

## 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.

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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
<b>External Deadline</b>	Tuesday, March 11, 2025 - 1:00pm	Program Webinar for EOI stage available on <a href="#">competition website</a> [2].
<b>Internal Deadline</b>	Tuesday, March 18, 2025 - 9:00am	Expressions of Interest: Please email <a href="mailto:ailsakay@uoguelph.ca">ailsakay@uoguelph.ca</a> [3] with the following information:

- PI name

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

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Type	Date	Notes
		<a href="mailto:research.services@uoguelph.ca">research.services@uoguelph.ca</a> [4].
<b>External Deadline</b>	Tuesday, June 17, 2025 - 8:00pm	RSO will submit LOI to sponsor.
<b>External Deadline</b>	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](mailto:NFRF-FNFR@chairs-chaire.gc.ca) [6]

### Office of Research

Ailsa Kay, Manager, Strategic Research Programs

Research Services Office

[ailsakay@uoguelph.ca](mailto: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

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### 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>