

## Funding Programs That Support Company Research Needs

### *Programs supporting faculty interaction with a company towards partnership building*

#### **NRC-IRAP Science and Technology Assistance Program**

<https://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/eng/irap/>

This is a government program for researchers to perform small-scale consulting services for small-to-medium sized companies. This is a great way to initiate research partnerships.

#### **NSERC Connect Grants Program**

[http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RPP-PP/Connect-Connexion\\_eng.asp](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RPP-PP/Connect-Connexion_eng.asp)

The Connect Grants Program is intended to give companies that operate from a Canadian base and researchers from Canadian universities an opportunity to meet and identify a company-specific problem they could solve by collaborating in a subsequent research partnership. These interactions are expected to result in economic benefits to Canada.

#### **NSERC Engage Grants (EG) Program**

[http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RPP-PP/Engage-Engagement\\_eng.asp](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RPP-PP/Engage-Engagement_eng.asp)

This program fosters the development of new research partnerships between academic researchers and companies by supporting short-term research and development projects that address a company-specific problem.

#### **NS Productivity and Innovation Voucher Program**

<https://innovacorp.ca/acceleration-initiatives/productivity-and-innovation-voucher-program>

A \$15,000 "productivity and innovation voucher" is issued to SMEs to acquire the direct assistance in making their business more innovative and productive. The initiative stimulates projects among SMEs to enhance linkages with public institutions that provide needed expertise and assistance.

### *Programs supporting students or postdoctoral researchers to work on company research problems*

#### **ACCELERATE Canada (formerly Mitacs Internships) and Elevate Postdoctoral Fellows**

<http://www.acceleratecanada.ca/> <http://www.mitacs.ca/elevate/program-guide>

These programs fund interns at the graduate or postdoctoral level to undertake research on-site as interns with the partner organization. In Accelerate internships, company provides \$7.5K or \$15K for a 4-month or 8-month internship respectively, which is matched 1:1. Internship clusters (minimum \$36K from the company matched with \$44K) are also available.

Elevate Postdoctoral fellowships require \$25K from the partner, matched with a grant of \$57.5K from Mitacs. Fellow annual salary must be a minimum of \$50K. All Mitacs programs support both Canadian and international students and fellows. Funding decisions are made within 6-8 weeks.

### ***NSERC Experience Awards***

[http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/UG-PC/Experience-Experience\\_eng.asp](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/UG-PC/Experience-Experience_eng.asp)

The Experience Awards program provides up to \$4500 contribution to the salary of an undergraduate student on a four-month internship or co-op placement with the industrial partner. The award is intended to stimulate the student's interest in industrial research and to help the student gain research work experience in a non-university setting that complements his/her studies.

### ***Nova Scotia Co-op Education incentive***

<http://novascotia.ca/programs/co-op-education-incentive/>

The Co-op Education Incentive (CO-OP) provides wage assistance to private sector, government-funded and non-profit organizations offering career-related work experiences for university and community college co-operative students.

### ***Programs supporting research partnerships between a company and university researchers***

#### ***NSERC Partnership Programs***

General Information for partner companies

[http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Business-Entreprise/Advantages-Avantages/index\\_eng.asp](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Business-Entreprise/Advantages-Avantages/index_eng.asp)

#### ***NSERC Collaborative Research and Development (CRD) Grants***

[http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RPP-PP/CRD-RDC\\_eng.asp](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RPP-PP/CRD-RDC_eng.asp)

CRD Grants support well-defined projects undertaken by university researchers and their private-sector partners. Direct project costs are shared by the industrial partner(s) and NSERC. NSERC will match both cash and relevant in-kind contributions from industry partners. Projects may range from one year to five years. Applications accepted any time. Funding decisions are made within 3-4 months.

#### ***NSERC Strategic Partnership Grants (SPG)***

[http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RPP-PP/SPG-SPS\\_eng.asp](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RPP-PP/SPG-SPS_eng.asp)

SPG Grants support research projects in target areas defined by NSERC. No cash contribution is required from the industrial partners. Applications with favourable peer reviews, but not making the funding cutoff, may be invited for conversion to CRD grants with a cash contribution from the industrial partner(s).

Target areas [http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RPP-PP/SPGTargetAreas-SPSDomainesCibles\\_eng.asp](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RPP-PP/SPGTargetAreas-SPSDomainesCibles_eng.asp)

#### ***NSERC Industrial Research Chairs***

[http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/CFS-PCP/IRC-PCI\\_eng.asp](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/CFS-PCP/IRC-PCI_eng.asp)

Funds cover the salary of the Chairholder(s), plus research program, including expenses for students, equipment, materials, services and travel. Duration is 5 years, renewable. Typical grant range \$80-\$500K/year. NSERC will match 1:1 a cash contribution from the company. Company is expected to provide in-kind contribution equal to the amount requested from NSERC. Funding decision is made within 4-7 months.

### ***NSERC Idea-to-Innovation***

[http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RPP-PP/I2I-INNOV\\_eng.asp](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RPP-PP/I2I-INNOV_eng.asp)

These grants aim to accelerate the pre-competitive development of promising technology originating from the university and college sector and promote its transfer to a new or established Canadian company. They provide funding to faculty members to support R&D projects with recognized technology transfer potential.

### ***Atlantic Innovation Fund (AIF)***

<http://www.acoa-apeca.gc.ca/English/ImLookingFor/ProgramInformation/AtlanticInnovationFund/Pages/AtlanticInnovationFund.aspx>

The Atlantic Innovation Fund focuses on R&D projects in natural and applied sciences, social sciences, humanities, arts and culture, where these are explicitly linked to the development and commercialization of technology-based products, processes or services. Eligible applicants include universities, research institutions and private sector businesses.

### ***Innovacorp Early Stage Commercialization Fund (ESCF)***

<http://innovacorp.ca/approach>

The Early Stage Commercialization Fund (ESCF) assists and supports the academic community in the pursuit of entrepreneurial opportunities. The purpose of the ESCF is to provide support for projects demonstrating readiness to advance a technology that has achieved, or is close to achieving, a prototype/proof-of-concept stage and is approaching market readiness with a possibility of attracting industrial partners and/or investment.

**Note:** Industry contributions to partnership research with universities qualify for the [Scientific Research and Experimental Development Tax Incentive Program](#) of the Canada Revenue Agency.

To explore these opportunities, contact the research office of the universities and colleges.

**Disclaimer:** The list was compiled by Dr. Evangelos Milios in 2016. As these programs change frequently and new ones are added, the list may not be completely up to date.