Western ✚ Research

Early Researcher Awards – Round 17

The Early Researcher Awards program helps promising, recently-appointed Ontario researchers build their research teams. Each award provides $100,000 and must be matched by an additional $50,000 from the researcher's institution or a partner organization.

Funds can be used for salaries, benefits, and essential and reasonable travel for undergraduates, graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, research assistants/associates, and technicians carrying out the proposed research project. Funds cannot be used for supplies, equipment, or facility operation.

IMPORTANT DATES	
September 15, 2022	List of referees submitted to Research Development for letter facilitation
October 24, 2022	First draft of proposal submitted to Research Development
November 24, 2022	Final application including all attachments, referee letters, and ROLA proposal submitted to Research Development Submit to smazumd2@uwo.ca
December 1, 2022	Submission of applications to Ministry by Research Development

ELIGIBILITY	
First terminal degree (PhD, MD, DVM)	Awarded on or after January 1, 2011**
First independent* academic appointment	Beginning on or after January 1, 2016**

*The first independent academic appointment is generally defined as a position where a researcher is capable of independently publishing, supervising, and applying for funding, but can include appointments outside of academia (e.g. in industry) where the applicant is conducting independent research.

The Ministry will consider eligible interruptions including required training (e.g. residency or medical fellowships) or parental leave, as long as these are **clearly detailed in the application form and the specific dates provided. Research associate positions and postdoctoral fellowships are not considered eligible interruptions.

If you have questions regarding your eligibility, please contact Research Development.

APPLICATION RESOURCES	
Referee support:	Research Development can help you select referees, reach out to referees, provide CVs and other materials to referees, and work with your referees to develop letters of support if notified by **September 15, 2022**.
Application support:	Research Development will provide detailed feedback on application content, CVs, and budgets if proposals are submitted by **October 24, 2022**
Sample application:	Research Development will provide a previous, successful ERA application on request.
Resources:	An application guide, presentation slides, referee guidelines, and other resources are available on Research Development's ERA site: https://www.uwo.ca/research/funding/external/ERA.html

EVALUATION CRITERIA

- Excellence of the Researcher (40%)
- Quality of the Research (30%)
- Development of Research Talent (20%)
- Strategic Value to Ontario (10%)

APPLICATION SECTIONS

Application form	Completed by PI and signed by the institution
Appendix A: Budget table	Must be completed and approved by faculty research officers/ADRs
Appendix B: Proposed research	Maximum 5 pages, excluding references
Appendix C: CV	Use CV following headings in ERA guidelines
Appendix D: Letters of reference (3)	Must include two **arm's length** referees and one non-arm's length referee (e.g. former supervisor, collaborator)

NOTE FOR ROUND 17

- Revised Intellectual Property (IP) content
- Added content on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
- Added content on Security Requirements related to potential economic and/or geopolitical risks associated with the project
- The Ministry is now using the Canadian Research and Development Classification Codes (CRDC)

MATCHING FUNDS

The applicant's faculty and/or institute must commit to providing $50,000 in matching funds. Western Graduate Research Scholarships can be used as eligible matching funds.

Applicants should consult with their faculty early in the application process regarding matching funds. Faculties (and/or Lawson) will complete a form provided by Research Development to confirm matching funds and their source.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION

By **November 24, 2022**, submit to Research Development:

- Completed ROLA proposal
- Electronic copy of the full application package by email to smazumd2@uwo.ca
- Three original letters of reference (can be sent to Research Development directly by referees)

Research Development will:

- Review application for completeness
- Assemble application package for submission and obtain institutional signature
- Submit your final application to MCU prior to the deadline

WESTERN ERA CONTACT

Sahana Mazumder, Program Administrator: smazumd2@uwo.ca