Petro-Canada Young Innovator Award – WESTERN & ROBARTS
FAQ’s – Frequently Asked Questions

Why are there two awards?
Since 2000, Petro-Canada has sponsored Western’s Petro-Canada Young Innovator Award, which supports the work of new researchers from all disciplines at the University. As of 2011, Petro-Canada will also be funding new researchers who work in a laboratory at Robarts Research Institute. The competition deadline for both awards will occur annually in February.

Who can apply?
Researchers, from the date of their initial offer of appointment at a university up to their 8th year on faculty, may apply (accumulative and not solely from initial appointment date at Western).

Specific to WESTERN Award
This award is offered to full-time faculty members from any discipline, and who hold an eligible research appointment.

Specific to ROBARTS Award ONLY
This award is offered to only full-time faculty (with an eligible research appointment) and postdoctoral fellows, who work in a laboratory at Robarts Research Institute. Postdoctoral fellows are not eligible to apply to the Western Petro-Canada Innovator Award.

Do I need to fill out an application?
Yes. The application and guidelines can be found on the Research Western website at http://www.uwo.ca/research/funding/awards/petrocanada_young_innovator_awards.html. The application form may be used for applying to either the Western or Robarts award and a ROLA proposal must accompany any application submission.

Do I need to fill out a ROLA Proposal?
Yes and it must be specific to the award applied for (whether Western or Robarts). The easiest way to complete a ROLA proposal for this program is to visit the Funding Opportunities page at http://uwo.ca/research/rds/ROLA/ROLAFrameset.html and under the grey PETRO-CANADA subtitle bar, click on “New ROLA” button for either the Western or Robarts competition.

Do I have to submit a Letter of Support?
Yes. All applications should include a Letter of Support for the research project. For all WESTERN submissions, the letter should be from the Dean’s Office or the Associate Dean of Research. For all ROBARTS submissions, the letter should be from the PI’s (or Postdoctoral’s) Director at Robarts.

Do I have to receive certification approval if awarded?
Yes. All submissions involving human or animal subjects or biohazardous materials must be approved by the appropriate Western review committee.

How much are the awards and when will I hear if I have been awarded?
Award amounts are determined each year and there is usually only one recipient per award. For 2016, Western’s award is $12,000 and Robarts’ is $6,000. Submissions are usually adjudicated within 8 weeks and results are distributed by email shortly thereafter.

What expenses are eligible?
All eligible expenses are disclosed under Budget of the Petro-Canada guidelines, which can be found at http://www.uwo.ca/research/funding/awards/petrocanada_young_innovator_awards.html.

For more information, email: internalgrants@uwo.ca