



Social Sciences and Humanities
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en
sciences humaines du Canada

SSHRC  CRSH

Overview of the Insight Development Grants

November 2014



Insight Grants Program: Objectives

- ❖ build knowledge and understanding from disciplinary, interdisciplinary and/or cross-sector perspectives through support for the best researchers;
- ❖ support new approaches to research on complex and important topics, including those that transcend the capacity of any one scholar, institution or discipline;
- ❖ provide a high-quality research training experience for students;
- ❖ fund research expertise that relates to societal challenges and opportunities; and
- ❖ mobilize research knowledge, to and from academic and non-academic audiences, with the potential to lead to intellectual, cultural, social and economic influence, benefit and impact.

Insight Development Grants (IDG)

Objectives:

- ❖ To support research in its initial stages conducted by emerging and/or established scholars
- ❖ To enable the development of new research questions, as well as experimentation with new methods, theoretical approaches, and/or ideas
- ❖ may include case studies, pilot initiatives, and critical analyses of existing research

IDG: Features

- ❖ **Applicant:** Principal investigator alone or with a team
- ❖ International co-applicants
- ❖ **Duration:** 1 to 2 years
- ❖ **Value:** Up to \$75,000
- ❖ **Funding:** Separate budgetary envelope for Emerging Scholars (minimum 50% of overall envelope)
- ❖ **Application process:** One-stage application

IDG Applicants: Emerging Scholars

- ❖ **Emerging Scholars** must demonstrate that they have not applied successfully, as principal investigator or project director, for a grant through any of SSHRC's funding opportunities.

And they must meet at least **one** of the following criteria:
 - have completed their highest degree no more than five years before the competition deadline (SSHRC considers only the date of completion of the first doctorate); **or**
 - have held a tenured or tenure-track university appointment for less than five years; **or**
 - have held a university appointment, but never a tenure-track position (in the case of institutions that offer tenure-track positions); **or**
 - have had their careers significantly interrupted or delayed for family reasons.

- ❖ **Emerging Scholar Research**
 - grants are developmental in the sense of their offering a chance for emerging scholars to develop their career.
 - research can be but need not be wholly new - extension of thesis research is possible.

IDG Applicants: Established Scholars

❖ Established Scholars

- Have either established or had the time and opportunity to establish a record of research achievement.

❖ Established Scholar Research

- Novelty of research more significant for established scholars. Must clearly demonstrate how proposed research differs from previous research.
- Enables them to conduct work in new areas, in new ways, to do pilot studies, etc., without being penalized for lack of experience in the new area.
- Does not support ongoing research by established scholars.

IDG Evaluation Criteria

Challenge:

The aim and importance of the endeavour (50%)

Feasibility:

The plan to achieve excellence (20%)

Capability:

The expertise to succeed (30%)*

* No weighting of sub-criteria

*Lower weighting of CV compared to Insight Grants



IDG Scoring Table

For the February 2015 Insight Development Grants competition, SSHRC is introducing a new six-point evaluation scale.

Adjudication committee members assign a rating for each of the three criteria (Challenge, Feasibility, Capability), based on the following table. The descriptors are as follows:

Excellent

Very good

Good

Satisfactory

Moderate

Unsatisfactory

IDG Adjudication Committees

- ❖ Multidisciplinary/Priority area committees.
- ❖ Number of committees is based on number of applications received.
- ❖ Three Readers, assigned based on expertise and suitability.
- ❖ Optional cross-committee evaluation for multidisciplinary applications (when 1 page justification submitted by applicant).

IDG Detailed Description

Guidelines:

- ❖ Provide clear and precise questions and objectives: what do you want to do and why? Why is it important?
 - ❖ Include complete literature review that serves to situate what you will be doing.
 - ❖ Outline theoretical or conceptual framework.
 - ❖ Ensure methodology makes sense in terms of objectives and personnel involved.
 - ❖ Explain all key terms and concepts.
- *Important: all committees are multidisciplinary.

Adjudication Process

- ❖ Calibration exercise
- ❖ preliminary scores submitted by readers
- ❖ Preliminary ranking established - emerging and established scholars ranked separately
- ❖ Flagging process: for applications ranked in bottom 30%
- ❖ Committee discussion
- ❖ Final ranking

IDG Feedback Provided

❖ Applicants receive:

- Result letter
- Notice of Decision (if successful)
- Committee Evaluation form (where applicable);
- Committee statistics.

IDG Deadline

- ❖ Insight Development Grants - February 1, 2015 (8 p.m. Eastern)
- ❖ Internal university deadline - contact your research office!

Contacts and Useful information

- ❖ **Multiple Applications Regulation:**
http://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/policies-politiques/multiple_apps-demandes_multiples-eng.aspx
- ❖ **Institutional eligibility:** For postsecondary institutions or not-for-profit organizations that are not yet eligible yet wish to administer SSHRC grants. Contact: secretariat@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca
- ❖ **Tri-Agency Financial Administration Guide:**
http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/FinancialAdminGuide-GuideAdminFinancier/index_eng.asp
- ❖ **Sports Participation Research Initiative:**
http://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/programmes-programmes/sport_can-eng.aspx
- ❖ **Competition Statistics:**
<http://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/results-resultats/stats-statistiques/index-eng.aspx?>



Help

Insight Development Grants

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