

NSERC Discovery Horizons Webinar – 2023

Date

Wednesday May 24, 2023 12:00pm to 1:30pm

Notes

[Microsoft Teams Link](#)

To join the session on the date and time specified, please use the link above.

Description

NSERC will be hosting a webinar for applicants and research administrators for the third edition of the [Discovery Horizons](#) program. A short presentation of the program will precede a Q&A session. For more information on the program, please visit the program website or contact NSERC, horizons@nserc-crsng.gc.ca.

Furthermore, NSERC has provided some answers to frequently asked questions about the program below:

- **Can applicants who hold a Discovery Grant submit a LOI to Discovery Horizons?**
 - Given the hyper competition seen in the first 2 years of the Discovery Horizons pilot (842 and 411 Letters of Intent received in year 1 and year 2) and the overall goals of the program, we are aligning the Discovery Horizons pilot with the Discovery Grants program in year 3. Active DG holders are therefore not eligible. However, if their DG expires in 2024 or is automatically extended without additional NSERC funds, they can apply to DH.
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- **Can applicants and co-applicants who have held a Discovery Horizons grant since either 2022 or 2023 apply to Discovery Grants in future years?**
 - The change in eligibility is forward facing only, meaning that grantees from the 2022 and 2023 DH competition are still eligible to apply to the DG program while holding their DH grant.
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- **Can applicants who are applying for a Discovery Grant in Fall 2023 submit a LOI to Discovery Horizons?**
 - Individuals can apply to both programs — i.e. submit an LOI to DH and a NOI to DG — but those invited to submit a full proposal to DH will have to choose the program to which they would like to submit a full application, based on the nature of the proposed research.

- **Can applicants who hold a Discovery Development Grant submit a LOI to Discovery Horizons?**
 - Yes, those holding a Discovery Development Grant are eligible to apply for Discovery Horizons.

- **Can co-applicants be from non-NSE disciplines (Economics, Sociology ...)?**
 - As long as the faculty members meet all eligibility requirements, they can be from any department. However, in the Discovery Horizons proposal, they must work towards advancing knowledge in NSE.

- **Does the application need to have all three components: (1) social sciences and humanities, (2) natural sciences and engineering, and (3) health and wellness?**
 - Discovery Horizons applications must be rooted in NSE and integrate elements from the social sciences and humanities and/or health and wellness.

- **How does the Discovery Horizons Program and the Tri-Agency Interdisciplinary Peer Review process differ from the interdisciplinary research funded under the New Frontiers in Research Fund?**
 - The New Frontiers in Research Fund (NFRF) was also created to fund interdisciplinary research in response to the Fundamental Science Review's recommendations. However, NFRF is focused on high-risk, high-reward, and fast-breaking research, supporting research that proposes novel interdisciplinary approaches that bring together disciplines that do not traditionally work together. Please see the [New Frontiers in Research Fund website](#) for more details. Discovery Horizons, as well the other funding opportunities reviewed by the Tri-Agency Interdisciplinary Peer Review Committee, will complement NFRF by focusing instead on investigator-initiated interdisciplinary research projects that are aligned with the core funding programs at each of the three major funding councils, including research projects that use existing interdisciplinary approaches.

- **Can I submit the same application to more than one of the funding opportunities participating in the Tri-Agency Interdisciplinary Peer Review Committee?**
 - No, applicants may not submit identical or essentially identical applications to more than one funding opportunity participating in the pilot of the Tri-Agency Interdisciplinary Peer Review Committee, NSERC's Discovery Horizons, SSHRC's Insight Grants, and CIHR's Project Grants. In addition, all applications must meet the eligibility requirements and guidelines of the funding opportunity to which they apply, including those related to multiple applications. As a result, it is important to consult the funding opportunity's webpage.
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- **How do I determine which funding opportunity to apply to in order to have my application reviewed by the Tri-Agency Interdisciplinary Peer Review Committee?**
 - Applicants should apply to the agency funding opportunity that supports the dominant research area of the proposal.
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- **Will interdisciplinary applications that fall entirely within the research areas of one agency be considered by the Tri-Agency Interdisciplinary Peer Review Committee?**

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- No, applications that fall entirely within the research areas of one agency should be directed towards existing committees or evaluation groups, based on the practice and criteria of each agency. For example, interdisciplinary research solely within the natural sciences and engineering, with no social science, humanities, health, and/or wellness components, should be directed toward another NSERC program, such as the Discovery Grants Program.

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