

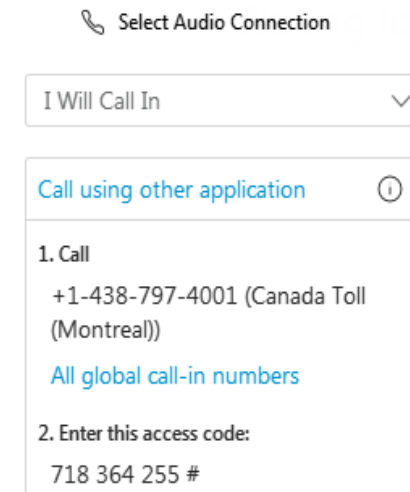
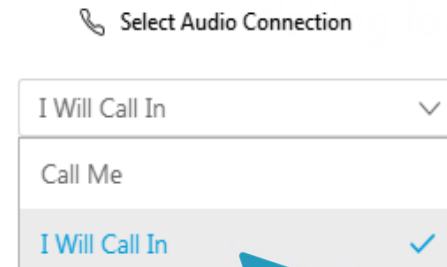
If you are experiencing **technical difficulties with the audio**, please connect with a **landline or cell phone**.

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- 1.
- 2.



- Follow the instructions
- **Use the Q&A box for questions**



New Frontiers in Research Fund
Fonds Nouvelles frontières en recherche

Special Call: 2021

Innovative Approaches to Research in the Pandemic Context

Applicant Webinar
August 2021



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Webinar Contents

1. Competition Timeline
2. Funding Opportunity Description
3. Evaluation Criteria
4. Eligibility and Roles
5. NOI Requirements
6. Full Application Requirements
7. Information for RGOs
8. Review Process
9. Questions and Resources



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Competition Timeline

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Competition Timeline

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Two-stage competition

1. Notice of Intent to Apply (NOI)
2. Full Application



Competition Timeline

Important Dates

September 21, 2021

- Notice of Intent deadline

October 26, 2021

- Full Application deadline

January 2022

- Results announced / Awards begin



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Funding Opportunity Description

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Funding Opportunity Description

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Innovative approaches to research in the pandemic context

The **COVID-19 pandemic** has had a documented **disruptive effect on researchers' ability to continue planned research** activities, particularly for community and field-based research.

However, it also provides a unique opportunity to explore **new directions in research methodologies.**

This could include developing and testing new approaches to community science, patient-oriented research, Indigenous-led research, and more.

Funding Opportunity Description

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Goal

- To accelerate the **exploration of new approaches** and the development and testing of **new directions in research methodologies.**



Projects must trial and test a **novel and innovative research approach** to continue work that was interrupted or stalled by the pandemic.

Projects must be **time sensitive** and demonstrate a new way of doing research in situations where conventional research methods could not be used due to COVID-19-related restrictions.

Funding Opportunity Description

Value and Duration

Value

Up to **\$200,000** for the direct costs of research

Applicants may **request up to 25%** of the value of the direct costs to cover indirect costs (**maximum total value \$250,000**)

Requested amounts should reflect the funds required to carry out the project and must be justified

Duration

1 year, with automatic 1-year extension

- Minimum of 80 grants – A proportion of awards will be reserved for projects led by Early Career Researchers.*

* proportion of grants reserved for ECR-led projects will equal the proportion of ECR-led applications received.

A project is considered ECR-led if both the Nominated Principal Investigator and the Co-Principal Investigator (if applicable) meet the Funding Opportunity's definition of an Early Career Researcher.



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Evaluation Criteria

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Evaluation Criteria

Fit to Program

Applications must propose the development of a **new way of doing research**. The planned methodology must be novel within the research community.

Projects **may have similar objectives** to applications submitted to or funded by other programs, but they must be new.

Projects must have **specific objectives attainable within the short term (2 years)**.

Disciplines

Social sciences and humanities,
health, natural sciences,
engineering, or multi / trans /
interdisciplinary

Evaluation Criteria

High Risk

High Risk, in the context of this call, refers to the **novelty of the proposed research methodologies**, which may include frameworks, methods and techniques.

Researchers are encouraged to think “**outside the box**” and develop novel methodologies that

- defy traditional research standards
- are applicable to the current and post-pandemic context

Applications will have to explain how the proposed approach is novel, as it relates to the latest methodologies and techniques.

It is recognized that innovation carries risk and that a number of funded projects may not meet their objectives.

Evaluation Criteria

High Reward

High Reward in this call is defined as the potential to **significantly advance** current methods or techniques, with a **corresponding impact** on one or more fields of research and the communities involved in or affected by the research.

Applications must explain

- **the anticipated impact** of the new research methodology;
- the communities or disciplines that may adopt it;
- the potential impact that greater engagement, community participation and community leadership will have on the communities and the research (if applicable); and
- why it is expected that the new methodology may continue to be used in a post-pandemic context, either as a standard practice or in emergency contexts.

Evaluation Criteria

Feasibility

Feasibility considers **the plan** and **the ability** to execute the activities. It includes elements such as:

- research challenge being addressed;
- knowledge, expertise and capacity of the research team;
- current research in the field;
- workplan and timeline;
- proposed approach, including GBA+ where appropriate;
- project's engagement and reciprocity with First Nations, Inuit and/or Métis peoples (for Indigenous research), where appropriate; and
- suitability of the research environment.

Evaluation Criteria

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI)

EDI is a core element of the NFRF program; applicants must clearly demonstrate their commitment to EDI.

Actions proposed are expected to:

- **remove barriers** and
- **provide opportunities** for the meaningful integration of individuals from all groups, including the four designated groups (women, Indigenous peoples, members of visible minorities and persons with disabilities).

Refer to the
[NFRF Best Practices in Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Research](#)





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Eligibility and Roles

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Eligibility and Roles

Applicant Eligibility

A research team **must** include one **Nominated Principal Investigator (NPI)** and **may** include one co-Principal Investigator, and any number of co-Applicants and Collaborators.

The NPI and co-PI (if applicable) must qualify as **Independent Researchers**.

The NPI's primary affiliation must be with a Canadian institution currently **holding full institutional eligibility** with one of the agencies.



Full- or part-time students, postdoctoral fellows or research associates are **not eligible** to apply as NPIs.

Eligibility and Roles

Applicant Eligibility

An **Independent Researcher**:

- engages in research-related activities that are **not under the direction of another individual**; and
- has an academic or research appointment that:
 - commences by the full application deadline;
 - allows the individual to engage in independent research activities for the entire duration of the funding, supervise trainees, and publish the research results; and
 - obliges the individual to comply with institutional policies on the conduct of research, supervision of trainees (if applicable), and employment conditions of staff paid using tri-agency funding.

Full- or part-time students, postdoctoral fellows or research associates are **not eligible** to apply as **NPIs**.

Eligibility and Roles

Team Roles

Nominated Principal Investigator (NPI)

- Responsible for the direction of the project and the coordination of proposed research activities
- Completes the NOI and full application on [Convergence Portal](#) and submits to their research administrator
- Assumes administrative and financial responsibility for the grant

Co-Principal Investigator (co-PI)

- Shares responsibility with the NPI for the direction of the proposed activities
- May access grant funds

Co-Applicants (co-App)

- Contribute to the execution of the project
- Various backgrounds and affiliations
- May access grant funds

Collaborators

- Can be any individual who contributes to the project
- Cannot be supervised by the team
- Do not have access to grant funds

Eligibility and Roles

Project Team Eligibility

NPIs, co-PIs and co-Apps:

- **must not** be affiliated with a government or for-profit company
- can participate in **only one Special Call: 2021 application or grant at one time***

*There are no restrictions on an individual who has or will apply for or is an award holder as an NPI, co-PI or co-applicant on any other NFRF grant (Exploration, Transformation, Global Platform).

For a proposal to be considered led by early career researchers (ECRs), **both the NPI and co-PI** (if applicable) must be ECRs

Refer to the [Eligibility](#) section of the Competition Overview



Eligibility and Roles

Exceptions

- **Federal government employee and adjunct professor** whose students are participating in the research project may be a co-applicant, with the use of funds limited to salaries or stipends and travel costs for the students.
- **Federal government employee and adjunct professor** whose contributions to the project do not fall within the mandate of their federal organization and will not be performed within the employer's facilities or with the employer's resources may be a co-PI or co-applicant.
- Individuals whose **primary affiliation is with an Indigenous government** are eligible to be co-principal investigators (if they are considered to be an independent researcher), co-applicants or collaborators, with eligible expenses limited to those related to the execution of the project that are not within the mandate of the Indigenous government.





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Notice of Intent Requirements

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Collection of Personal Information

Personal information is collected for the **purpose of program performance management.**

Self-ID data collected as part of the user profile is NOT shared with reviewers (or agency staff).



Please consult the [Data Collection policy](#) for more information



NOI Requirements

Notice of Intent Deadline

NOI Stage

The NPI must submit a NOI to be eligible to create and submit a full application.

NOI deadline for submission to NFRF:

September 21, 2021

Check with your RGO for **internal deadlines**.

The research administrator at your institution is responsible for submitting your NOI by **8:00 p.m. (ET)** on the deadline date.

Late NOIs will not be accepted.

An NOI cannot be changed after the research administrator has submitted it.

NOI Requirements

NOI Stage and Requirements

NOI Requirements

- Application title
- Participants
 - Nominated Principal Investigator and, if applicable, co-PIs, co-applicants and collaborators
- Language of the application
- Indigenous research
 - Indicate if the project involves or has elements of or related to Indigenous research
- Keywords (5-10)
- Fields of Research
 - Select the field(s) of research from the Canadian Research and Development Classification (CRDC) codes that relate to the proposed research.
- Summary of the proposal (maximum 2,500 characters)
- Suggested reviewers
 - Suggest a minimum of five (three experts from each primary field of research)

NOI Requirements

Summary of the Proposal

Maximum 2,500 characters

The Summary of the Proposal should:

1. include the objectives and summary of the research approach; and
2. highlight the novelty and expected significance of the work.

Once submitted by the RGO, **it cannot be modified.**

If your application is successful, this summary may be used for promotional purposes outside the research community to inform the government, media and members of the public who request information about research funded by the NFRF program.

NOI Requirements

Submitting the Notice of Intent

- Review your NOI to ensure that it is complete.
- From the **Finalize Application** section in the Convergence Portal, follow the prompts to submit the NOI.
- After you accept the terms and conditions, the status of your submission will change to **Received by Administrator**.
- Once your research administrator has approved and submitted your application, the application status will change to **Received by Agency**.
No changes can be made at that point.



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Full Application Requirements

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Full Application Requirements

Full Application Deadline

Full Application Stage

The NPI must have submitted an NOI to be eligible to create and submit a full application.

Deadline for submission to NFRF:

October 26, 2021

Check with your RGO for **internal deadlines..**

The research administrator at your institution is responsible for submitting your application by **8:00 p.m. (ET)** on the deadline date.

Late applications will not be accepted.

An application cannot be changed after the research administrator has submitted it.

Full Application Requirements

Full Application Components

Information from the Notice of Intent will automatically populate the Full Application on Convergence.

New team members (co-PIs and co-applicants) can be added at the Full Application stage. All team members must complete their Convergence profile.

Application components:

- Proposed budget
- Gender-based analysis plus (GBA+)
- Certifications, licenses and permits
- Equity, diversity and inclusion
- Research proposal
- Biographical information about the team
- Budget justification
- Literature references

Full Application Requirements

Full Application Components in Convergence

Proposed budget

- Includes total amount requested for direct and indirect costs of research. Contact your research administrator for direction on how much to request for indirect costs.

Certifications, licenses and permits

- Answer the questions as they relate to the proposed project.

Gender-based analysis plus (GBA+)

- Indicate whether GBA+ considerations are appropriate and have been integrated into the proposed research.
- If the team believes that no aspect of the research would benefit from a GBA+ analysis, a rationale must be provided.

Full Application Requirements

Full Application Components in Convergence

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

In this section, provide the following:

- I. information about the team's specific circumstances related to EDI, including identification of structural biases that could affect members of underrepresented groups (character limit: 2500);
- II. the best practices that will be applied for each of the following elements (character limit: 250)

- **team composition and recruitment processes;**
- **training and development opportunities; and**
- **inclusion**

For each, a brief explanation must be provided including: how each practice applies to the team's specific context; how it will be implemented; the expected impacts; and how the impacts will be measured (character limit: 2500).

This section must not include any self-identifying information about members of the research team.

Applicants may draw on **institutional EDI statements and policies**, but these **MUST be particularized to the fields and teams involved.**

Full Application Requirements

Full Application Components Submitted as Supporting Documents

Upload these application components to the portal as PDFs:

Research proposal (4 pages)

- Describe the research project, addressing how it meets the expectations, high risk and high reward elements
- Overview with workplan and timeline
- Approaches to Indigenous research
- GBA+-informed elements

Biographical information about the research team (1 page)

- Research team's knowledge, background and expertise, and planned contributions

Budget justification (1 page)

- Breakdown and explanation of the direct costs of the research project.

Literature references (5 pages)

Applications submitted in French may increase the maximum page count by 20 percent. See the [Instructions for Attachments](#) for formatting requirements.



Full Application Requirements

Submitting the Full Application

- Review your application to ensure that it is complete.
- From the **Finalize Application** section, follow the prompts to submit your application.
- After you accept the terms and conditions, the status of your submission will change to **Received by Administrator**.
- If you want to make **any changes at this point**, you may request that your research administrator return the application to you.
- Once your research administrator has approved and submitted your application, the application status will change to **Received by Agency**.
- **No changes can be made** at that point, and your application will not be returned to you.



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Information for Research Grants Officers

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Information for RGOs

RGO Role

RGOs can:

- **view** NOIs and Full Applications from NPIs at their institution (expired, in progress and submitted)
- **return** submitted NOIs and Full Applications **to the NPI**
- **forward** submitted NOIs and Full Applications **to the agency**

Before forwarding an application to the agency, **you will be asked to confirm:**

- that the participants meet the eligibility requirements
- that the proposed research project meets the eligibility requirements
- the NPI and co-PI meet the definition of early career researcher, if applicable

Information for RGOs

RGO Role

By forwarding the application, you will also be certifying, on behalf of the institution, that the NPI:

- is affiliated with the institution or organization
- has the necessary time and resources to carry out the activity
- will email NFRF-FNFR@chairs-chaires.gc.ca of any changes during the tenure of the grant, including changes in the composition of the partnership, such as the addition of new co-principal investigators, co-applicants or collaborators

Note: If the NPI's primary affiliation is not on SSHRC's list of eligible institutions, the institution may be required to sign the [Agreement on the Administration of Agency Grants and Awards by Research Institutions](#) with SSHRC, for this program only, prior to receiving agency funds.





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Review Process

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Review Process

Multidisciplinary Review Panel

Adjudication by the Multidisciplinary Review Panel and scored according to the [merit indicator matrices](#) for the selection criteria:

- equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI)
- fit to program
- high risk
- high reward
- feasibility

Excellent applications – those that meet the expectations as set out in this funding opportunity for **all criteria** – are considered fundable.

In the event that more excellent applications are submitted than there are available funds, a randomized selection process will be used to select the applications to be awarded grants, from among those evaluated as **Excellent**.



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Questions and Resources

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Questions and Resources

Resources

Contact Information

- NFRF-FNFR@chairs-chaires.gc.ca

On-line Services Helpdesk

- websupport@convergence.gc.ca
- 613-995-4273

Program Links

- [NFRF Website](#)
- [Competition Overview](#)
- [Reviewer Manual](#)
- [Evaluation Matrices](#)



Questions and resources

Questions?



Questions and resources

Video Capsule

[NFRFE 2020 NOI](#)
[Convergence Walkthrough](#)

