

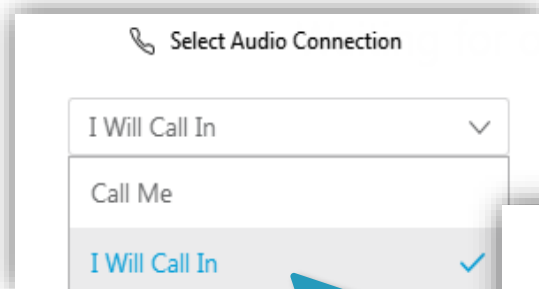
## If you are not able to hear me, please follow the instructions below

If you are experiencing **technical difficulties with the audio**, please connect with a **landline or cell phone**.

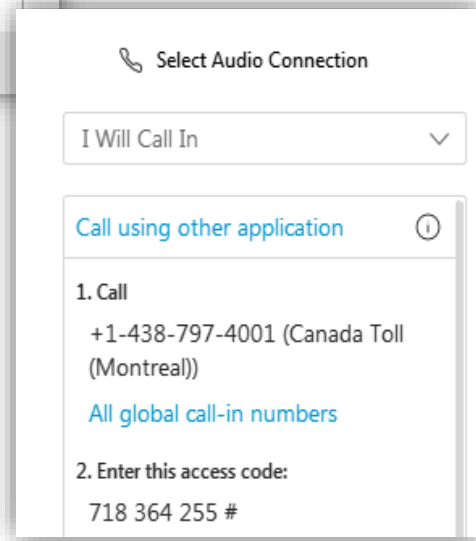
- Under “**Select Audio Connection**” choose one of the following:

1. “**Call Me**” or;
2. “**I Will Call In**”

1.  
2.



- Follow the instructions
- Use the Q&A box for questions**





New Frontiers in Research Fund  
Fonds Nouvelles frontières en recherche

# 2024 Exploration Competition

## Full Application

## Webinar for Applicants and RGOs

September 17th, 2024



Government  
of Canada

Gouvernement  
du Canada

Canada

# Overview

1. Funding opportunity description
2. Eligibility and roles
3. Review process
4. Full Application requirements
5. Information for RGOs
6. Questions and resources



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# Funding Opportunity Description

## 2024 Exploration Competition



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## Funding Opportunity Description

# Exploration Stream Objective

The objective of the Exploration stream is to support high-risk, high-reward and interdisciplinary research.

Funding is meant to support projects that:

- **bring disciplines together** beyond traditional disciplinary or common interdisciplinary approaches;
- propose to **explore something new**, which **might fail**; and
- have the **potential for significant impact**.

### Impacts

Social, cultural, economic, health-related, technological, national or global in scope.

### Disciplines

Projects led by researchers in social sciences and humanities, health, natural sciences, engineering, and which are **interdisciplinary**

## Funding Opportunity Description

### Value and Duration

**Value** → Up to \$125,000 per year (including indirect costs of up to 25% of direct costs)

Funds should be used primarily to support research activities

*\*Tri-Agency Guide on Financial Administration*

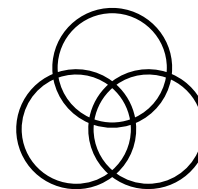
**Duration** → Up to 2 years

**Number of grants** → Minimum of 100 grants

A proportion of awards will be reserved for **Early Career Researchers (ECR)\***

## Funding Opportunity Description

# Interdisciplinarity / Fit to Program



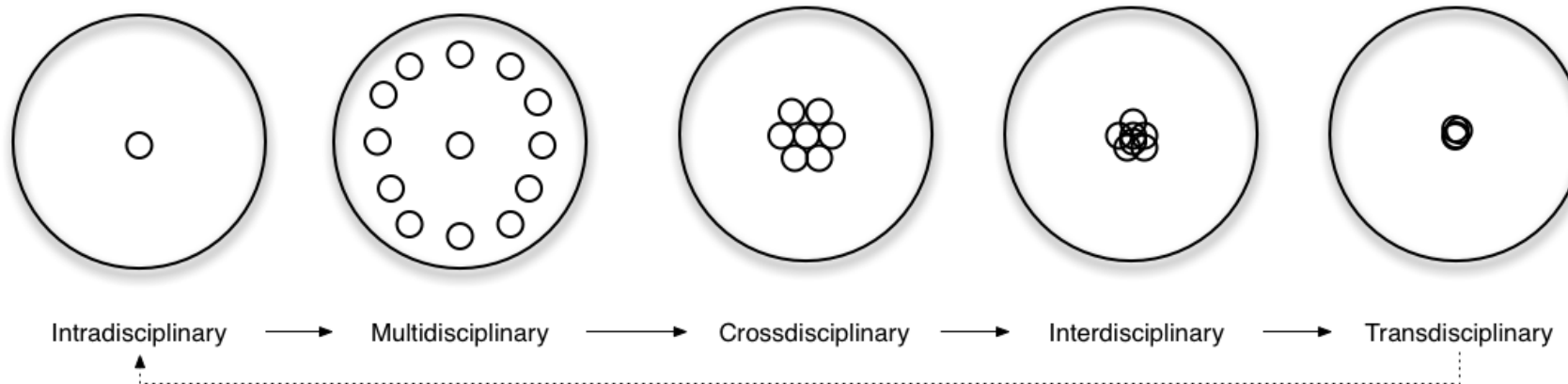
### Interdisciplinarity requirements:

- at least two different disciplines (**group**-level classification of the Canada Research and Development Classification codes CRDC); and
- the onus is on the applicant to explain **the novelty** of the interdisciplinary approach to justify the fit to program.

## Funding Opportunity Description

# Interdisciplinarity / Fit to Program

- **Multi**disciplinary: people from different disciplines working together, each drawing on their disciplinary knowledge.
- **Inter**disciplinary: integrating knowledge and methods from different disciplines, using a real synthesis of approaches.
- **Trans**disciplinary: creating a unity of intellectual frameworks beyond the disciplinary perspectives.



## Funding Opportunity Description

# Multidisciplinary versus Interdisciplinary Teams

### Multidisciplinary Teams

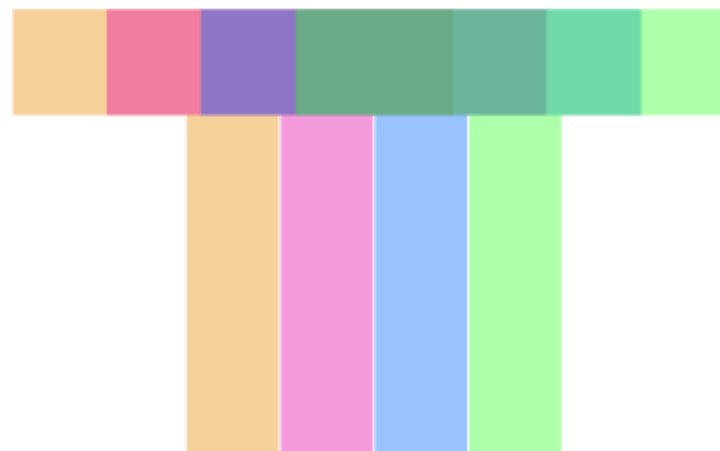
Each member operates as a part of a chain of responsibility



Members working in silo, by disciplines

### Interdisciplinary Teams

Individuals from different fields are expected to contribute ideas to the entire project stack



Members listen to and learn from others

## Funding Opportunity Description

### Competition Timeline

**August 27, 2024 8:00  
p.m. (EST)**

NOI Deadline (over 700 NOIs  
submitted!)

**November 05, 2024  
8:00 p.m. (EST)**

Full Application deadline

**February 10-14, 2025**

Multidisciplinary review panel meeting

**By March 31, 2025**

Start date of awards



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# Eligibility and Roles

## 2024 Exploration Competition



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## Eligibility and Roles

# Team Roles

### Nominated Principal Investigator (NPI)

- Responsible for the direction of the project and the coordination of proposed research activities.
- Completes the NOI and full application on [Convergence portal](#) and submits to their research administrator.
- Assumes administrative and financial responsibility for the grant.
- Is an Independent Researcher

### Co-Principal Investigator (co-PI)

- Shares responsibility with the NPI for the direction of the proposed activities
- May access grant funds
- Is an Independent Researcher

### Co-Applicants (co-App)

- Contribute to the execution of the project
- Various backgrounds and affiliations
- May access grant funds

### Collaborators

- Can be any individual who contributes to the project
- Cannot be supervised by the team
- Do not have access to grant funds



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# Review Process

## 2024 Exploration Competition



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## Review Process

# Overview

### Purpose:

- to identify the most meritorious applications to be recommended for funding by the multidisciplinary review panel

**Five members of the Multidisciplinary Review Panel review the application for all criteria to make funding recommendations**

Consult the [Reviewer Manual](#) for more detail



## Review Process

# Multidisciplinary Review Panel

Adjudication involves scoring according to the evaluation matrices for the selection criteria:



- equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) (pass/fail);
- interdisciplinarity / fit to program (pass/fail);
- high risk: 40% of overall score;
- high reward: 40% of overall score; and
- feasibility: 20% of overall score.

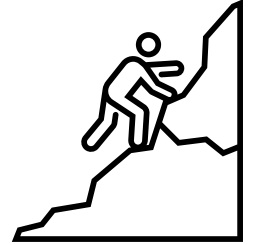
Each application will be adjudicated by 5 members:

- 3 with expertise in the application
- 2 provide non-expert perspective

Members have access to all content from the NOI and Full application stages

## Review Process

# High Risk



**High risk** can be defined by elements such as, but not limited to:

- proposing unique directions;
- challenging current research paradigms;
- enhancing understanding of complex and challenging issues;
- bringing new disciplines together with different perspectives, to use novel approaches for solving existing problems; and/or
- developing or adapting frameworks, methods and techniques.

## Review Process

# High Reward



**High reward** can be defined by elements such as, but not limited to:

- having an economic, scientific, artistic, cultural, technological or health impact;
- impacting and/or affecting large communities, or unique communities or subpopulations with the potential to provide lessons for other contexts;
- transforming and/or disrupting conventional thinking;
- resolving a longstanding issue or debate; and/or
- significantly advancing current knowledge, methods and/or technologies.

## Review Process

# Feasibility

While a focus on high risk may seem at odds with **feasibility**, risk must be related to the idea being proposed, and not to a lack of a concrete plan or inability to execute the activities.

Feasibility considers elements such as the:

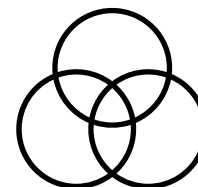
- research problem being addressed;
- knowledge, expertise and capacity of the research team;
- current research in the field;

- workplan and timeline;
- proposed approach, including EDI in research design **(formerly GBA+)** where appropriate;
- project's engagement and reciprocity with First Nations, Inuit and/or Métis peoples (for Indigenous research), where appropriate; and
- suitability of the research environment.



## Review Process

# Interdisciplinarity / Fit to Program



**Interdisciplinarity** can be defined by elements such as, but not limited to:

- Novelty of the Perspective → integrating two or more disciplines not commonly combined.
- Novelty of the Approach → application or adaptation of frameworks/ tools/ methods/ techniques from one discipline to solve a problem in another discipline.
- Project Design → designed from an interdisciplinary perspective.
- Fit to Program → pushes the boundaries of what can be funded through the agencies.
- The onus is on the applicant to explain **the novelty** of the interdisciplinary approach to justify the fit to program.

## Review Process

# Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Research Practice (EDI-RP)

EDI in research practice is a core element of the NFRF program and is comprised of **three key areas:**

1. team composition and recruitment processes;
2. training and development opportunities; and
3. inclusion.

For each of the three key areas, applicants must explain:

- ☐ what actions they will take;
- ☐ the outcomes expected; and
- ☐ the assessment planned.

## Review Process

# Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Research Practice (EDI-RP)

Actions proposed are expected to:

- **remove barriers;** and
- **provide opportunities** for the meaningful integration of individuals from all groups, including the four designated groups (women, Indigenous peoples, members of visible minorities and persons with disabilities).

Refer to the

[NFRF Best Practices in  
Equity, Diversity and  
Inclusion in Research](#)

[Resources for Implementing EDI in  
Research](#) (CSFG)





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# Full Application Requirements

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## Full Application Requirements

### Deadline

NPIs who submitted a NOI by August 27th, 2024 will be able to complete the Full Application using the Convergence Portal.

**Application deadline** for submission to NFRF:

**November 05, 2024 at 8:00pm EST**

Check with your **RGO**, who may set an earlier **internal deadline**.

## Full Application Requirements

# Full Application Content

- Information that was provided at NOI stage; and
- Any new participants (Co-PI's and Co-applicants)
- Any changes to: Collaborators, Suggested Reviewers or Reviewer Exclusions
- Details of: Budget, EDI in research design, Certifications, Licenses and permits, EDI in research practice
- Supporting documents (4) uploaded as separate attachments
  - Research proposal
  - Biographical information about the research team
  - Budget justification
  - Literature references

## Full Application Requirements

# Participants and Suggested Reviewers

- Additional members can be added e.g. co-PI (if one not already invited), co-Applicants and/or Collaborators (new members will need to complete Convergence profiles).
- Update the list of suggested or excluded reviewers (a minimum of 3 from each primary research field)
  - Be mindful of **conflicts of interest**
  - Identify appropriate **expertise**.
  - Ability to review with confidence (incl. language).
  - Experts familiar with the various disciplinary approaches in the interdisciplinary project.
  - Consider **diversity** in your selection (Canadian and international; private, government and public sectors; gender; under-represented groups; established, mid- and early-career researchers)

## Full Application Requirements

# Application Components in the Convergence Portal

- Budget Table
- EDI in research design
- Certifications, licences and permits
  - [Agreement on the Administration of Agency Grants and Awards by Research Institutions](#)
  - [Requirements for Certain Types of Research](#)
  - [Impact Assessment Form \(Appendix A\)](#)
- EDI in research practice
  - Must not include any self-identifying information
  - Consult NFRF's [Best Practices in Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Research](#)



## Full Application Requirements

# Research Proposal

### Maximum 4 pages

- Describe the project and address why it is:
  - High Risk
  - High Reward
  - Feasible
  - Interdisciplinary
  - EDI compliant
- State the objectives
- Describe the project:
  - methodology and design
  - work plan and timeline
- describe the approaches to Indigenous research (see [SSHRC's Guidelines for the Merit Review of Indigenous Research](#));
- explain how the EDI considerations in research design are integrated into the methodological approaches.

## Full Application Requirements

# Biographical Information

### Maximum 2 pages

- Provide an overview of the research team's knowledge, background and expertise
- Identify the anticipated contributions of each team member
- Explain how their contributions will be coordinated and integrated
- If self-identifying information is relevant, it may be included **only with the team members' consent**

## Full Application Requirements

# Budget Justification

### Maximum 1 page

- Provide a breakdown & explanation of the direct costs
  - provide sufficient information to assess appropriateness of requested resources
- Other resources can also be described, if necessary, e.g. funding, materials, equipment
- Breakdown of indirect costs is not required


# Literature References

### Maximum 5 pages

- List of references cited in the application

## Full Application Requirements

# Instructions for Attachments

- All documents must be converted to Portable Document Format (PDF) before they can be attached to the application
- Be mindful of [formatting requirements](#) (page length, font size, margins, no personally identifying information, etc.) 
- Applications that do not adhere to the requirements can be withdrawn

## Full Application Requirements

# Finalizing the Application

- Review your application and submit it
- Accept the Terms and Conditions
  - Status will change to Received by Administrator
- If changes are needed – ask your institution's RGO to return it to you
- RGO approves and submits to agency
  - Status will change to Received by Agency
  - No further changes can be made

## Full Application Requirements

# Collection of Personal Information

Collected for the purpose of program  
performance management

Self-ID data collected as part of the user  
profile is **NOT shared with reviewers**

Please consult  
[Data Collection policy](#)  
for more information





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# Information for RGOs

## 2024 Exploration Competition



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## Information for RGOs

# RGO Role

### RGOs can:

- view applications from NPIs at their institution (expired, in progress and submitted);
- return submitted applications to the NPI; and
- forward submitted applications to the agency.

Before forwarding an application to the agency, **you will be asked to confirm:**

- that the participants meet the eligibility requirements; and
- that the proposed research project meets the eligibility requirements.

## Information for RGOs

### **RGO Role**

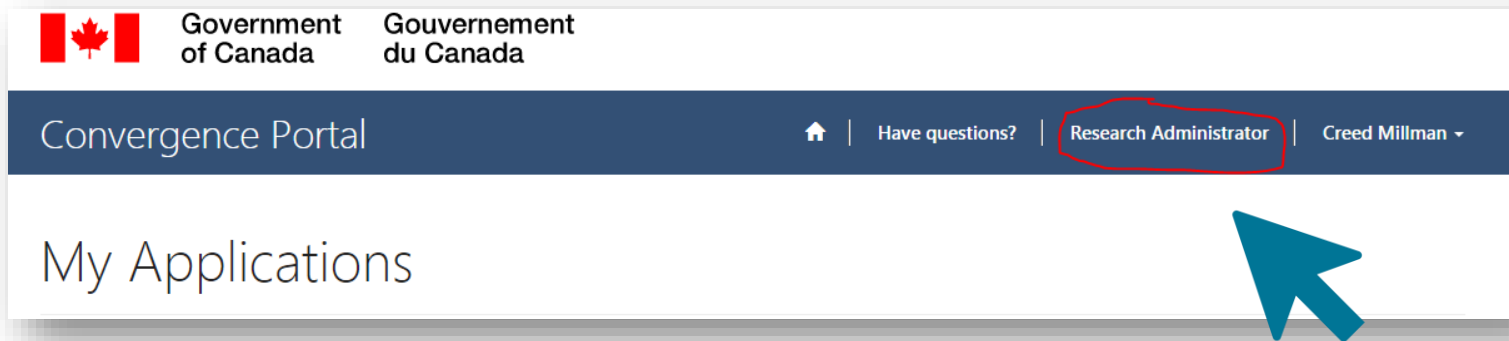
By forwarding the application, you will also be certifying, on behalf of the institution, that the NPI:

- is affiliated with the institution or organization;
- has the necessary time and resources to carry out the activity; and
- will email [NFRF-FNFR@chairs-chaires.gc.ca](mailto:NFRF-FNFR@chairs-chaires.gc.ca) of any changes during the tenure of the grant, including changes in the composition of the partnership, such as the addition of new co-principal investigators, co-applicants or collaborators.

Information for RGOs

## RGO Role

Use the “**Research Administrator**” button to access your institution’s applications



If you do not have this option, please contact [websupport@chairs-chaires.gc.ca](mailto:websupport@chairs-chaires.gc.ca)



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# Questions and Resources

## 2024 Exploration Competition



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Questions and resources

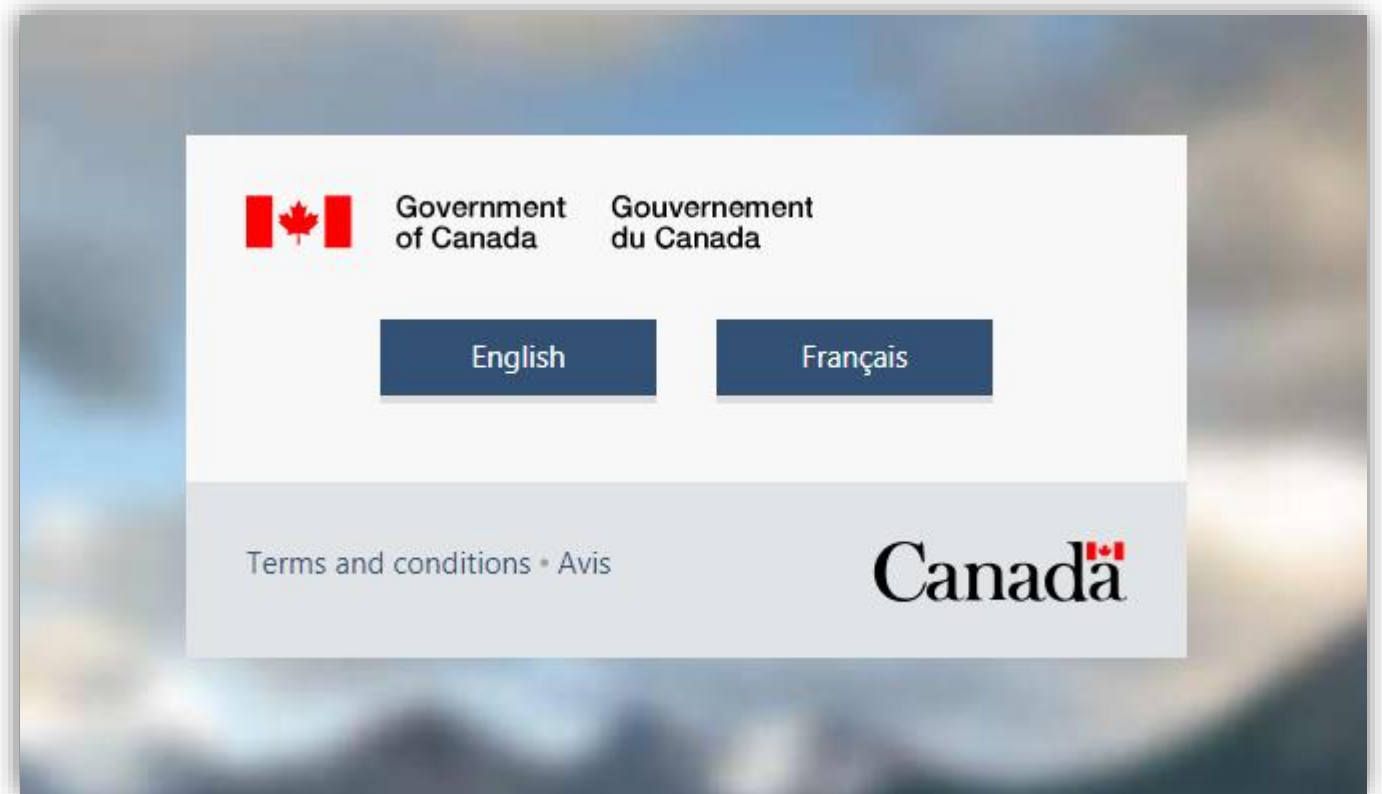
## Questions?



Questions and resources

## Video Capsule

[NFRFE 2020 Full Application  
Convergence Walkthrough](#)



Questions and resources

## Resources

### Contact Information

[NFRF-FNFR@chairs-chaires.gc.ca](mailto:NFRF-FNFR@chairs-chaires.gc.ca)

### On-line Services Helpdesk

[websupport@convergence.gc.ca](mailto:websupport@convergence.gc.ca)

613-995-4273



### Program Links

[NFRF Website](#)

[Competition Overview](#)

[Reviewer Manual](#)

[Evaluation Matrices](#)

