



Social Sciences and Humanities
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en
sciences humaines du Canada

SSHRC  CRSH

How to Apply to SSHRC's Partnership Development Grants and Partnership Grants

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Partnership Funding Opportunities

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Partnership Funding Opportunities

Common Features: Objectives

Proposals should meet one or both objectives of SSHRC's overarching programs, [Insight](#) and/or [Connection](#) programs:

- Insight: Build knowledge and understanding about people, societies and the world by supporting research excellence in all subject areas eligible for funding from SSHRC.
- Connection: Realize the potential of social sciences and humanities research for intellectual, cultural, social and economic influence, benefit and impact on and beyond the campus by supporting specific activities and tools that facilitate the multidirectional flow of research knowledge.

The Partnership Funding Opportunities seek to:

- support new and existing formal partnerships
- advance research and/or knowledge mobilization in the social sciences and humanities
- enhance mutual co-operation and sharing of intellectual leadership resources through cash and/or in-kind contributions

Common Features : Who can apply?

- Partnership Funding Opportunities are open to universities, colleges and not-for-profit organizations
- Applications must be prepared by the principal investigator/project director on behalf of the formal partnership
- The principal investigator/project director must be affiliated with an eligible Canadian postsecondary institution or not-for-profit organization
- Any postsecondary institution or not-for-profit organization that does not currently have institutional eligibility and wishes to administer SSHRC grants must apply for, and be granted, institutional eligibility
- For institutional eligibility questions, or to receive an institutional eligibility application package, contact SSHRC's Policy, Planning, Governance and International division, at secretariat@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

Common Features: Participants

Two categories of individual participants for Partnership Funding Opportunities: co-applicant and collaborator

- Co-applicants may be individuals from any of the following:
 - Canadian: Postsecondary institutions; not-for-profit organizations; philanthropic foundations; think tanks; and municipal, territorial or provincial governments
 - International: Postsecondary institutions

- Collaborators may be individuals from any of the following types of organizations:
 - Canadian or international: Postsecondary institutions; not-for-profit organizations; public sector or private sector organizations; philanthropic foundations; think tanks; and municipal, territorial, provincial or federal governments

Note: Individuals from the private sector or federal government may only participate as collaborators

Common Features: Formal Partnerships

Formal partnership:

- A bilateral or multilateral formal collaboration agreement between an applicant and one or more partners, of which at least one must be a Canadian postsecondary institution and at least one must be different from the institution or organization that will administer the grant funds
- Partnerships may be between academic institutions only, or between one or more academic institutions and one or more non-academic partners
- Partnerships with non-academic institutions are welcome but not mandatory
- These partners agree and commit to work collaboratively to achieve shared goals for mutual benefit. Partners must provide evidence attesting to the commitment that has been agreed upon

Common Features : Partners

Partner:

- An organization that participates actively in a formal partnership and contributes in a meaningful way to the success of the endeavour
- Partners are expected to support the activities of the formal partnership by sharing in intellectual leadership or providing expertise. The partner is also expected to provide cash and/or in-kind contributions
- A partner must be an organization, not an individual
- Partner organizations are required, for administrative purposes, to identify an individual who will act as a contact person

Note: The partner contact person cannot also be participating on the grant (i.e., co-applicant, collaborator).

Common Features : Suggested Partnership Approaches

- Disciplinary and interdisciplinary research partnerships
- Cross-sector co-creation of knowledge and understanding
- Networks for research and/or related activities
- Partnered knowledge mobilization
- Partnered research centres (**PG Only**)
- Partnered Chairs (**PG Only**)

Note: Applicants are in no way limited to these approaches, and are welcome to combine some of the features.

Optional Priority Areas

- Most SSHRC funding, including the Partnership Funding Opportunities, is awarded through open competitions accessible to all disciplines, areas, themes and approaches
- In certain cases, priority areas have been identified for either additional support, a more tailored adjudication, or both
- The following priority areas are available:
 - Aboriginal Research
 - Canadian Environmental Issues
 - Digital Economy (New!)
 - Innovation, Leadership and Prosperity
 - Northern Communities—Towards Social and Economic Prosperity
- Applicants are asked to indicate in their application form whether their research falls within one or two of SSHRC's priority areas
- Applicants are not obligated to choose a priority area

Revised Priority Area: Digital Economy

In keeping with the provisions of the [2011 Federal Budget](#), SSHRC has committed up to \$7 million in additional funding for new research and related activities on the digital economy, with a particular focus on partnerships.

Opportunities for collaboration exist for research and partnership activities related to:

1. Capacity to innovate using digital technologies
2. Building a world-class digital infrastructure
3. Growing the information and communications technology industry
4. Creating Canada's digital content advantage
5. Building digital skills for tomorrow
6. Research in the digital era

Cash and In-Kind Contributions

- For the [Partnership Development Grants](#) and [Partnership Grants](#) funding opportunities, a cash and/or in-kind contribution from partners and the host institution is mandatory. This contribution reflects the meaningful collaboration and involvement of partners and the host institution.
 - PG: Minimum 35 per cent cash and/or in-kind contributions above and beyond SSHRC funding during life of grant
 - PDG: Secure cash and/or in-kind contributions during life of grant. While there is no minimum contribution, applicant and partners are expected to demonstrate a formal partnership exists or will be developed

- More information available on the SSHRC website, http://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/policies-politiques/cash_inkind-especes_en_nature-eng.aspx



Partnership Development Grants (PDG)

Partnership Development Grants: Key Features

- Applicant: Principal investigator/project director
- Duration: 1 to 3 years
- Value: \$75,000 to \$200,000
- Institutional and partner contributions: Secure cash and/or in-kind contributions during life of grant. While there is no minimum contribution, applicant and partners are expected to demonstrate a formal partnership exists or will be developed.
- Application process: One-stage application
- Next deadline: November 30, 2011

PDG: Purpose

- Develop research and related activities in SSH—including knowledge mobilization and the meaningful involvement of students and new scholars—by fostering new research partnership activities involving existing and/or potential partners; or
- Design and test new partnership approaches for research and/or related activities that may result in best practices or models that either can be adapted by others or have potential to be scaled up at a regional, national or international level

PDG: Results from 2010 competition

- 165 applications were submitted
- 53 applications received funding
- Approximately, a total of 227 (43%) partnerships were proposed with the not-for-profit sector, 140 (26%) with other post-secondary institutions, and 43 (8%) with the private sector
- Five applications (3%) were submitted by individuals from non-academic organizations and two applications (1%) were submitted by individuals from Canadian colleges
- Four other Canadian colleges and one international college participated as partners on separate applications



Partnership Grants (PG)

Partnership Grants: Key Features

- Applicant: Institution
- Duration: 4 to 7 years
- Value: Typically \$500,000 to \$2.5 million, with requests for lower or higher amounts considered
- Minimum 35 per cent cash and/or in-kind contributions required above and beyond SSHRC funding during life of grant
- Two-stage application process:
 - o Letter of Intent (next deadline: February 15, 2012)
 - o Formal Application (Fall 2012)

PG: Purpose

- Provide support for new and existing formal partnerships over 4 to 7 years
- Advance research and/or knowledge mobilization in the SSH through mutual co-operation and sharing of intellectual leadership, as well as through resources as evidenced by cash and/or in-kind contributions

PG: Requirements for Cash and In-Kind Contributions

In addition to the common eligibility requirements, securing cash and/or in-kind contributions are required:

Stage 1—LOI: Applicants are expected to include a plan to secure, over and above the budget requested from SSHRC, a minimum of 35 per cent in additional resources from sources other than SSHRC during the life of the grant (4 to 7 years).

Stage 2—Formal Application: Applicants are required to demonstrate they have already begun to confirm the 35 per cent or more in additional cash and/or in-kind contributions, and indicate how they will secure the remaining resources during the life of the grant. A minimum contribution of 35 per cent must be confirmed by the mid-term evaluation of the project.

PG: Partnered Chairs

- Partnered Chairs must contribute directly to the objectives of the Insight and/or Connection program(s)
- Chair partners pool financial resources and suggest an amount of funds required from SSHRC
- Partnered Chairs may be created in collaboration with other organizations and institutions
- Host institution will be responsible for managing the funds and for overall partnered chair arrangements
- See published guidelines for more details, http://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/policies-politiques/partnered_chairs-chaire_partenariat-eng.aspx



Canadian Foundation for Innovation: Leaders Opportunity Fund (LOF)

The LOF offers universities the opportunity to:

- acquire infrastructure for their leading research faculty to undertake cutting-edge research;
- create competitive packages of research support in the form of infrastructure and a portion of the operating and maintenance costs from the CFI, coupled with direct research costs from partner organizations
- The LOF initiative will be adjudicated by SSHRC's selection committee
- For more information, please visit the [CFI website](#) or contact the CFI liaison officer at your institution.

PG LOI: Results from 2011 competition

- 151 applications were submitted
- 35 applications received funding and were invited to submit a formal application
- Formal application deadline is November 1, 2011
- Approximately, a total of 390 (36%) partnerships were proposed with the not-for-profit sector, 358 (33%) with post-secondary institutions, and 138 (8%) with provincial governments
- Nine applications (6%) were submitted by non-academic organizations and three applications (2%) were submitted by Canadian colleges

Some Important Notes

- The PDG and PG are stand-alone competitions; a PDG is not required before applying to the PG-LOI; likewise, having a PDG does not guarantee success at the PG level
- The PDG and PG grants differ in size and scope
- The PDG and PG use the same evaluation criteria, but they are weighted differently

Adjudication Committees

- Emphasis on multidisciplinary/multisectoral committees
- Expertise drawn from the academic community, and the public, private, and/or not-for-profit sectors, as appropriate
- Specific members chosen for their broad ranging expertise/experience
- Number of committee members is a function of applications received
- PG - Formal Applications will be reviewed by an expert panel as well as a selection committee.

Evaluation Criteria

- Challenge—The aim and importance of the endeavour:
 - originality, significance and expected contribution to knowledge;
 - appropriateness of the literature review;
 - appropriateness of the theoretical approach or framework;
 - appropriateness of the methods/approach (including the co-creation of knowledge);
 - quality of training and mentoring to be provided to students, emerging scholars and other highly qualified personnel, and opportunities for them to contribute;
 - potential influence and impact within and/or beyond the social sciences and humanities research community; and
 - potential for long-term viability and progress indicators.

Evaluation Criteria

Feasibility—The plan to achieve excellence:

- probability of effective and timely attainment of the proposal’s objectives;
- quality and genuineness of the formal partnership and associated management and governance arrangements and leadership, including involvement of partners and others in the design and conduct of the research and/or related activities;
- appropriateness of the requested budget and justification of proposed costs;
- indications of other planned resources (time, human and financial), including leveraging of cash and in-kind support from the host institution and/or from partners;
- quality of the knowledge mobilization plans, including effective dissemination, exchange and plans to engage within and/or beyond the research community; and
- strategies and timelines for the design and conduct of the activity/activities proposed.

Evaluation Criteria

Capability—The expertise to succeed:

- quality, quantity and significance of the institution(s) contribution and commitment to the proposed endeavour and the institutional role and experience in collaboration and formal partnership (**PG Only**)
- quality, quantity and significance of past experience and published outputs of the applicant and/or team members relative to their role in the partnership and to the stage of their career;
- evidence of contributions such as commissioned reports, professional practice, public discourse, public policies, products and services, development of talent, experience in collaboration, etc.;
- experience in formal partnerships; and
- potential to make future contributions.



Weighting of Criteria

| | Partnership Development Grants | Partnership Grants |
|-------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Challenge | 50% | 40% |
| Feasibility | 20% | 30% |
| Capability | 30% | 30% |

SSHRC Policy on Multiple Applications

In a calendar year, an individual may not submit, as applicant (principal investigator/project director), an application for a Partnership Development Grant and be the named project director in a Partnership Grant.

This means:

- The project director for a Partnership Grant - LOI submitted in January 2011 may not apply, as principal investigator/project director, for a Partnership Development Grant in November 2011
- An individual who applies for a Partnership Development Grant in November 2011, may apply for a Partnership Grant - LOI in February 2012, provided that the objectives of the partnership are different




Important Deadlines

- Partnership Development Grants
 - Nov. 30, 2011
- Partnership Grants
 - LOI Feb. 15, 2012
 - Formal Application Fall 2012 (by invitation only)

Contacts and Useful Information

- On applying for and holding multiple applications:
http://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/policies-politiques/multiple_apps-demands_multiples-eng.aspx
- Institutional eligibility: For postsecondary institutions or not-for-profit organizations that are not yet eligible yet wish to administer SSHRC grants. Contact: secretariat@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca
- SSHRC Guidelines on Cash and In-Kind Contributions:
http://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/policies-politiques/cash_inkind-especes_en_nature-eng.aspx
- Tri-council financial admin guide: http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/FinancialAdminGuide-GuideAdminFinancier/index_eng.asp
- SSHRC guidelines on Subject Matter Eligibility: http://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/apply-demande/background-renseignements/selecting_agency-choisir_organisme_subventionnaire-eng.aspx
- CFI infrastructure funding:
<http://www.innovation.ca/en/programs/funds/leaders-opportunity-fund>



**For more information, please contact a
Program Officer in SSHRC's Partnerships
Portfolio.**

Thank you / Merci

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