

# NSERC 2020: A Strategic Plan

## Northeastern Association of Graduate Schools

Kayla Zavitske, Program Officer  
Scholarships & Fellowships Division, NSERC

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# Outline

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- NSERC at a Glance
- NSERC 2020
  - Fostering a Science Culture
  - Launching the New Generation
  - Building a Diversified & Competitive Research Base
  - Strengthening the Dynamic between Discovery & Innovation
  - Going Global
- International opportunities



# NSERC at a Glance

- NSERC Vision:
  - to make Canada a country of discoverers & innovators for the benefit of all Canadians
- NSERC Mission:
  - be the focal point for discovery & innovation in the natural sciences and engineering for Canada
- NSERC Goals:
  - Advancing knowledge, seizing opportunities
  - Building prosperity through research
  - Inspiring the next generation
  - Showing the value of R&D investments
  - Increasing visibility of research

# NSERC 2020

## Where will NSERC be in 2020?

NSERC 2020 outlines five clear goals that NSERC will pursue to position Canada for the future:

- Fostering a science culture
- Launching the new generation
- Building a diversified and competitive research base
- Strengthening the dynamic between discovery and innovation
- Going global

[http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/NSERC2020-CRSNG2020/index\\_eng.asp](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/NSERC2020-CRSNG2020/index_eng.asp)

# Fostering a Science Culture

- Goal
  - Make science and engineering mainstream
  - Increase interest, awareness and appreciation of science
- Strategy
  - Take a national leadership role and expand science promotion and outreach efforts in Canada
- Outcome
  - The creation of a robust culture in Canada, that values science and engineering

# Launching the New Generation

- Goal
  - Enable early-career researchers to launch independent research careers
- Strategy
  - Review NSERC's programs with a view to providing more dedicated support to early-career researchers
- Outcome
  - Increased opportunities for early-career researchers to advance their careers and gain employment in research-intensive jobs

# Building a Diversified and Competitive Research Base

- Goals
  - Stimulate breakthrough research and research excellence
  - Build, mobilize and connect expertise across populations, institutions, disciplines, regions, and sectors
- Strategy
  - Provide the support and flexibility to pursue high-quality research that will promote diversity and interdisciplinarity
- Outcome
  - A world-class, diverse, and interdisciplinary research enterprise

# Strengthening the Dynamic between Discovery and Innovation

- Goal
  - Transform the dynamic between discovery and innovation and deepen the interactions between sectors
- Strategy
  - Build on current mechanisms and convene strategic partners
- Outcome
  - Researchers can work simultaneously in both discovery and innovation with ease

# Going Global

- Goal
  - Secure Canada's access to global knowledge and expertise
- Strategy
  - Contribute/gain access to world-class knowledge & expertise
- Outcome
  - Recognition of Canada's research contributions to the world
  - Increased participation in strategic international research networks
  - Increased foreign investments in Canada's companies

# Indicators of Success

- Increased awareness of science in the general population
- Increased participation in underrepresented groups
- Decreased average age to obtain a discovery grant or research position in academia or industry
- Increased impact of Canadian research
- Increased number of academics involved in industry collaboration
- Increased R&D investments by companies partnering with academics
- Increased number of professors and HQP with international experience
- Increased number of programs/awards with international deliverables
- Increased number of MOUs with other international funding agencies.

# International Opportunities

- Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships (Vanier CGS) program
- Canada Graduate Scholarships – Michael Smith Foreign Study Supplements (CGS-MSFSS) program
- Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships (Banting PDF) program
- Collaborative Research and Training Experience(CREATE) program

# Vanier CGS program

[www.vanier.gc.ca](http://www.vanier.gc.ca)

Value and duration	\$50,000 per year for three years
Open to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Canadian citizens</li><li>• Permanent residents of Canada</li><li>• Foreign citizens</li></ul>
How to apply:	You must be nominated by a Canadian Institution with a quota; Institutional nomination to NSERC in November 2016
Selection criteria (equally weighted):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Academic Excellence</li><li>- Research Potential</li><li>- Leadership (potential and demonstrated ability)</li></ul>
Other program details:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Tri-agency program (CIHR, NSERC &amp; SSHRC)</li><li>- Award must be held at the nominating institution</li></ul>

\* Contact your Office of Graduate Studies for the university-specific deadline

# CGS-MSFSS program

Value and duration:	Up to \$6,000 (covers travel, living, and other non-research related costs) for a 3 to 6 month research study period abroad.
Open to:	Canadian citizens and permanent residents of Canada holding an active CGS or Vanier CGS.
Deadline dates:	June 10 and October 10
How to apply:	Applications must be submitted through the University, within their assigned allocation.
Where can you travel?	eligible foreign universities or research institutions. <i>*The choice of location for your research study period abroad, and how it will further your research goals, must be justified in your application.</i>
Other program details:	- Tri-agency program (CIHR, NSERC & SSHRC).

\* Contact your Office of Graduate Studies for the university-specific deadline

# Banting PDF program

<http://banting.fellowships-bourses.gc.ca/en/home-accueil.html>

Value	\$70,000 per year for two years
When and how to apply?	By 8:00 p.m. (ET) on September 21, 2016. Applications submitted through ResearchNet
Open to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Canadian citizens</li><li>• Permanent residents of Canada</li><li>• Foreign citizens</li></ul>
Where can you hold the award?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Canadian universities</li><li>• Foreign universities (capped at 25% overall)</li><li>• Affiliated research hospitals, colleges and not-for-profit organizations with a strong research mandate and capacity</li></ul>
Selection Criteria (weighted equally)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Research excellence and leadership in the research domain</li><li>• Quality of applicant's proposed research program</li><li>• Institutional commitment and demonstrated synergy between applicant and institutional strategic priorities</li></ul>

# Collaborative Research and Training Experience (CREATE) Program

Value & duration	Up to \$150,000 in the first year and up to \$300,000 for up to five subsequent years, for a maximum of \$1.65M over 6 years.
Location of tenure	tenable <b>only</b> at NSERC eligible Canadian universities.
Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- At least 80% of the CREATE grant must be used for trainees' stipends.</li><li>- Up to 20 % of the CREATE grant may be used for training program structure, travel, dissemination of training materials and research results.</li></ul>
Deadline dates	May 1 - Letter of Intent September 22 – Application deadline (if invited)

# Questions?

