



2020 RAC Open

The 2020 Compute Canada [Resource Allocation Competitions](#) (RAC) are now open. These competitions give you the opportunity to access more compute, storage and cloud resources. Applications submitted are evaluated for both technical feasibility and scientific excellence. The competitions are open to researchers based at Canadian academic institutions who are eligible to apply for funding to the federal granting agencies. You should consider applying if you need at least:

- CPU - 50 Core years; or
- GPU - 10 GPU years; or
- Project storage - 10 TB; or
- Nearline storage - 10 TB; or
- Cloud storage - 10 TB; or
- Cloud Compute - 80 VCPUs; or
- Persistent Cloud - 10 VCPUs.

Proposals must be submitted by 7 November, 2019, at 11:59 PM (EST). Please note that the scientific evaluation criteria have changed, so the competition guides should be reviewed carefully. You

can also view [your past resource usage](#). Q&A sessions will be held on 8 October (English) and 9 October (French). [Details](#) As always, ACENET staff will be happy to help you and can be reached at support@ace-net.ca.



2019 Visualize This!

Now in its fourth year, the [Compute Canada Visualize This!](#) national challenge celebrates the innovative ways visualization can help researchers explore datasets and answer important scientific questions. It's a way to challenge your creativity, experiment with new visualization tools, and contribute to the growth of data visualization in Canada!

Use your own dataset, or our sample dataset, to build a unique and innovative visualization for our panel of judges to review. Prizes will be awarded to the best submissions.

This year's Challenge is focusing on processing and visualizing large datasets with parallel rendering. Any dataset that is too large to be rendered on a standalone desktop/workstation would qualify for this competition.

The competition is open to anyone affiliated with a Canadian post-secondary institution (college or university), or research organization, in any research area. **Deadline for entries is 20 November.** [More info](#)



Upcoming Webinars

Accelerating Biomedical Chip Design with AI, 1 October, 3:00-4:00pm Atlantic. Note that this webinar is being offered by NVIDIA at no charge. [Information and register](#)

Introduction to scalable computing with Dask in Python, 9 October, 1:00-2:00pm Atlantic [Information and register](#)

Working With the Python DASK Library, 16 October, 2:00-3:00pm Atlantic [Information and register](#)

File Access Control Approaches and Best Practices, 30 October, 2:00-3:00pm Atlantic [Information and register](#)

Building a Bioinformatics QC Pipeline, 13 November, 2:00-3:00pm [Information and register](#)

Tips & Tools for Mining Twitter Data for Research, 27 November, 2:00-3:00pm Atlantic [Information and register](#)

Geospatial Analysis with High Performance Computing (HPC), 11 December, 2:00-3:00pm Atlantic [Information and register](#)



Support for New and Experienced Users

Weekly Drop-in at MUN

[Oliver Stueker](#), our Research Consultant at MUN, hosts an informal weekly digital research workshop Fridays from 1:00-2:00pm in room C-4011 of the Chemistry-Physics building. This is a chance to hear a short topical presentation and to bring along your questions, challenges, or share your own experiences. If you are new, not so new, or just thinking about how to improve your workflow efficiency through digital research, this is a great opportunity to connect with others.

RBarMUN

RBar is a weekly scientific programming study group held on Mondays, where R issues are tackled in a cooperative group setting. People from all disciplines, experience and skill levels are welcome, including undergraduates, graduates, faculty and researchers. *Note that the start time and location can vary. Be sure to check the website for up to date information.* [More info](#)



ACENET Office Hours at St. FX

Our Research Consultant at St. FX, [Gurpreet Matharoo](#), is available for in-person consultations on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 12:00-1:00pm in his office, Room 1021, Physical Sciences Complex (PSC). Drop by if you're a current user with questions or difficulties, or would just like to learn more about how digital research might help you with complex modelling, handling terabytes of data, or creating new tools or platforms in the cloud.

PyBaR

PyBaR is an informal co-working group organized by MERIDIAN, which provides students and researchers at Dalhousie with a space to discuss data analysis problems and computational challenges related to their research. PyBaR focuses on (but is not limited to) the programming languages Python and R, and is open to students and researchers at all levels and from all scientific fields. Bring your problems, or just come to network or help. Fridays, 3:30-4:30pm, Dalhousie U-Club Bar. [More info](#)



Research Consultant in HSS Needed!

ACENET is looking for a Research Consultant in Humanities & Social Sciences (HSS) to join our team! This person will work with researchers in Atlantic Canada and nationally, providing expertise, digital research support, liaison, and developing and delivering training sessions. They will also work with the Compute Canada national HSS team to create a vision of coordinated digital research support and to design programs for the community. The position is located at St. FX University in Antigonish, NS. **Closing date to apply is 1:00pm Atlantic on 8 October.** [More info](#)



National Consultations Happening

As many of you know, following the end of our current funding cycle in March 2022, the Compute Canada project will become part of a larger federal digital research infrastructure program under the auspices of Innovation, Science and Economic Development (ISED). A new

not-for-profit organization, with an expanded mandate that includes research data management, advanced research computing and research software, is in the process of being created to coordinate funding and strategic directions for national activities. An interim Applicant Board and several key interim positions are now in place.

The Applicant Board will be conducting researcher and stakeholder consultations across the country to address a number of outstanding governance issues prior to the establishment of the inaugural board for the new organization in early 2020. These consultations are the next step towards implementation of the Digital Research Infrastructure (DRI) Contribution program with approved funding from the federal Minister of Science of up to \$375 million.

Researchers and stakeholders are invited to the session taking place in Halifax on **3 October from 9:30am-12:00pm**. The location, once determined, will be posted at <http://engagedri.ca/>. If you are unable to make it in person, you can provide comments to info@engagedri.ca.



Events

CANARIE 2019 National Summit

1-2 October, Montreal

Today's focus on cybersecurity inundates organizations and individuals alike. Keeping track of the latest threats, understanding the role governments, institutions and individuals play, and deciphering conflicting information on how to protect critical infrastructures, personal information, and strategic assets is a challenge — but don't despair! The 2019 CANARIE Summit will break down these issues and challenge what we think it takes to stay secure. [More info](#)

DEFSEC 2019

1-3 October, Halifax

DEFSEC Atlantic is a major networking opportunity for the Aerospace, Defence and Security industries – the second largest of its kind in Canada. Focused on showcasing Atlantic Canadian opportunities, the show's worldwide reach creates partnership potential for all attendees. Incorporating elements of both a trade show and a defence procurement conference, it provides access to “the right

people” in an engaging and professional setting. All attendees have opportunities, through the B2B/B2G program, social events and expert panel discussions, to interact with all levels of defence, industry and government participants. [More info](#)



Energy3: Canada's Energy Conference

16-18 October, Halifax

ACENET is proud to be participating in this all-energy event organized by Marine Renewables Canada, The Maritimes Energy Association, and the Offshore Energy Research Association.

Recognizing the interconnectedness of the energy sector and the value of bringing together diverse perspectives from industry, government, researchers, and stakeholders, energy3 is designed to ignite important conversations, thought-provoking debates, and new collaborations. It will provide a forum to discuss the future of Canada’s energy sector in the regional, national and global context – highlighting industry success stories, enabling research and development, and pathways for future growth.

The conference program will profile all segments of the energy industry in a more diverse context breaking down its underpinning complexity, providing clarity around potential opportunities while outlining associated economic and environmental benefits. [More info](#)

