Merit Indicators



1. Relevance and Outcomes

1.1 Significance of the research and the intended outcomes, and the potential for generating new knowledge in the natural sciences and engineering (NSE) and further developing areas of Canadian strength and leadership.

The proposed outcomes are of exceptional importance to Canada. The research has potential to contribute to a scientific breakthrough in the field. The expected outcomes will be of the highest impact for Canadians.

Exceptional

The proposed outcomes are **very important** to Canada.

The research has **potential for a significant advance in the field**. The expected outcomes will have **high impact** for Canadians.

Exceeds

The proposed outcomes are important to Canada.
The research includes some concepts or directions that may lead to an advance in the field. The expected outcomes will have impact for Canadians.

Meets

The proposal does not adequately establish why the topic is important to Canada. It is not clear how the research will generate new knowledge or advances in the field. It does not adequately identify how outcomes will have impact for Canadians.

Does not satisfy

2. Collaboration

2.1 Added value of the proposed international collaboration for Canada and the rationale for the selected international collaborator(s).

The proposal demonstrates strong synergy among the Canadian and international participants.

Exceptional

Each collaborator brings an essential role to the research effort and demonstrates a high level of capacity to achieve the desired outcomes.

The proposal demonstrates **synergy** among the Canadian and international participants.

Exceeds

Each collaborator brings a valuable role to the research effort and demonstrates the capacity required to achieve the desired outcomes. Meets

The proposal demonstrates complementarity among the Canadian and international participants.

Each collaborator brings an active role to the research effort and demonstrates some level of capacity to achieve the desired outcomes.

Does not satisfy

The proposal does not adequately demonstrate a complementarity or synergy among the Canadian and international participants.

Not all collaborators bring an active role to the research effort or demonstrate capacity to achieve the desired outcomes.

Merit Indicators



3. Training

3.1 Opportunities for enriched training experiences for research trainees (undergraduates, graduates, postdoctoral fellows) to develop relevant research skills as well as professional skills such as leadership, communication, collaboration and entrepreneurship (where possible and relevant, international experiences for trainees are encouraged).

Through an exemplary environment or leading-edge approach, the project will provide an enriched training experience that leads to innovative and valuable skills appropriate to all level of trainees.

Exceptional

Through a **high-quality environment** or **approach**, the project will provide a training experience that leads to **valuable** skills appropriate to all level of trainees.

Exceeds

The project will provide a training experience that leads to **relevant** skills appropriate to all level of trainees.

Meets

The proposal does not adequately establish that the project will provide an enriched experience for research trainees. The opportunity to develop relevant skills is not sufficiently described.

Does not satisfy

4. Equity Diversity and Inclusion

4.1 Consideration of equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) in the research and training environment.

The proposal outlines a plan with **innovative practices** that support equity, diversity and inclusion.

Exceptional

The proposal outlines a plan with **advanced practices** that support equity, diversity and inclusion.

Exceeds

The application outlines a plan with **practices that consider** equity, diversity and inclusion.

Meets

The application does not adequately outline that diversity and gender equity have been appropriately taken into consideration.

Does not satisfy

Merit Indicators



5. Need for funds

5.1 Budget commensurate with the requirements for participation in the international research project.

Appropriateness of, and justification for, the planned expenditures.

Exceptional	Exceeds	Meets	Does not satisfy
The application very clearly demonstrates the need for support and the budget is highly commensurate with the proposed activities.	The application clearly demonstrates the need for support and the budget is commensurate with the proposed activities.	The application demonstrates the need for support and the budget is reasonably commensurate with the proposed activities.	The application does not provide convincing evidence that support from Alliance International is essential to carry out the proposed research.
The expenditures are very clearly aligned with the activities and are very well justified.	The expenditures are clearly aligned with the activities and are well justified .	The expenditures are reasonably aligned with the activities and are sufficiently justified.	The expenditures are not well aligned with the proposed activities and are not sufficiently justified.