

People. Discovery. Innovation.
Les gens. La découverte. L'innovation.



Strategic Partnership Grants for Projects 2017 Competition Information and Requirements



Information and Requirements

Research Partnerships Programs
rpp@nserc-crsng.gc.ca



INNOVATION

ENGAGE

Connect
with colleges & universities
(Grant: Connect)

Engage
with colleges & universities
(Grant: Engage)

**Student Training in
Industry**
(Grants: IUSRA, IPS & ICREATE)

COLLABORATE

Collaborative R&D
with colleges & universities
(Grants: CRD, ARD, CU-I2I)

Industrial Research Chairs
at colleges and universities
(Grants: IRC, IRCC, CDE)

Strategic Partnerships
with universities
(Grants: Strategic Networks & Projects)
Strategic Initiatives
(Grants: CHRP, APC)

**Networks of Centres of
Excellence**
(Grants: NCE, BL-NCE)

Building College Capacity
(Grants: IE, ARTI)

COMMERCIALIZE

Idea to Innovation
for colleges & universities
(Grant: I2I)

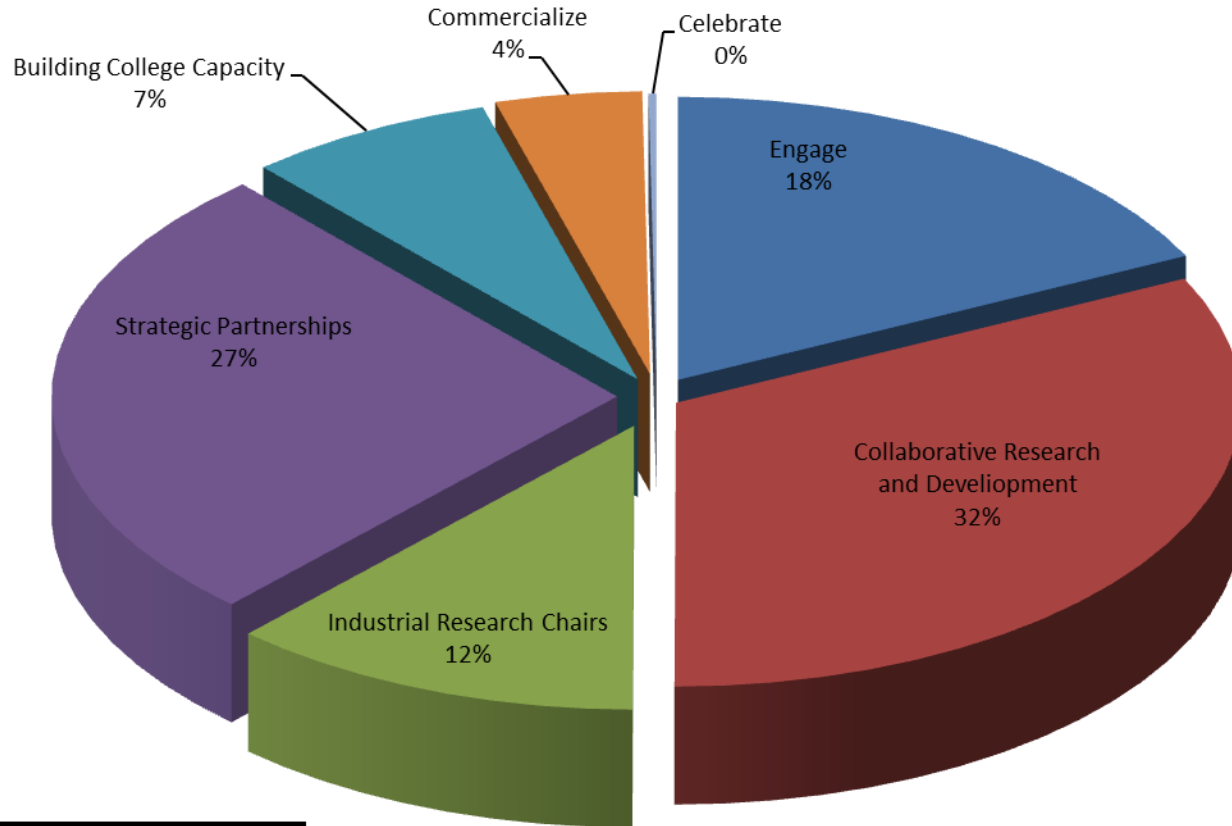
**Centres of Excellence for
Commercialization and
Research**
(Grant: CECR)

**College Technology
Access Centres**
(Grant: TAC)

CELEBRATE

**Synergy Awards
for Innovation**

Research Partnerships Budget 2016-2017



Total Budget: \$312.8M

Source: CCPP

Why Strategic Partnership Grants for Projects?

- NSERC will fund direct costs of a 3-year project [students, post-docs, consumables, equipment (purchase of major equipment items or systems is limited to a maximum of \$150,000 total)].
- There must be significant involvement from the partner BUT a cash contribution is not required
- Opportunity to take research beyond the university



Eligibility of Applicants

Applicant and Co-applicants

- Must hold, or have a firm offer of, an academic appointment at an eligible Canadian university, for:
 - A tenured, tenure-track or life-time professor emeritus position; or
 - A term position of no less than three years
- College Faculty can be co-applicants (see NSERC Website for list of eligible colleges)
- Co-applicants outside NSE must meet NSERC eligibility requirements



Strategic Partnership Grants for Projects (SPG-P)

Objective

To increase research and training in **targeted areas** that could strongly influence Canada's economy, society and/or environment **within the next 10 years.**



Expected Results

- New knowledge/technology with strong potential to strengthen Canada's industrial base, generate wealth, create employment and/or Canadian public policy
- Highly qualified personnel trained in the target areas
- Transfer of knowledge/technology to Canadian-based organizations that are well positioned to apply the results.



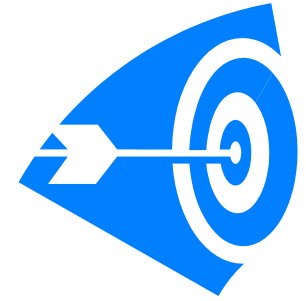
Requirements

The project must:

- Fall within one of the target areas
- Have well-defined objectives, scope and duration (1-3 years)
- Have one or more supporting organizations, actively involved in all stages of the project and that can apply the results
 - In-kind contributions are required, but cash is not



Four Target Areas



Priority research topics within:

- Advanced Manufacturing
- Environment and Agriculture
- Information and Communications Technologies
- Natural Resources and Energy

Please note: Health and related life sciences and technologies are covered under the [Collaborative Health Research Projects \(CHRP\) Program](#)



Advanced Manufacturing

- Automation (including Robotics)
- Lightweight Materials and Technologies
- Additive Manufacturing
- Nanotechnology
- Quantum Materials



Environment and Agriculture

- Water: Health, Energy, Security
- Biotechnology
- Aquaculture
- Food and Food Systems
- Climate Change Research and Technology
- Disaster Mitigation



Information and Communications Technologies

- Communication Networks and Services
- Internet of Things / Machine-to-Machine Systems
- Advanced Data Management and Analytics
- Cybersecurity
- Human Interaction with Digital Media
- Quantum Computing



Focused Research

- There are 4-6 priority research topics identified within each target area
 - At least 80% of budget is used to fund projects in these research topics
- Projects that fall outside of the research topics but fit the context of the target area are termed “Exceptional Opportunities outside the research topics” (up to 20% of budget)

Research outside the 4 priority target areas will not be considered for funding



Supporting Organizations

Do not qualify as the only supporting organization:

- NGO's
- Government research labs
- Foreign research institutions
- Venture capitalists
- Potential customers
- Hospitals and clinics



Supporting Organizations (continued)

A supporting organization must also:

- Have a demonstrated interest in the project (letters of support, in-kind contributions)
- Be involved in all stages of the research (help to develop the proposal, interact with researchers and students, provide input to the project)
- Validate the results of the research
- Provide guidance concerning exploitation of results



Supporting Organizations (continued)

- Refer to [Guidelines for Organizations Participating in Research Partnerships Programs](#)
- **Note:** NSERC funds cannot flow to a supporting organization in any way (e.g., cannot purchase equipment or supplies (even at a discount) from the supporting organization)



Top Ten Tips

1. Start early!
2. Take full advantage of the Research Office and NSERC staff. Their advice is invaluable.
3. Make the application comprehensible to people outside your field and position your project within the current literature/state of the art - Literature review should not be Task 1 of project!
4. Pay full attention to all aspects of the application, not just the research proposal (i.e., budget justification, in-kind contributions, relationship to other support).
5. Make sure the partner is going to benefit actively from the research and not just be an end user.



Top Ten Tips (continued)

6. Explain the fit to the target area clearly.
7. Ensure that all partners and co-applicants are fully involved.
8. Understand how your proposal will be evaluated (all Strategic evaluation criteria are equally weighted!).
9. Explain both the applied and basic aspects of the project.
10. Have a peer review your proposal against the evaluation criteria.



Conclusion

- SPG-P fund projects, not programs of research
- Provides opportunity for university researchers to carry out innovative science and engineering work with potential for commercialization
- Provides opportunity to introduce students to potential employers and for non-academic partners to access scientific expertise and specialized research equipment



Useful Links

- [Selection Criteria](#)
- [Use of Grant funds](#)
- [Policy on Intellectual Property](#)



