



Social Sciences and Humanities
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en
sciences humaines du Canada

Canada

PARTNERSHIP GRANTS – STAGE 1

OCTOBER 16, 2025

RECORDING AVAILABLE

OUTLINE

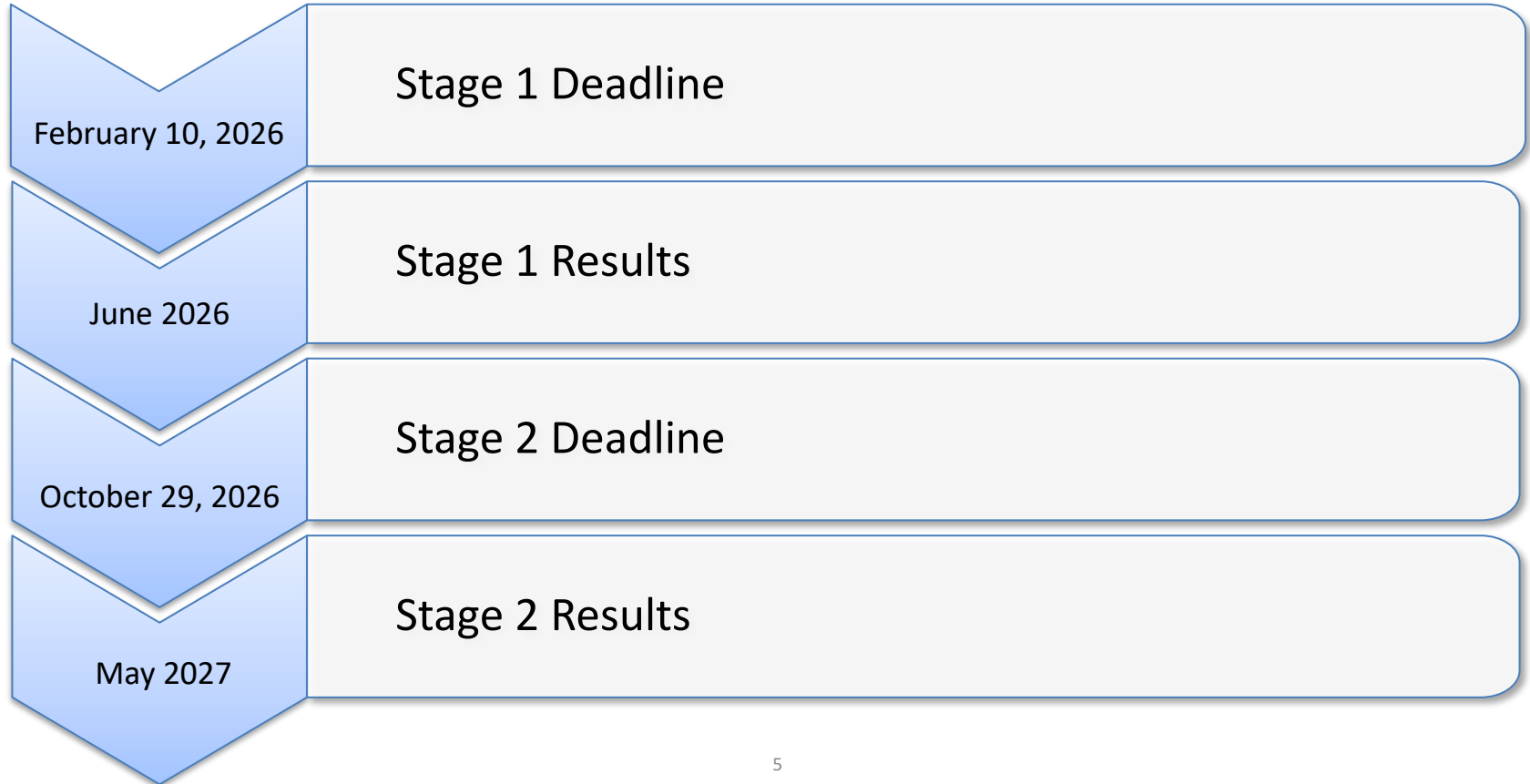
- Key Characteristics
- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
- Application Process
- Merit Review Process
- Tips
- Your Questions

KEY CHARACTERISTICS OF PARTNERSHIP GRANTS

SSHRC'S PARTNERSHIP SUITE

Partnership Engage Grants (PEG)	Partnership Development Grants (PDG)	Partnership Grants (PG)
Value: \$7K to \$25K Duration: 1 year Key features: • Formal partnership with a single partner from the public, private or NFP sectors • One stage adjudication Upcoming deadlines: Dec. 15, March 15 (tbc), June 15 (tbc) and Sept. 15 (tbc) Questions: partnershipengagegrants@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca	Value: \$75K to \$200K Duration: 1 to 3 years Key features: • Formal partnership • One stage adjudication Upcoming deadline: Nov. 17, 2025 Questions: partnershipdevelopment@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca	Value: \$500K to \$2.5M Duration: 4 to 7 years Key features: • Formal partnership • Two-stage adjudication (second stage by invitation) • Minimum 35% contributions Upcoming deadline: Feb. 10, 2026 Questions: partnershipgrants@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

FULL PG COMPETITION TIMELINE



INDIGENOUS RESEARCH

- SSHRC is committed to supporting and promoting research by and with Indigenous Peoples
- Definition of [Indigenous research](#)
- When conducting Indigenous research, researchers must commit to respectful relationships with Indigenous Peoples and communities
 - [Guidelines for the Merit Review of Indigenous Research](#)
 - [Chapter 9: Research Involving the First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples of Canada](#) of the [Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans](#)

EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION (EDI)

- [Tri-Agency Statement on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion](#)
- [Tri-Agency EDI Action Plan](#)
- [Guide to Addressing Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Considerations in Partnership Grant Applications](#)
- Equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) requirements have been introduced as a pilot initiative in the Partnership Grants funding opportunity
- Applicants are required to consider both **EDI in research practice (EDI-RP)** and **EDI in research design (EDI-RD)**
- Evaluation criteria added

EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION (EDI)

- **EDI in research practice** involves promoting diversity in team composition and trainee recruitment; fostering an equitable, inclusive and accessible research work environment for team members and trainees; and highlighting diversity and equity in mentoring, training and access to development opportunities.
- Refer to [Appendix B](#) of [Guide to Addressing Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Considerations in Partnership Grant Applications](#)

EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION (EDI)

↘ NOTE ABOUT EDI PLAN

- ↘ Applicants must identify concrete practices that will be employed to ensure that EDI is being intentionally and proactively considered in composing the team and recruiting team members. It is not sufficient to say that the team is already complete and/or diverse; applicants must clearly demonstrate that EDI was taken into consideration within the team composition and will continue to be if the composition of the team changes throughout the duration of the grant.

↘ NOTE ABOUT CONFIDENTIALITY AND PRIVACY

- ↘ Applicants must protect the privacy and confidentiality of all team members and trainees. How an individual self-identifies is considered personal and confidential information. If a team member's self-identification (for example, gender, Indigenous identity, disability or racial background) is relevant to the research project, you may include that self-identity information in the Description of Team section **only with their consent**. Otherwise, self-identification information about any team member should not appear in the application.

EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION (EDI)

- **EDI in research design (EDI-RD)** involves designing the research so that it takes EDI into account through approaches such as intersectionality, gender-based analysis plus (GBA+), anti-racist approaches and disaggregated data collection, and analysis that includes consideration of diversity and identity factors such as, but not limited to, age, culture, disability, education, ethnicity, gender expression and gender identity, immigration and newcomer status, Indigenous identity, language, neurodiversity, parental status/responsibility, place of origin, religion, race, sexual orientation, and socio-economic status.
- Refer to [Appendix B](#) of [Guide to Addressing Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Considerations in Partnership Grant Applications](#)

EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION (EDI)

↳ EDI EVALUATION SUB-CRITERIA FOR PARTNERSHIP GRANTS

↳ Challenge:

- ↳ appropriateness of considerations related to equity, diversity and inclusion in the research design, as applicable (e.g., questions, methods, theoretical framework, literature review, analysis and interpretation, and knowledge mobilization activities)
- ↳ quality of training and mentoring to be provided to students, emerging scholars and other highly qualified personnel, as well as opportunities for them to contribute, and quality of equity, diversity and inclusion considerations in the recruitment, training and mentoring plan

↳ Feasibility:

- ↳ quality of the equity, diversity and inclusion plan for promoting a diverse team, inclusive working environment and equitable opportunities within the partnership

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

- SSHRC is committed to the equitable treatment of all applications submitted to the agency in either official language. SSHRC supports Canada's official languages and Official Language Minority Communities (OLMCs) by ensuring that:
 - applications can be submitted to SSHRC in either official language;
 - program officers provide service to research community members in the official language of the community member's choice;
 - there is balanced representation of both official language communities in the merit review process; and
 - merit assessment can be carried out in both languages.
- For program performance, SSHRC measures application and award rates, in line with Tri-Agency measures on equitable access to funding opportunities for designated groups.
 - These figures have remained relatively stable for applications made in French and English over the past ten years, with variations depending on the program

APPLICATION PROCESS

PROGRAM SELECTION

↘ Two Streams

↘ Research Partnerships

↘ Research Training and Talent Development (Talent)

↘ Registered students and postdocs

↘ Majority of funds (75%) for student and postdoc support

RESEARCH-CREATION

- ↘ Definition of [research-creation](#)
- ↘ Approach that combines creative and academic research practices
- ↘ Attachment with links to samples of work
- ↘ [Guidelines for Research-Creation Support Materials](#)

PARTICIPANTS AND PARTNERS

└ Participants (Individuals)

- └ Project Director
- └ Co-director(s)
- └ Co-applicants
- └ Collaborators

└ Partners (Organizations)

- └ Host Institution
- └ Partner Organizations
- └ Other contributors

ELIGIBLE PARTICIPATION IN PARTNERSHIP GRANTS

SSHRC has established categories and eligibility related to use of funds

➤ People on research team

- **Project Director:** must be affiliated with host institution
- **Co-Director:** eligible if from Canadian Postsecondary institutions; not-for-profit organizations; philanthropic foundations; think tanks; or municipal, territorial or provincial governments; and international post-secondary institutions
- **Co-applicant:** same eligibility as Co-director
- **Note:** CVs for co-directors and co-applicants who are ineligible for those roles can be removed from your application prior to its evaluation, and the status of the participant changed to collaborator.
- **Collaborator:** any individual who makes a significant contribution to the project is eligible, including those not eligible as co-applicants (e.g. participants from private for-profit sector, federal government, independent researchers)

➤ Organizations in partnership

- **Host Institution:** a post-secondary institution or not-for-profit organization with institutional eligibility with SSHRC
- **Partner organization:** a Canadian or international organization contributing to the partnership

APPLICANT & PROJECT DIRECTOR MODULES

- Organization Involvement (EDI)
- Organization Information (if applicable)
- Previous Funding (if applicable)
- Exclusion of Reviewers (if applicable)
- Research Contributions and Relevant Experience
- Career Interruptions and Special Circumstances
- STRAC

PROJECT MODULES

- ↘ Activity Details
- ↘ Summary
- ↘ Goal and Project Description (EDI)
 - ↘ Justify originality and significance; outline theoretical approach and methods; literature review; training and mentoring; potential impacts
 - ↘ Justify timelines; host institution's support; governance; knowledge mobilization plans
- ↘ Research-Creation Support Material (if applicable)
- ↘ List of References (**bold** any references from team members)
- ↘ Suggested Reviewers

PARTICIPANT & PARTNER ORGANIZATION MODULES

- Co-director(s)
 - CV
 - Research Contributions and Relevant Experience
 - Career Interruptions and Special Circumstances
- Participants (co-applicants and collaborators)
 - No CV
 - Participants must have SSHRC online portfolio to accept invitation
- Description of Team
- Invited Partner Organizations
 - Online invitation
 - Letter of Engagement

PARTNERSHIP MODULES

- ↘ List of Potential Partners/Contributors
- ↘ Contributions Plan
 - ↘ Detail plans to secure cash and/or in-kind contributions
 - ↘ At Stage 2, applicants must demonstrate that they will secure (over and above the budget requested from SSHRC) a minimum of 35 percent in additional resources from sources other than SSHRC during the life of the grant

BUDGET MODULES

- Funds requested from SSHRC (Full Project Estimates)
 - Amount requested for Stage 1 up to \$30,000 – to prepare Stage 2 application
 - Estimates for the full project (4-7 years)
- Budget Justification (Stage 1 Funds Only)
 - No justification of full project estimates
- Funds from Other Sources
 - Entered by the Project Director at Stage 1

MERIT REVIEW PROCESS

EVALUATION CRITERIA

- ↘ Challenge (40%): The aim and importance of the endeavour
- ↘ Feasibility (30%): The plan to achieve excellence
- ↘ Capability (30%): The expertise to succeed

REVIEW PROCESS

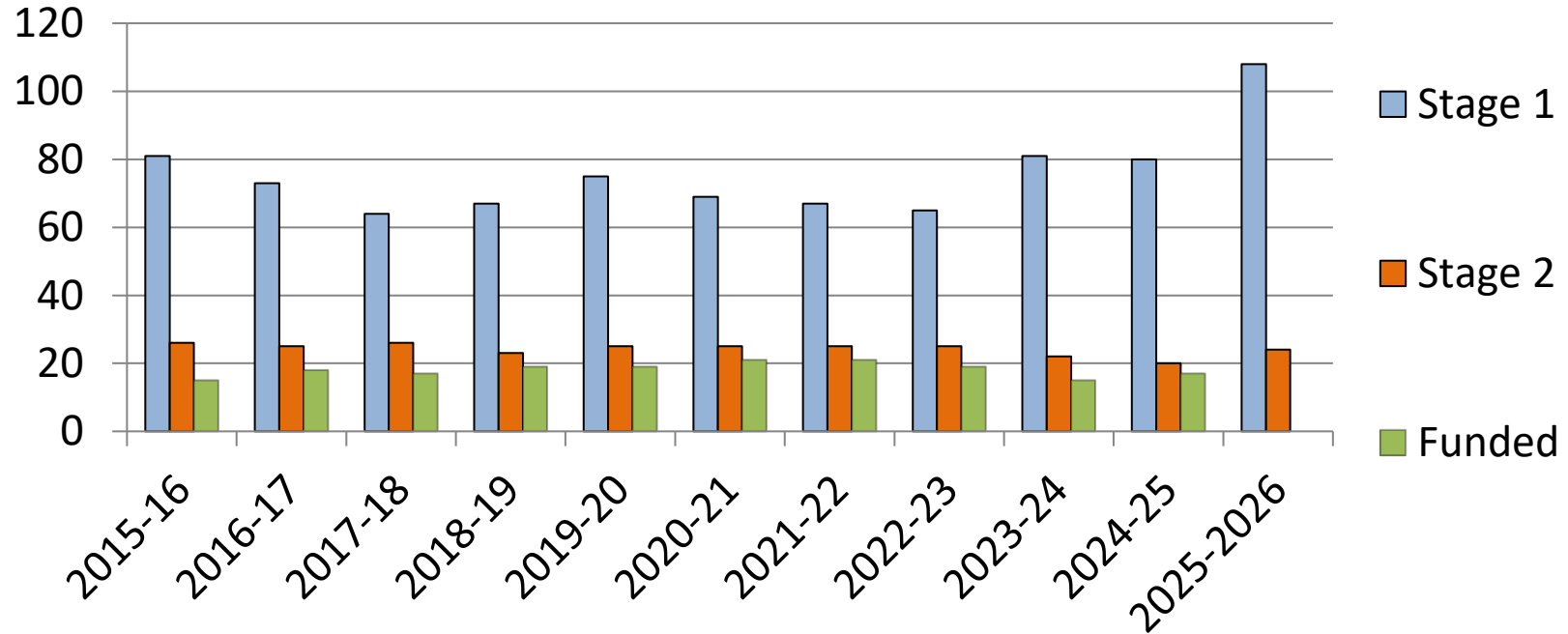
↘ Stage 1

- ↘ Multidisciplinary and multisectoral committee

↘ Stage 2

- ↘ Expert Panel review
- ↘ Written response
- ↘ Multidisciplinary and multisectoral committee

STATISTICS



FEEDBACK

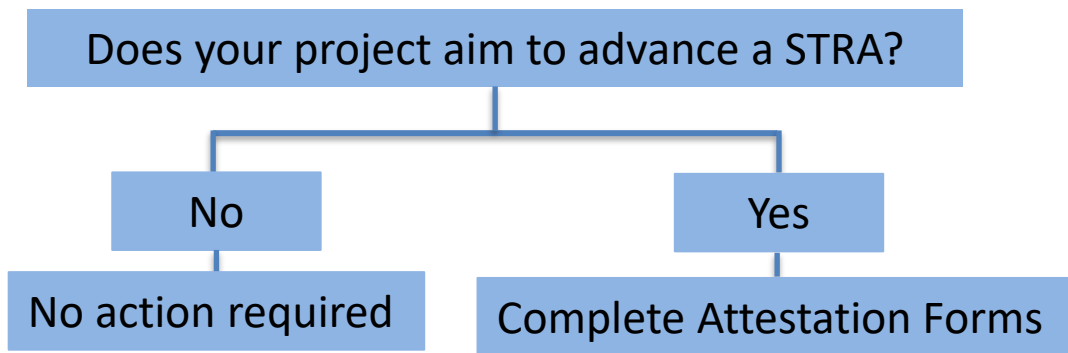
Scores	✓ Yes
Descriptors	✓ Yes
Additional comments	✓ Yes (if applicable)
Sextile category	✓ Yes
Ranking	✓ Yes (if applicable)
External reports	✗ No

RESEARCH DATA MANAGEMENT

- ↘ [Tri-Agency Research Data Management Policy](#)
- ↘ Data Management Plans (DMPs)
 - ↘ Partnership Grants – Stage 2
 - ↘ [Digital Research Alliance of Canada DMP Assistant](#)
 - ↘ [Guide to preparing a data management plan](#)

STRAC POLICY

- The [Policy on Sensitive Technology Research and Affiliations of Concern](#) (STRAC Policy) operates using two lists— a list of [Sensitive Technology Research Areas](#) (STRA) and a list of [Named Research Organizations](#) (NRO).
- For more information: [Tri-agency guidance on the Policy on Sensitive Technology Research and Affiliations of Concern \(STRAC Policy\)](#)



THE NATIONAL SECURITY GUIDELINES FOR RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS (NSGRP) **NEW**

- ↘ The [National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships](#) apply to **Partnerships Grants - Stage 2**.
- ↘ Applications involving **at least one partner organisation** from the private sector are required to be submitted with a [Risk Assessment Form](#) to identify risks and mitigation measures associated with their research and their partner organization.

Know Your Research

If your research:

- ✓ May be dual-use (military/civilian applications)
- ✓ Advances a sensitive research area like critical minerals or has sensitive datasets; and/or
- ✓ Could advance a foreign state's military or defence capabilities and negatively impact Canada

Then, **your research may be at risk**

Know Your Partner

If your private sector research partner may:

- ✓ Transfer knowledge to a foreign government, military or other actor that could harm Canada's national security interests; and/or
- ✓ Lack the autonomy and independence that underpins an open and transparent research ecosystem

Then, **your partner may pose a risk**

ADDITIONAL TIPS

- ↘ Auto-evaluate whether your partnership is ready and whether the key players are involved before deciding to apply.
- ↘ Involve team members and key partner organizations in the preparation of the application.
- ↘ Coach participants and partners on the online invitation process (as needed).
- ↘ Ensure that you have addressed all of the evaluation sub-criteria.
- ↘ Progress indicators should be specific, clearly presented, and tied to the objectives of the proposal.
- ↘ Consider the formatting and ease of reading for the reviewers.
- ↘ Consider your audiences.
- ↘ Highlight team member publications in List of References (**bold font**).
- ↘ Proofread for typos and review the PDF before submitting to your research office.

ADDITIONAL TIPS: EDI

- Be specific and concrete
- Reflect on past challenges with EDI in projects
- Develop an EDI plan that takes into account geographical diversity
- EDI champions
- Consider publication, knowledge dissemination and financial resources
- Integrate EDI throughout

ADDITIONAL TIPS: PARTNERSHIP TOOL-KIT

- The [Partnership Tool-kit](#) has resources and tips from past Partnership Grant project directors and coordinators

- The tool-kit includes:
 - tips for applicants
 - tips for managing partnerships
 - resources such as webpages, documents, tools, reports, briefs, newsletters, videos
 - frequently asked questions
 - brief videos with project directors

RESOURCES

- Funding Opportunity Description
 - [Partnership Grants – Stage 1](#)
- Application
 - [Application Form](#)
 - [Application Instructions](#)
- Guidelines and Policies
 - [Regulations Governing Grant Applications](#)
 - [Guidelines for the Merit Review of Indigenous Research](#)
 - [Guide to Addressing Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Considerations in Partnership Grant Applications](#)
 - [Guidelines for Partnered Research Training Initiatives](#)
 - [Guidelines for Effective Research Training](#)
 - [Guidelines for Effective Knowledge Mobilization](#)
- Budget
 - [Tri-Agency Guide on Financial Administration](#)
 - [Guidelines for Cash and In-Kind Contributions](#)

CONTACT INFORMATION

- Program Support: partnershipgrants@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca
- Technical Support: webgrant@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

QUESTIONS?

- Answer questions from Q&A