Connection Grants

November 2023
SSHRC Program Architecture

Building Understanding
Developing Talent
Mobilizing Knowledge and People
Objectives of the Connection Program

- Facilitate the multidirectional flow of knowledge
- Increase the accessibility and use of knowledge
- Support the building of reciprocal relationships
- Support the development of research networks and tools
- Make networks and tools more accessible
Connection Grants

Support short term KM initiatives – maximum one year

Two Streams: Events and Outreach Activities

Engage with social sciences and humanities issues
Events and Outreach Activities

**EVENTS:**
$7,000 to $25,000
Short term activity
Completed within a week
Follow-up activities

**OUTREACH ACTIVITIES:**
$7,000 to $50,000+
Longer in duration
Engage larger public
Speaker series, travelling exhibition, podcast, etc.
Matching Funds

Eligibility requirement: 50% matching funds

Budget requested from SSHRC: e.g. $10,000

Mandatory matching funds: $5,000

For eligible expenses and cash/in-kind contributions:
Tri-agency Guide on Financial Administration
Letter of Support Example

Dear (name of applicant),

On behalf of (sponsoring organization), we have read your proposal and are pleased to provide support for you grant application, entitled “(title of your application)”, for the SSHRC Connection Grants competition.

We have read the proposal and agree to the role and level of participation of (sponsoring organization) outlined within the application.

(Sponsoring organization) will provide a cash contribution of $(specific dollar amount) towards the costs of (project activity). In addition, we will provide the following in-kind contribution(s):

• (in-kind contribution), valued at $(specific dollar amount)
Ineligible Connection Activities

RESEARCH

STAND-ALONE VOLUMES

ASSOCIATION ACTIVITES
Two Ways to Apply

- Individual
- Institutional
Submission Process

On SSHRC online system

- Applications submitted: Deleted 30 days after deadline date.

- Draft applications: Deleted if not accessed during a 12-month period.
Multiple Applications Regulations

APPLICANT OR PROJECT DIRECTOR

Once per calendar year

NO ACTIVE CONNECTION GRANTS

The Achievement Report must be completed

AUTOMATIC EXTENSIONS

Extended grants count as active grants
When to apply?

- Earliest start date of project: January 1
  - February deadline

- Earliest start date of project: April 1
  - May deadline

- Earliest start date of project: July 1
  - August deadline

- Earliest start date of project: October 1
  - November deadline
Adjudication Process

FOUR ADJUDICATION COMMITTEES

- MARCH (for February 1\textsuperscript{st} deadline)
- JUNE (for May 1\textsuperscript{st} deadline)
- SEPTEMBER (for August 1\textsuperscript{st} deadline)
- DECEMBER (for November 1\textsuperscript{st} deadline)

- CHALLENGE: 40%
- FEASIBILITY: 30%
- CAPABILITY: 30%
Support of Tools for Connection-Related Activities

- Applicants can use grant funds up to $50,000 to develop connection-related tools for the purpose of knowledge mobilization activities.

- Please see our Guidelines for support of Tools for Research and Related Activities application process for more information.
Indigenous Research

In May 2015, SSHRC launched new initiatives to support and promote Indigenous research and talent development.

Indigenous research statement of principles will serve to guide the implementation of SSHRC’s current and future activities.

A revised definition of Indigenous research clarifies research “by and with” Indigenous Peoples and emphasizes and values the existing strengths, assets and knowledge systems of Indigenous Peoples and communities.

Guidelines for the Merit Review of Indigenous Research are intended to assist committee members in interpreting SSHRC’s specific Challenge, Feasibility and Capability evaluation criteria in the context of Indigenous research.
Research Data Management Capacity Building Initiative

• Objectives:
  • develop and/or adopt data management standards, practices, tools and skills within and across disciplines and institutions, with a focus on the social sciences and humanities;
  • connect researchers or students with data management professionals and service providers (e.g., librarians, programmers, specialists in research ethics, etc.), and other stakeholders (e.g., research subjects and users) to increase knowledge of data management;
  • share and develop knowledge and skills relating to data collection and storage, metadata, preservation, retention, sharing, credit and citation;
  • share and develop knowledge and skills related to the responsible ownership, control, access and possession of data used or created in the context of Indigenous research (e.g., the application of OCAP® principles); and
  • through other activities, enable the social sciences and humanities research community to strengthen its ability to fulfill the roles and responsibilities indicated in the Tri-Agency Statement of Principles on Digital Data Management, and the requirements proposed in the draft tri-agency research data management policy.

• SSHRC intends to fund at least 10 meritorious proposals per competition to help the Canadian social sciences and humanities research community strengthen its capacity for data management
Joint Initiative for Digital Citizen Research

- You can select this initiative in your Connection Grants application.

- A joint initiative with the Department of Canadian Heritage. The initiative has its own budgetary envelop, which is entirely funded by Canadian Heritage.

- Supports research and related activities on, or related to, online disinformation in the Canadian context.

### Feedback

**Connection Grants**

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Frequently Asked Questions

My Connection project is strictly an Outreach Activity – who should I include as a Presenter?

For Connection projects, “Presenters” are not only people who will give a presentation at an event. Presenters are defined by SSHRC as individuals who will make an active contribution to the project’s objectives and/or the production of concrete deliverables (e.g. preparing exhibition materials, producing a podcast). You can think of them as participants.
How many Presenters should I include in my application?

Some projects may have hundreds of presenters, and there is no problem with that. However, the list on the application form is limited to 15 presenters to prevent applicants from overloading their application and committee members by listing all presenters. It is recommended that Principal investigators (PIs, known as Applicant or Project director) submit a presenters page for only 15 key presenters at their event or participants in their outreach activity. PIs should include in the list those for whom they are requesting SSHRC’s funding. When appropriate, the list should also include students as well as established and emerging scholars. While PIs may provide details on all presenters (including the 15 key presenters listed) and their specific role in the project description or budget justification section, it is important to note that they should avoid overloading their application if not relevant.
Are recurrent annual events eligible for Connection Grant support?

Yes, recurrent annual events are eligible for Connection Grant support, but you must demonstrate how the event differs from what was previously funded (e.g. what new knowledge is being mobilized, what new methods are being used).
I have been invited to a conference abroad; can I apply for a Connection Grant to support my travel expenses?

No. Connection Grants are not travel grants. They are intended to support applicants and project directors who are running a knowledge mobilization event or activity. Connection funding can support applicants’ travel costs and other expenses if they are organizing an event or activity abroad. In this case, the applicant must demonstrate within the application why the event needs to be held outside Canada and its potential to mobilize Canadian research on an international stage.
Frequently Asked Questions

Can students participate as co-applicants?

No. Students can only participate as collaborators. Moreover, if a student is a collaborator on the project team, they cannot be paid a stipend or a wage from the grant.
Can my application include bursaries to encourage increased student attendance?

No. Students must have an active role in your Connection project in order to be eligible for support.
How do I know if something is eligible for SSHRC support?

SSHRC grants are governed by the Tri-Agency Guide on Financial Administration. If you are not sure whether something you are proposing would be eligible, please contact us. Funding opportunity eligibility rules will be considered alongside Tri-Agency Financial Administration rules – meaning that eligible and non-eligible expenses specific to the Connection Grants prevail over eligible and non-eligible expenses outlined in the Guide.
I just learned that my Connection Grant proposal was not successful. Can I resubmit for the next competition?

Individuals, as applicants or project directors, can only apply to the Connection Grants funding opportunity once per calendar year.
Frequently Asked Questions

Are registration fees an eligible expense?

No, registration fees are not an eligible expense, nor is it an eligible matching in-kind/cash contribution.
COVID 19 Updates

1. Adjudication of Connection Grants applications

2. If you have any specific questions on how COVID-19 is or will be affecting your Connection Grants project, please send your queries to us by email at connection@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

3. It is strongly recommended that institution officials, grant holders, and applicants regularly consult the COVID-19: Impacts on SSHRC's policies and programs webpage for the most up-to-date information
Helpful Links

Connection Grants

Research Partnerships Program

Connection Grants - Individual, Application Instructions

Connection Grants - Institution, Application Instructions

Indigenous Research

Joint Initiative for Digital Citizen Research

Research Data Management Capacity Building Initiative

Guidelines for Effective Research Training

Guidelines for Effective Knowledge Mobilization

Guidelines for Cash and In-Kind Contributions

SSHRC definition of Research-Creation

Connection Achievement report

Tri-Agency Guide on Financial Administration
Your questions

Contact information:

Program Support: connection@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

Technical Support: webgrant@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca
Thank you!