

PIMS Info Session on Grants and Funding

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- Other opportunities
- How to write your proposal

Other funding opportunities

- (Faculty, Canada:) MITACS seed projects (18 months, 2-6 faculty, needs industry partner to supply 1/3 of the funds; \$30-\$50K) www.mitacs.ca
- (PDF, Canada:) MITACS Accelerate: grad student and PDF internships in companies: 4 months \$10K, needs industrial partner.


How to write your (NSERC) proposal: (1) Generalities

- It is never too early to start planning / thinking about / working on a proposal
- It is essential to *write well*, explain your ideas and their broader significance, and communicate your plan clearly.
- There are many forms to fill, and you'll need to collect information ahead of time.

(2) Timeline:

From 1-several years before:

- Are there publications that you can finish and submit before your proposal is due?
- Develop an independent research *program*. Are there really good collaborations that might accelerate your research?
- Can you take on a student (USRA, honors thesis, special projects, grads)? Collect consent forms (NSERC: ApdxD Form 100).


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Consent Form

Name of Trainee	
Applicant Information	
Name	
Department	Postsecondary Institution
<p>I hereby allow the above-named applicant to include limited personal data about me in grant applications submitted for consideration to NSERC for the next six years. This limited data will only include my name, type of HQP training and status, years supervised or co-supervised, title of the project or thesis and, to the best of the applicant's knowledge, my position title and company or organization at the time the application is submitted. I understand that NSERC will protect this data in accordance with the <i>Privacy Act</i>, and that it will only be used in processes that assess the applicant's contributions to the training of highly qualified personnel (HQP), including confidential peer review.</p>	
_____ Trainee's signature	_____ Date
<small>Note: This form must be retained by the applicant and made available to NSERC upon request.</small>	

Form 100, Appendix D (2007) **PROTECTED WHEN COMPLETED** Version française disponible

Appendix D (Form 100)
Consent to Provide Limited Personal Information About
Highly Qualified Personnel (HQP) to NSERC

Months before due date

- Get PIN (facilitates filling in forms online)
- Write a careful abstract of grant proposal.
- Consider who could be potential reviewers.



- Form 180 - prepare in July, due Aug 1.

August

- Start writing your grant proposal: this includes: proposal text (5pp), budget + justification (form + text), description of your published work, etc .
- Think longterm: 5 ys, be creative, give evidence for your unique and important abilities to carry out planned research.
- Carefully follow page limits, font sizes, margins.
- Most forms can be filled online, and saved, edited, completed gradually.

September

- Ask mentor to read proposal; get feedback, refine the proposal: read it with a critical eye: can you strengthen it?
- Gradually work at completing all sections of forms.

October

- Finalize the proposal and check carefully for typos, missing information.
- Collect required signatures: Dept Head, University Office of Research Support (allow several working days).
- Photocopy sets of “contributions” (papers); submit all material to NSERC well ahead of deadline.

“HQP” training

- Faculty: expect that most grant \$\$ will be used to support students/PDFs.
- Need to show evidence of (past and/or current and/or) future training potential,
- Identify key parts of research suitable for student involvement (justify). Think how student research could lead to long-term careers and placements.
- Successful student careers = important points for faculty = better funding.

Highly Qualified Personnel (HQP)

Provide personal data about the HQP that you currently, or over the past six years, have supervised or co-supervised.

			Personal identification no. (PIN)	Family name
Name	Type of HQP Training and Status	Years Supervised or Co-supervised	Title of Project or Thesis	Present Position

From information provided in the application:

- Are the projects feasible and appropriate for the training proposed?
- Will trainees be able to make an original contribution to knowledge?
- Have the resulting contributions been of high quality?
- Have the students and other personnel gone on to further research training positions (e.g., Ph.D. program, postdoctoral position)?
- Have the people trained by the applicant gone on to become respected professionals?