

NFRF Transformation Competition 2026 - NOI and LOI

Sponsor

New Frontiers in Research Fund (NFRF)

Program

Transformation

For More Information

Consult the [2026 Transformation Competition](#) [1] overview.

Description

The objective of the Transformation stream is to support large-scale, Canadian-led interdisciplinary research projects that address a major challenge with the potential to realize real and lasting change. The challenge may be fundamental, leading to a scientific breakthrough, or applied, with a social, economic, environmental or health impact. Projects are expected to be world-leading, drawing on global research expertise, when relevant.

Transformation stream grants will support projects that:

1. tackle a well-defined problem or challenge;
2. propose a novel world-leading approach that is different from the current state-of-the-art approaches to the issue;
3. are interdisciplinary, bringing different perspectives to the defined problem; and,
4. have the potential to be transformative, defined as the potential to create a significant and real change or impact — a noticeable leap or tangible breakthrough rather than an incremental advance.

Eligibility

To reflect the expertise required to deliver on the ambitious and interdisciplinary nature of the project, proposals must be submitted by teams. Teams must include a nominated principal investigator (NPI) and may include co-principal investigators, co-applicants and/or collaborators. Individuals who are not academic researchers are eligible for all roles except NPI.

The NPI must be considered an independent researcher at their primary affiliation — which is defined as the primary organization where the NPI is employed or appointed, or where they conduct research.

Funding Availability

\$144,000,000 over six years

Maximum Project Value

Transformation grants are valued at between \$2,000,000 and \$4,000,000 per year (including indirect costs) for up to six years. The minimum budget for direct costs of research is \$1,600,000 per year and the maximum budget is \$3,200,000 per year.

Applicants must request a budget (value and duration) commensurate with the objectives of the project.

Indirect Costs

25%

Project Duration

Up to six years

Deadlines

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

Type	Date	Notes
External Deadline	Tuesday, March 11, 2025 - 1:00pm	Program Webinar for EOI stage available on competition website [2].
Internal Deadline	Tuesday, March 18, 2025 - 9:00am	Expressions of Interest: Please email ailsakay@uoguelph.ca [3] with the following information:

- PI name

NFRF Transformation Competition 2026 - NOI and LOI

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Type	Date	Notes
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project title• Project summary (one paragraph)
Internal Deadline	Tuesday, April 8, 2025 - 9:00am	Draft NOI due. Please submit your NOI via the Convergence Portal. (OR-5 not required at this stage).
External Deadline	Tuesday, April 15, 2025 - 9:00am	Submit, via the Convergence portal, the complete final draft NOI by 9:00 AM. RSO will submit to the sponsor by the external deadline of 8:00 PM.
External Deadline	Tuesday, May 6, 2025 - 1:00pm	Program Webinar for LOI stage available on competition website [2].
Internal Deadline	Monday, May 26, 2025 - 9:00am	<p>Complete (but do not submit) online sections (a–e) on the Convergence Portal.</p> <p>Submit draft Research Proposal (10 pages) to ailsakay@uoguelph.ca [3] for review. This draft may also be shared with a panel for strategic input.</p>
Internal Deadline	Monday, June 16, 2025 - 9:00am	<p>Final Internal Deadline. Submit:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. LOI via Convergence2. OR-5 to ailsakay@uoguelph.ca [3] and

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Type	Date	Notes
		research.services@uoguelph.ca [4].
External Deadline	Tuesday, June 17, 2025 - 8:00pm	RSO will submit LOI to sponsor.
External Deadline	Tuesday, March 3, 2026 - 8:00pm	Full application due on Convergence portal (by invitation only).

How to Apply

For detailed timeline, process, and internal resources information, please see the [New Frontiers in Research Fund \(NFRF\) | Office of Research \(uoguelph.ca\) web page](#) [5].

For Questions, please contact

For more information, contact: NFRF-FNFR@chairs-chaire.gc.ca [6]

Office of Research

Ailsa Kay, Manager, Strategic Research Programs

Research Services Office

ailsakay@uoguelph.ca [3]

Alert Classifications**Category:**

Funding Opportunities and Sponsor News

Disciplines:

Health and Life Sciences

Humanities

Information and Communications Technology

Physical Sciences and Engineering

Social Sciences

Source

URL:<https://www.uoguelph.ca/research/alerts/content/nfrf-transformation-competition-2026-noi-and-loi>

Links

[1] <https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/nfrf-fnfr/transformation/2026/competition-concours-eng.aspx#6>

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[2] <https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/nfrf-fnfr/transformation/2026/competition-concours-eng.aspx>

[3] <mailto:ailsakay@uoguelph.ca>

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

[5] <https://www.uoguelph.ca/research/for-researchers/funding/apply/NFRF>

[6] <mailto:NFRF-FNFR@chairs-chaires.gc.ca>