

SSHRC Impact Awards 2025

Updated Information

The link to the Expression of Interest document has been updated.

Sponsor

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC)

Program

Impact Awards

Description

SSHRC Impact Awards are designed to build on and sustain Canada's research-based knowledge culture in the social sciences and humanities. The awards recognize outstanding researchers and celebrate their achievements in research, research training, knowledge mobilization and outreach activities funded partially or completely by SSHRC.

Award funds are to be used for activities that promote and extend the work being honoured. In recognition of the crucial role that postsecondary institutions play as researchers' knowledge mobilization partners, at least 10 per cent of each award must be used to promote the recipient's research achievements. Individual recipients and their institutions may choose to devote additional funds, including a higher percentage of the award funds, to these activities.

Each institution may submit only one nomination for each award in a given year.

Gold Medal (\$100,000): The Gold Medal is SSHRC's highest research honour. It is awarded to an individual whose sustained leadership, dedication and originality of thought have inspired students and colleagues alike. The recipient's achievements in research must have significantly advanced understanding in their respective fields of research in the social sciences and humanities. The exceptional quality and impact of the recipient's research, and their ongoing efforts to share the results of this work must have greatly enriched Canadian society, and contributed to social, cultural, economic and intellectual life in Canada and/or internationally.

Insight Award (\$50,000): The Insight Award recognizes outstanding achievement arising from a research project funded partially or completely by SSHRC. It is given to an individual or a team of six people maximum (including the nominee) whose project has significantly contributed to knowledge and understanding about people, societies and the world. The project's research outcomes must have led to demonstrable impact within the nominee's fields of research and/or

beyond the social sciences and humanities research community. In the case of a team project, the nominee must be the project's principal investigator. If successful, this person will receive the award on behalf of the team.

Talent Award (\$50,000): The Talent Award recognizes outstanding achievement by an individual who, on April 1, 2025, holds a SSHRC doctoral scholarship or fellowship or postdoctoral fellowship. This includes, but is not limited to, a Canada Graduate Scholarship, Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship or Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship. The Talent Award is given to an individual who maintains academic excellence, has a talent for research and knowledge mobilization and has demonstrated clear potential to be a future leader within and/or outside the academic sector.

Connection Award (\$50,000): The Connection Award recognizes an outstanding SSHRC funded initiative to facilitate the flow and exchange of research knowledge within and/or beyond the social sciences and humanities research community. It is given to an individual or team whose project has engaged the campus and/or wider community and has generated intellectual, cultural, social and/or economic impacts. In the case of a team project, the nominee must be the applicant/project director for the initiative. If successful, this person will receive the award on behalf of the team.

Partnership Award (\$50,000): The Partnership Award recognizes a SSHRC-funded [formal partnership](#) for its outstanding achievement in advancing research, research training or knowledge mobilization, or developing a new partnership approach to research and/or related activities. It is awarded to a formal partnership that, through mutual co-operation and shared intellectual leadership and resources, has demonstrated impact and influence within and/or beyond the social sciences and humanities research community. For the Partnership Award, the nominee must be the project director. If successful, this person will receive the award on behalf of the partnership.

More information on the above mentioned awards can be found on the [SSHRC Impact Awards website](#).

Eligibility

A nominee must:

- be a citizen or permanent resident of Canada or a “protected person” under subsection 95(2) of Canada’s *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*, by the nomination deadline;
- be an active social sciences and humanities researcher or student;
- hold or have held SSHRC funding pertinent to the award category;
- be in good standing with SSHRC;
- be affiliated with an institution eligible to administer SSHRC funds; and
- if the recipient of an award, maintain affiliation with an eligible institution for the duration of the award

Nominees:

- cannot nominate themselves;
- can be nominated in two sequential years for the same award, following which two years must pass before they can next be nominated in the same category;
- can be nominated in only one category in any year;
- can be nominated in a subsequent year for a different SSHRC Impact Award; and
- cannot be a current member of SSHRC's governing council, a previous Gold Medal winner or a SSHRC Impact Awards jury member

To be eligible to administer an award, the institution affiliated with an Impact Award winner must provide SSHRC with a promotion strategy (two pages maximum) outlining a proposed approach for promoting and celebrating the impact and outcomes of the award winner's research initiative. Further details of eligibility can be found on the [SSHRC Impact Awards website](#). All award funds must be used within one year.

Prize

- Gold Medal (\$100,000)
- Talent Award (\$50,000)
- Insight Award (\$50,000)
- Connection Award (\$50,000)
- Partnership Award (\$50,000)

Special Notes

Each college is invited to submit up to two (2) nominations for each of the Gold Medal, Insight, Connection, and Partnership Awards to the Office of Research Services. Interested nominees should contact their Associate Dean of Research as soon as possible to explore nomination development. For full information on the nomination requirements, please refer to the [SSHRC Impact Awards website](#), in particular the section on "The Nomination Package."

Deadlines

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

Type	Date	Notes
Internal Deadline	Monday, December 2, 2024 - 11:59pm	If you wish to be considered for VPR nomination: 1. Discuss your interest in this award with your College Research Manager and Associate Dean (Research).

Type	Date	Notes
		<ol style="list-style-type: none">2. Complete the Expression of Interest document.3. Send the completed Expression of Interest document and a CV to ailsakay@uoguelph.ca and copy your College Research Manager. <p>Career interruptions due to parental leave, family care, extended illness or community responsibilities will not negatively impact the committee's assessment of a candidate's research productivity. These will be taken into consideration when EOIs are assessed.</p>
External Deadline	Tuesday, April 1, 2025 - 11:59pm	Nominations must have received institutional endorsement prior to submission.

How to Apply

If you wish to be considered for VPR nomination:

1. Discuss your interest in this award with your College Research Manager and Associate Dean (Research).
2. Complete the [Expression of Interest](#) document.
3. Send the completed Expression of Interest document and a CV to ailsakay@uoguelph.ca and copy your College Research Manager.

Career interruptions due to parental leave, family care, extended illness or community responsibilities will not negatively impact the committee's assessment of a candidate's research productivity. These will be taken into consideration when EOIs are assessed.?

If your nomination will be submitted by a nominator other than the VPR, please submit the

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nomination directly to the sponsor by the external deadline. Please also submit a copy of the full nomination and OR-5 to research.services@uoguelph.ca.

For More Information

Contact ailsakay@uoguelph.ca or see the [SSHRC Impact Awards website](#).

Alert Classifications **Category:**

Honours and Awards

Disciplines:

Humanities

Social Sciences

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