

NSERC PromoScience Grant

Sponsor

Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC)

Program

PromoScience Grant Program

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Description

NSERC's PromoScience Program offers financial support for organizations working with young Canadians to promote an understanding of science and engineering (including mathematics and technology).

PromoScience supports hands-on learning experiences for young students and their teachers. Grants may be used to cover improvements to program content or delivery, as well as for new programs and activities. Grants can also be used to cover operational costs such as salaries, travel, postage, materials and supplies, provided that they relate to the promotion of science and engineering.

PromoScience grants support organizations that:

- work with young Canadians to inspire an interest in science and engineering
- motivate young people to study science and engineering and to pursue careers in these fields;
- bring interactive, hands-on science experiences to young people.

These include organizations that:

- focus on groups that are traditionally under-represented in scientific and engineering careers
- provide instruction and resources to science, math and technology teachers.

Eligibility

New this year: NSERC has expanded the eligibility to include activities that will encourage Indigenous undergraduate students to pursue graduate studies in the natural sciences and engineering, and has lifted the departmental restriction on multiple awards for post-secondary institutions.

Note that grants may not be used to support research. Details on the eligibility of expenses are contained in the Use of Grant Funds section of the [PromoScience Grants Guide](#) [4]. The information in this Guide may change without notice.

To be eligible, you must:

- be a Canadian:
 - registered non-profit organization,
 - postsecondary institution, or
 - non-federal museum or science centre.
- demonstrate ongoing involvement in the promotion of the natural sciences and engineering to young Canadians.

What activities are eligible?

- Ongoing programming: Activities must be delivered on a continual basis from year to year. One-time, project-specific activities are not eligible.
- Youth-focused programming: Activities and content must be designed for youth in elementary school, high school, or their first year of college in Quebec and/or their teachers. Activities and content that specifically encourage Indigenous undergraduate students to pursue graduate studies in the NSE are also eligible. Programming for youth that involves their families is encouraged. We do not support activities targeting pre-school aged children, the general postsecondary student population, or the general public.
- Teacher-focused programming: PromoScience is targeting resources and tools for teachers that make it easier for them to teach science well, as well as professional development for teachers to improve their knowledge, skills and enthusiasm for teaching science to youth.
- Programming in the NSE: Proposed activities must be primarily focused on promoting

interest and careers in the NSE. Programming focused primarily on health, medicine, social sciences, or arts is not eligible for support.

- New/pilot programs: Such applications must include strong evidence of the feasibility and anticipated impact of the activities (i.e., support letters, data from similar successful programs).
- Proposals with broad impact and reach: We encourage proposals at the national, provincial, territorial and regional levels. We will not support local activities unless these target traditionally under-represented groups in science and engineering.
- Interactive, hands-on programming: Activities must involve social or technology-mediated interaction with a two-way flow of information and influence between youth and their facilitators. We will not support the production of books, videos, lectures, etc. that are not part of an interactive program.
- Research experience: Applicants must demonstrate how their program meets the objectives of the PromoScience Program by going beyond simply providing work experience.
- Program delivery using a website: Such applications must demonstrate that the website is of an ongoing nature and interactive, and should include a detailed plan that outlines the need for the site, its content and plans for ongoing maintenance.
- University-based activities: The proposed science and engineering activities must address the PromoScience objectives and must not be for recruitment purposes. If an activity is linked to university course work (i.e., university students as instructors or mentors), the course work must be clearly delineated from the youth-based outreach component for the application to be eligible.
- For organizations receiving core government funding (i.e., museums and science centres), only activities that are not already funded through their existing core funding are eligible. For example, expanding collections or developing travelling and/or permanent displays would not be considered eligible for funding through PromoScience.

Current award holders

If your organization received the last payment of an active award in January of this year, it is eligible to apply in September for a renewal of funding for the same activity

If the last payment of an ongoing award is scheduled for next January, wait until next

September to apply for further funding for the same activity.

Multiple awards

PromoScience will allow an organization or faculty in a postsecondary institution to hold multiple concurrent awards as long as the organization clearly demonstrates in the application that there is no overlap in any way with activities already supported by active PromoScience grants, or with other proposals submitted to the same PromoScience competition by the same organization or faculty (see [Call for Applications](#) [2], under Organization's Financial Picture, point 4). The onus is on the applicant to find out what other activities in their organization or faculty are currently supported by, or being requested from, PromoScience.

NSERC encourages organizers of science and engineering promotion activities for youth to coordinate and prioritize their activities within their own organization (i.e., at the same university) and to collaborate with other organizations. Keep in mind that two applications from the same organization will be in competition with each other. When a single application requests funding for more than one program, the Selection Committee may choose to direct funding to one particular program.

Maximum Project Value

NSERC will not fund 100% of the costs of a proposed activity. NSERC's contribution is generally up to one-third of a program's funding. The average grant in 2017 was approximately \$37,000 per year but grants range from less than \$10,000 to over \$300,000 per year.

Project Duration

Organizations may request funds for up to three years at a time.

Special Notes

For applicants with current PromoScience funding:

A one-page report that demonstrates your organization's effective use of funding is recommended. The report should include:

- a brief description of the activities supported with previous PromoScience funding
- an overview of the outcomes and impacts from previous funding;
- a justification for continued NSERC support (if applicable).

Deadlines

If College-level review is required, your College will communicate its earlier internal deadlines.

Type	Date	Notes
Internal Deadline	Friday, September 7, 2018 - 4:30pm	Applicant submits complete application including the PromoScience application summary form, support letters, and signed OR-5 form to: research.services@uoguelph.ca [5]
External Deadline	Saturday, September 15, 2018 - 8:00pm	Applicant submits electronically via the Secure Submissions for NSERC's Innovative Collaborations and Science Promotion Programs [6]: in Portable Document Format (PDF) as a single document. As the deadline falls on a weekend, your application must reach NSERC by the following working day.

How to Apply

Applications must be submitted electronically via the [Secure Submissions for NSERC's Innovative Collaborations and Science Promotion Programs](#) [7]. Documents must be submitted in Portable Document Format (PDF) as a single document.

Material or updates received under separate cover (before or after the deadline date) will not be accepted.

In addition to the [PromoScience Application Summary Form](#) [8], your submission must include (up to five pages maximum):

- an executive summary of up to 150 words including the nature and goals of the program, the number of youth to be reached and an overview of how the PromoScience funding would be spent;

- a description of how your proposed program addresses the [selection criteria](#) [9].

Divide your application into three sections; use the selection criteria as headings and indicators as sub-headings. Requests for core funding must include a detailed description of the organization's main activities.

Your PromoScience application must also include the financial information listed below. This information is not counted in the five-page limit and must also conform to the [General Presentation Guidelines](#) [10].

1. Your organization's most recent financial statements (not applicable to postsecondary institution applicants).
2. A general budget forecast covering each year of the requested granting period (January to December). This [sample budget](#) [3] is intended as a guide for your organization to follow. Some items may not be listed or may not apply to your organization; adapt the template according to your needs. Include:
 - projected revenues of your organization or program(s). Breakdown income by source: PromoScience, federal government (indicate other funds received from NSERC and other federal granting agencies), provincial government, private sector, foundations, self-generated, university, etc.;
 - anticipated expenses of your organization or program(s) (breakdown by expenditure: salaries, equipment, materials and supplies, travel costs, publicity, etc.);
 - estimated in-kind contributions (salaries, equipment, space, etc.). In-kind contributions should be included in the budget as a separate category and clearly indicated as in-kind.
3. A budget justification for each budget item (indicate any priorities for funding) and an explanation of any relationship and/or overlap, conceptual or financial, with other NSERC funding or support from other sources (two pages maximum).
4. New: Links to websites may not be included in application documents, including letters of support. Committee members will ignore any links in documents received.

Letters of Support

- Up to three letters of reference; these are highly recommended, as applications without letters of reference may be at a disadvantage in the competition. Applicants that are specifically targeting an under-represented group are strongly encouraged to include a letter from an organization linked with the under-represented target audience.
- Up to three letters of commitment to confirm funding agreements or in-kind contributions from outside sources and/or from the host organization (i.e., postsecondary institution).

Attachment(s)

Attachment

 [PromoScience Application Form](#) [11]

Size

567.3 KB

For Questions, please contact
PromoScience Program

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Links

[1] http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Promoter-Promotion/PromoScience-PromoScience/About-Apropos_eng.asp

[2] http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Promoter-Promotion/PromoScience-PromoScience/CallApplication-AppelDemande_eng.asp

[3] http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Promoter-Promotion/PromoScience-PromoScience/Budget-Budget_eng.asp

[4] http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Promoter-Promotion/PromoScience-PromoScience/GrantsGuide-GuideDesSubventions_eng.asp

[5] <mailto:research.services@uoguelph.ca>

[6] <https://influence.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/100017/default.aspx>

[7] <https://competitions.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/500001/default.aspx>

[8] http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/_doc/Promoter-Promotion/promoappl.pdf

[9] http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Promoter-Promotion/PromoScience-PromoScience/Criteria-Criteres_eng.asp

[10] http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Promoter-Promotion/PromoScience-PromoScience/Presentation-Presentation_eng.asp

[11] <https://www.uoguelph.ca/research/alerts/sites/default/files/attachments/promoappl.pdf>

[12] <mailto:promoscience@nserc-crsng.gc.ca>

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