ORF-RE Round 10 Information Session

June 18, 2019





ORF-RE Info Session Agenda

- **1. Program Information and Key Documents** MayLiza Baak, Director Institutional Initiatives, Research Services
- 2. Funding Formula/Budget MayLiza Baak
- 3. Adjudication Criteria and Editorial Tips Gabrielle Sugar & Lee Slinger, Editorial and Proposal Development Officers, Research Services
- **4. Commercialization/IP** Colin Swift & Sonya Brijbassi, Business Development Officers – Industry Partnerships, IPO
- 5. Q & A All



Your Support Team

MayLiza Baak, Amanda Pennings and Aleatha Cox -

Program/Proposal Guidelines, Budget

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Gabrielle Sugar and Lee Slinger –

Editorial Support

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Your Support Team

Sonya Brijbassi and Colin Swift -

Commercialization, IP and Partnerships

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ORF-RE Statistics

 Since Round 1 (2005), the Ontario Ministry has funded 203 ORF-RE projects for a total of \$761.4 million

 Overall average success rate province wide is 29%, with U of T success rate at 44%

ORF-RE Round 10

The ORF-RE Round 10 has two tiers, both open to all disciplines:

Tier 1 – RE ask \$200K - \$1M

Tier 2 – RE ask \$1,000,001 - \$4M

Submission Deadlines

Three-stage process:

- 1. U of T Internal Notice of Intent to RSO July 19, 2019
- Draft budget documents (internal budget spreadsheet, Section 9 including justification) August 6, 2019
- 3. Full Application
 - <u>Draft</u> internal deadline: **August 12, 2019**
 - MRA Required (http://aws.utoronto.ca/services/my-research-mr/)
 - Review & feedback within three weeks
 - Final internal deadline to RSO: September 16, 2019
 - RSO submission to sponsor: September 20, 2019



U of T Major Research Project Management Fund APPLY NOW!

 Initiative of the VPRI to enhance the competitiveness of U of T-led research funding applications

Eligible to apply for MRPM Stream 1

- Funding to support proposal development (including writer, admin support for budget development, etc.)
- Up to \$10K to be fully matched by division/department

Contact: Michael Hussey (<u>m.hussey@utoronto.ca</u>)

http://www.research.utoronto.ca/research-funding-opportunities/uoft-major-research-project-management-fund/

Sponsor Key Documents

ORF-RE: https://www.ontario.ca/page/ontario-research-fund-research-excellence

- Program Guidelines
- Full Application Form

U of T Key Documents

U of T Internal:

- ORF-RE Tip Sheet* (please keep within U of T)
 *Contains essential information that is not in the ORF guidelines
- Word version of application form (for within U of T only)
- Excel budget template (for within U of T only)
- Letters of support template (PSP and Institutional)
- FAQs (please keep within U of T)
- U of T ORF-RE presentation slides (please keep within U of T)

Funding Formula

- ORF-RE = direct operating costs + indirect cost (@ 40%)
- Normally 1/3 ORF-RE + 1/3 "institution" + 1/3 private sector (PSP)
- A "blended" funding proportion may be ORF-RE 1/3 + 2/3 institution/PSP/other
 - where there is less than 1/3 PSP, the partnership and benefit between the applicant and the PSP and/or other partners should be clearly outlined in the application
- Budget should be projected based on expected spending profile (i.e., not divided equally over # of years)

Budget Categories

- Salaries and Benefits: claimed in proportion to the time spent working on the project
- Facilities and Equipment: maximum of up to 10% of total direct costs
- Management and Administration: maximum of up to 10% of total direct costs
 - Management Salary
 - Management Other
- Other Direct Research Costs
- Required to have a plan for youth outreach/mentorship activities (may use up to 1% of the ORF portion to undertake annual youth science and technology outreach activities)



Eligibility

Eligible dates for matching:

- Cash = Sept 20, 2018 received if not spent
- In Kind = May 23, 2019 (project call date = earliest start date)

Eligible Costs:

- Personnel costs (salaries, stipends and benefits)
 - Limit of \$20K per grad student annually, \$50K per PDF annually from ORF \$; can top up with other matching sources
- Facilities/equipment, including
 - software, staff training, operations and maintenance (excludes indirect costs like electricity and insurance)
 - cost of renovations or alterations to existing space directly related to the research project
 - leased space
- Other direct research expenses
 - supplies, reagents, dissemination of research results, travel, seminars, consulting, safety related expenses
- Management & administration
 - audit (mid-term and final), salaries/benefits, office supplies, etc.

Private Sector Partners

- Cash and/or in-kind
- PSP can be
 - for-profit businesses
 - not-for-profit research institutes funded primarily by business
 - outside of Ontario is allowed
 - company portion of NSERC CRD, IRC, etc.

Researcher-owned sole proprietorships are not eligible and other relationships must be fully disclosed (more later).

Institutional Contributions

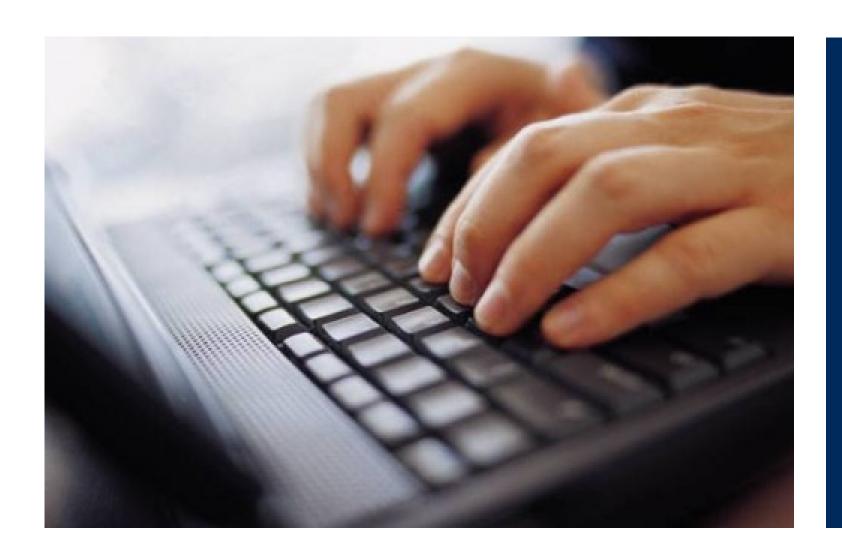
- Most commonly include Tri-Agency awards, PI time, CRC, research foundations,
 - e.g., NSERC CRD, IRC; Genome Canada (if not matched by ORF); % of PI time on the project
- Can include indirect costs totaling 40% of the direct costs of institutional cash + 40% of PSP in-kind direct contributions

Budget Info Session

July 23, Medical Sciences Building, Room 2173

To provide guidance on

- development of the budget, including justification
- eligibility of expenses and contributions
- completing the budget forms
 - U of T internal Excel spreadsheet
 - ORF-RE application budget section



Adjudication Criteria and Editorial Tips

Adjudication Criteria

Applications are reviewed against five criteria:

- Research Excellence
- Research Impact
- Plan for Achieving Impact
- Development of Research Talent
- Project Management and Governance



Adjudication Process

Step 1

Written expert review

Completed by three subject-matter experts



Step 2

Discipline Panels

Review all adjudication criteria (with emphasis on Research Excellence and Research Impact) and expert reviews



Step 3

ORF Advisory Board

Board makes recommendations to the Minister, who makes final recommendations

Application

Sections 2 – 10

- Adjudication Criteria (2 6)
- Other Project Requirements (7)
- Milestones and Deliverables (8)
- Project Budget (9)
- Expert Reviewers (10)

No more than 30 pages

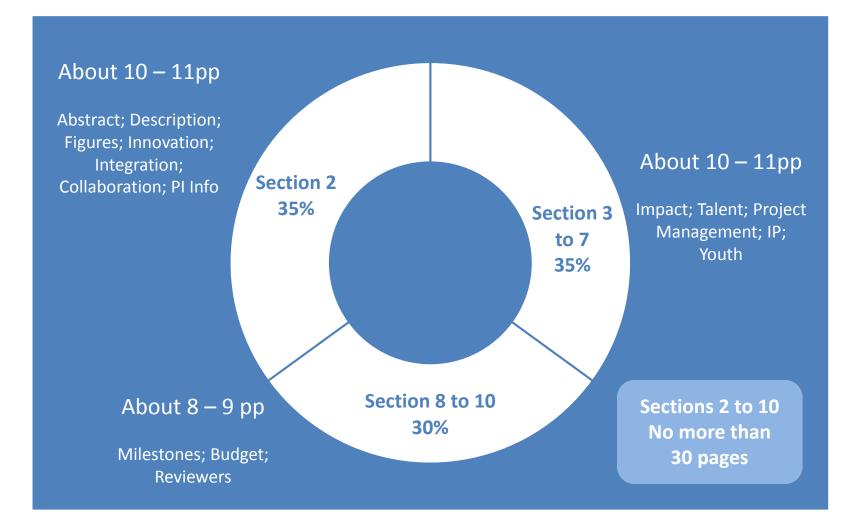
Section 11: Attachments

- Letters of Support
- CVs

No more than 30 pages

Application

- In this round, the allowed length of the application has been shortened.
 - About 50% less space than most applicants used in 2017.
- Previously each textbox was assigned a maximum number of characters. From that information, we extrapolated guidelines for length.



Section 2: Research Excellence

Suggested length: 10 to 11 pages

Assesses:

- Scientific merit
- Proposed innovation
- Credentials and appropriateness of research team
- Inter-institutional/international collaboration

Sections (many):

- Proposal Brief
- Proposal Abstract
- Proposal Description
- References & Figures
- Proposal Innovation
- Proposal Integration
- Research Collaboration
- Principal Investigator and Co-Investigators

Research Excellence

Proposal Description

- Key section: it should be about ¾ of Section 2 (or about 6 8 pages).
- Clearly define the research plan.
 - Hypotheses and objectives
 - Situate within current advances in your discipline
- Detail the research methodology.
 - Specific research activities (and their relevance)
- Discuss the unique features of research environment.
 - Why should you do the research?
 - Why should it be done now?
 - Why should it be done here?

Research Excellence

Section 2 also includes (among others):

- Proposal Innovation
 - What is new and significant.
 - How it will advance knowledge.
- Project Integration
 - Demonstrate that the various parts of the project are necessary and contribute to a unified whole.
- Research Collaboration
 - Identify and justify collaborations.

Research Excellence

Common Weaknesses

- Not enough detail regarding the methods or experimental approach.
- Not enough discussion of anticipated challenges (e.g., of a particular technology or approach, phase, or sub-project)
- The research design was not appropriate.
- Research was not convincingly ground-breaking or cutting edge.
- Research did not seem feasible.
- Additional academic collaborations were needed (e.g., with other departments or other universities).
- Not enough scholarly context.
- Did not include preliminary data.

Sections 3 through 7

Suggested length: 10 to 11 pages

Assesses:

- The remaining four assessment criteria
- Two additional requirements: Intellectual Property and Youth Outreach

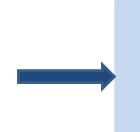
Sections

- 3. Research Impact
- 4. Achieving Impact
- 5. Development of Research Talent
- 6. Project Management
- 7. Other Project Requirements
 - Intellectual Property
 - Youth Outreach Plan

Research Impact

This section addresses three types of impact:

- Commercialization
- Economic Benefits
- Societal Benefits

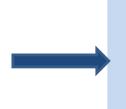


The second most significant section (after Section 2). Allot about 5 pages (or half of Sections 3 – 7)

Achieving Impact

Section 4

- A clear and tangible strategy for achieving Research Impacts; specific steps
- Engagement of private sector or community partners
- Engagement of end-users



The next most significant section; allot 2 to 3 pages.

[This will be discussed in more detail later in the presentation by IPO.]

Development of Research Talent

Overview

 Plan for Development of Research Talent

Total Number of HQP Trained



Demonstrate that you have a clear training plan in place.

- Roles of HQP in the research program should be clear. HQP should be meaningfully engaged.
- Outcomes of skills training should focus on the benefits for HQP themselves and for Ontario's labour market.
- Describe opportunities for experiential learning.
- Document your track record of HQP training.



Project Management and Governance

Overview

- Outline how the project will be managed.
- Include an image of the structure.

approximately
1.5 pages to
this section.

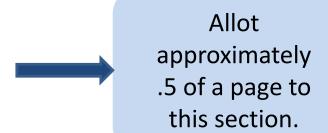
Include

- Governance structure.
- Roles and function of project manager and other key staff.
- Sustainability plan.
- Brief references to milestones & budget.

Other Project Requirements

Overview: Youth Outreach Plan

Successful applicants will be required to undertake outreach activities with elementary and/or high school students.



- You may use up to 1% of ORF portion of funding (not mandatory).
- If applicable, build on existing outreach programs in your department/division.
- Examples:
 - → science awareness organizations like Science Rendez-Vous and the Science and Technology Awareness Network
 - → libraries, museums, art galleries, heritage sites, and community groups
- Outreach activities must occur in every year of the ORF-RE.

Sections 8, 9, and 10

Suggested length: 8 or 9 pages

Includes unwieldy forms

Sections

- 8. Milestones and Deliverables
- 9. Project Budget
 - Annual Budget Tables
 - Budget Justification
- 10. Expert Reviewers

Overview

 There is a limit of 250 characters per milestone. Allot approximately 2 – 3 pages to this section.

Section 8

Milestones and Deliverables

- Milestones are specific and quantifiable.
- Use simple, non-technical language.
- Describe the significance of each milestone.
- Be realistic in setting milestones.

Editorial Info

Word Document Version of ORF-RE Form

We created a Word document for editing purposes. Put your text for each box in that document when submitting to RSO for the Internal Editorial Review.

Tip Sheet

Research Services has created a Tip Sheet.

It includes specific instructions and suggestions for each element in the form.

Researchers' Interests in Private Sector Partners

- Researcher-owned sole proprietorships are ineligible when researcher is the Principal Investigator
- Full disclosure is required re: any non-arm's length interest (including partial ownership)
- Such relationships will be reviewed on case-by-case basis
- The applicant must provide all information to satisfy lead institution's established policies on disclosures of commercial interests and conflict of interest guidelines

General Principles:

- The ORF does not claim ownership or rights to any IP resulting from ORF-RE funded projects
- IP rights are determined by the IP policy of the lead institution
- If applicants are from multiple institutions, the IP terms will be set out in the Inter-Institutional Agreement (IIA) between the consortium members

When Preparing Proposal:

 In accordance with the lead institution's IP policy, describe how ownership and disposition of IP generated from the project will be determined

- U of T policy on IP, inventions, and copyrights can be found at http://www.research.utoronto.ca/innovations-partnerships
- Where possible, address IP scenario with funding partners at the project planning stage
 - IPO will work with applicants and PSPs to negotiate suitable agreements
- If IP is resolved: Add the specific IP terms of the agreement
- If IP is not resolved: Use the following boilerplate (available on the tip sheet)

"Ownership of IP arising from the project will vest with the party whose personnel create it. In the case of joint development, joint ownership may be negotiated.

Participants in the project may be granted a royalty-free license to use intellectual property arising from the project for their internal research purposes. In addition, the University and the PSP(s) will enter into an agreement whereby the project IP may be commercialized by the PSP(s). The University standard Sponsored Research Agreement allows for the PSP(s) to have an option to use and/or otherwise exploit IP created from the project."

- Background IP remains the property of the owning party, and is not compromised by this agreement
- Foreground IP ownership is determined by level of creative contribution, according to patent law:
 - IP developed solely by PSP personnel is owned by the PSP
 - IP developed solely by University personnel is owned by the University/personnel
 - IP developed collaboratively by personnel of both parties is jointly owned
 - Inventors will file a complete Invention Disclosure to the IP Officer, describing creative and financial contributions to the invention.

- PSPs meeting contractual obligations are generally eligible for an option to the Foreground IP.
- IP Option Terms can include (as appropriate)
 - non-exclusive license (royalty-free)
 - exclusive license (usually royalty-bearing, but can be as negotiated)
 - assignment of University interest in Foreground IP (for a separate amount as negotiated)
 - University always retains rights to publication, internal use, and academic advancement of HQP

- Describe how the research will lead to innovation and/or commercial outcomes
- Describe the technology/product that will be developed during the funding program
- Describe commercialization potential of your technology
- Who are your commercialization partners?
- Are there any further steps before commercialization?
- What is the most likely commercialization route? (licensing vs. start-up)
- Consider timelines and next steps



Commercialization Strategy: Licensing

Industry Receptor <u>Already</u> Identified	Industry partner <u>not yet</u> identified
Why are they the most likely receptor?	Who are the most likely receptors for the technology? Why?
Are there any agreements already in place? E.g., SRA, MTA's, licensing	Do you already have a relationship?
What are the capabilities of the partner and how will they take this to market?	How will you connect with them?
How will this path benefit Ontario/Canada?	How will these potential partners benefit Ontario/Canada?
Does the letter of support indicate the above?	Could you provide any letters of interest?



Commercialization Strategy: Start-Up Company

- Do you have a platform technology or group of technologies?
- Model product development, fee-for-service, selling instrumentation
- Are you set up to do this? I.e. collaborations/partnerships?
- How will the company access the IP?
- Does anyone on your team have a track record?
- Who will be your management team? Experience?
- How will you seek your next rounds of funding?
- University Entrepreneurship Community Campus Linked Accelerators



Market Data

- Market overview and need
- Target market, characteristics, potential
 - 1. Canadian, US, European, global numbers from market reports (number of people with disease, number of patients, cost to healthcare systems, cost to patients, etc.)
 - 2. Company product sales
 - 3. Number of end users in potential market (e.g., how many labs across Toronto, Ontario, Canada, US, etc.)
- Make sure you have realistic numbers
- Describe the competitive landscape (including comparisons to similar products)

Market Data: Where can I get this information?

- Company partner
- U of T libraries entrepreneurship guide, market databases
 - http://guides.library.utoronto.ca/entrepreneurship
- IPO can be a resource for large grant applications

Research Impact: Economic Benefits

- Significance to Ontario
- Will your commercialization path
 - Improve Ontario's productivity and competitiveness
 - Create jobs (HQP)
 - Lead to strategic investments in human capital
 - Create a start-up company
 - Improve efficiency in private and/or public sector
 - Create new partnerships/collaborations
 - Brand Ontario in a specific area



Research Impact: Societal Benefits

- Improve health and well-being of Ontarians
- Improve/preserve environmental quality (including GHG reduction and sustainable use of natural resources)
- Reduce poverty
- Engagement and mentorship with youth
- Improve public policy
- Profound shift in the understanding of a given discipline
- Place Ontario at the forefront of a particular research discipline from an international perspective



Plan for Achieving Impact: End-User Engagement

- Engagement of private sector/public partners to encourage the adoption of innovative technologies, practices, procedures, and policy
- Who are the next stage recipients of the research and endusers? How will you reach out? (channels: IPO, MaRS, CECR's, Green Centre, institutes, industry)
- Next stage recipients can be industry, firms, trade associations, clinicians, researchers, non-profit organizations, community/public partners, community/patient groups, government and agencies, other institutions, etc.
- How will they have access to technology/product?
- Track record and commitment of recipients/end-users

Application Checklist

August 6:

 U of T internal budget Excel file, Section 9 of application (including justification text)

August 12:

- submit MRA
- Word version of full application (email to RSO)

September 16:

- PDF version of the complete application + attachments
- Excel budget