSERC with brief joint plan
- Application at NSERC and FAPESP review
- Selection process
- Funding decision



# Competition statistics

	2013	2014	2015	2016
LOIs received:	103	120	125	114
Candidates invited:	50	48	48	52
Applications received:	48	47	45	52
Grants awarded:	15	15	17	Up to 17



# Important Dates

March/April:	Letter of Intent deadline (Univ.)
May 1:	Letter of Intent deadline (NSERC)
June 30:	Invitation to submit application
September 22:	Application deadline (NSERC)
March:	Notification of results



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## Collaborative Research and Training Experience Program

### Overview

Duration	Up to six years
Application Deadline	May 1 (Letter of Intent) September 22 (Application if invited to apply)
Application Procedures	<p><b>Letter of Intent</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Form 187 – Letter of Intent to apply for a Collaborative Research and Training Experience Program</li> </ul> <p><b>Application</b> (if invited to apply)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Form 100 – Personal Data Form</li> <li>Form 102 – Application for a Collaborative Research and Training Experience Program Grant</li> </ul> <p>To create or access an application, select <a href="#">On-line System Login</a>. To view forms and instructions, select <a href="#">PDF Forms and Instructions</a>.</p>
	<p>How to Apply</p> <p>For More Information</p>

## Important Information

- ▶ [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- ▶ [Summary of Changes to the CREATE Program for the 2015 Competition](#)
- ▶ [Competition Results](#)

# Program description:

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# Information

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