NSERC
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Chemical Institute of Canada (CIC) Talks NSERC presentation on Discovery Grant

Sophie Debrus, Program Officer, NSERC

Stacey Wetmore, Professor & Group Chair for EG 1504, University of Lethbridge

Lisa Rosenberg, Professor & past Section Chair for EG 1504, University of Victoria

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NSERC
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Breakthrough answers
to timeless questions

Des réponses innovantes
à de grandes questions

Natural Sciences and Engineering
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en sciences
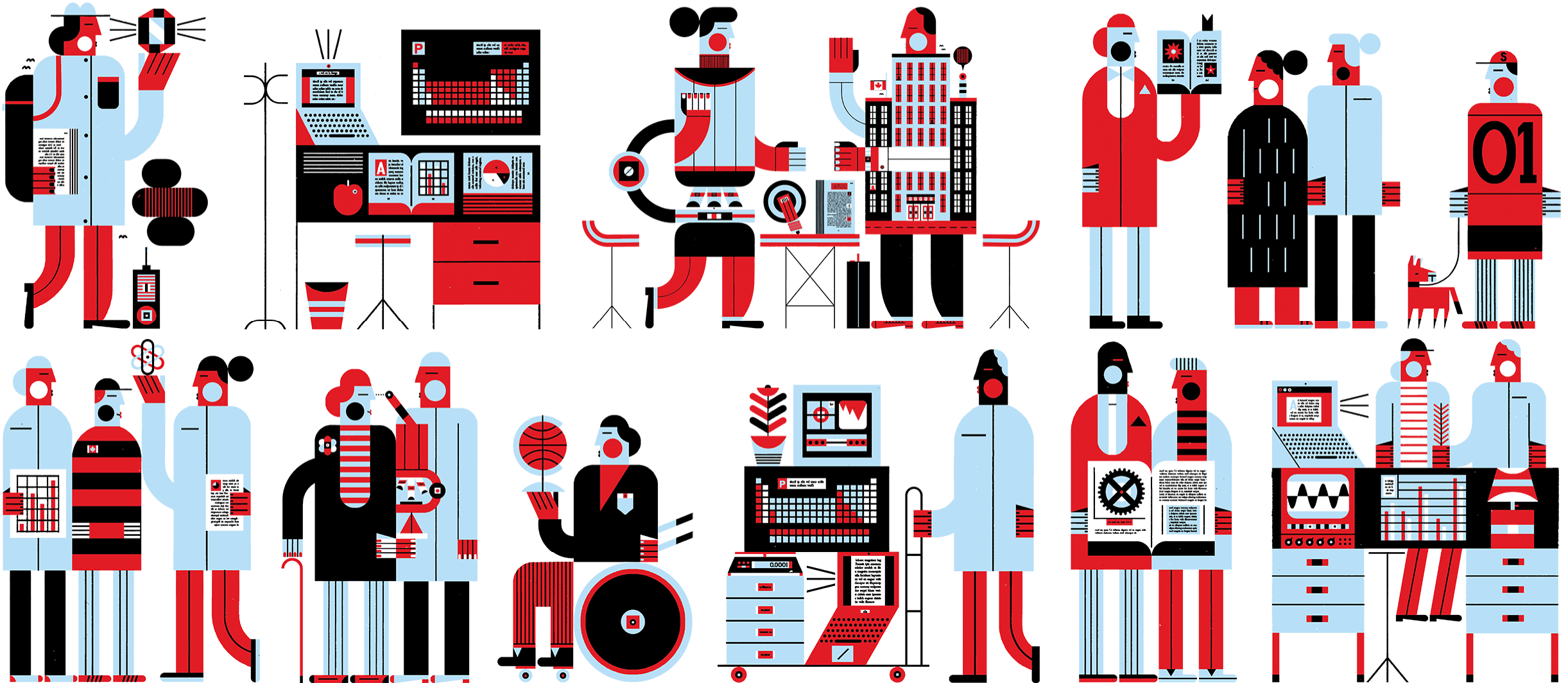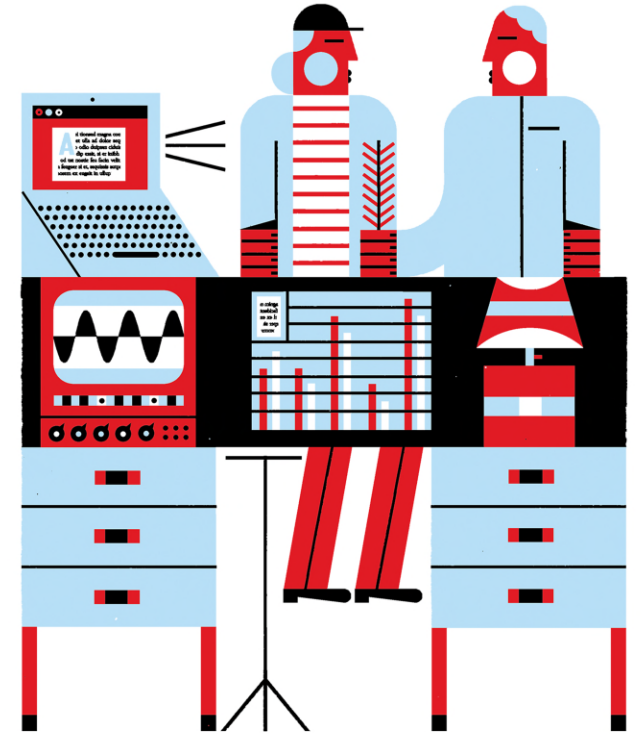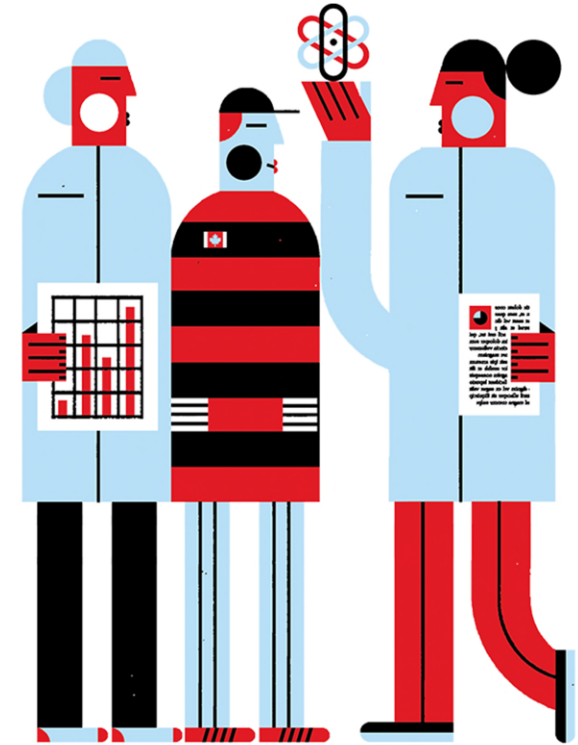naturelles et en génie du Canada

Canada

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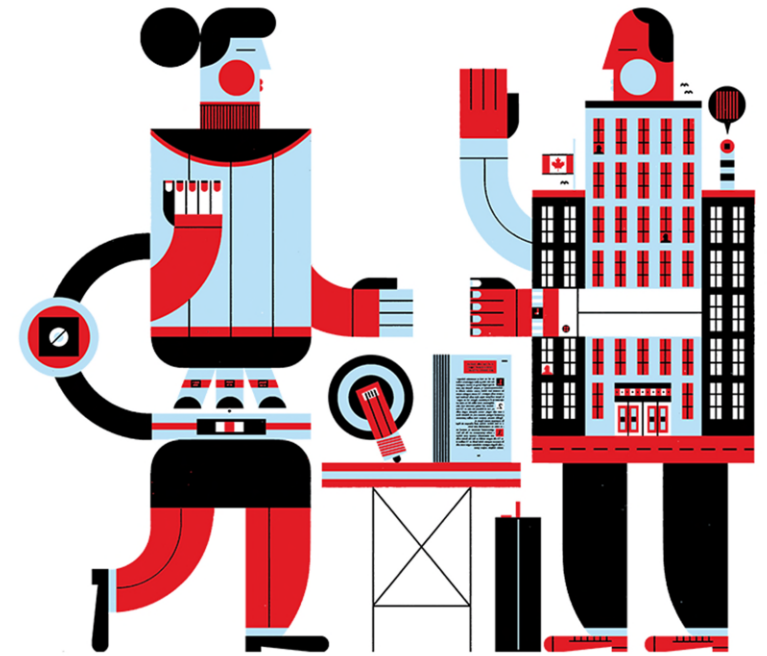
3. Research Grants and Scholarships Program Updates

resgrant@nserc-crsng.gc.ca

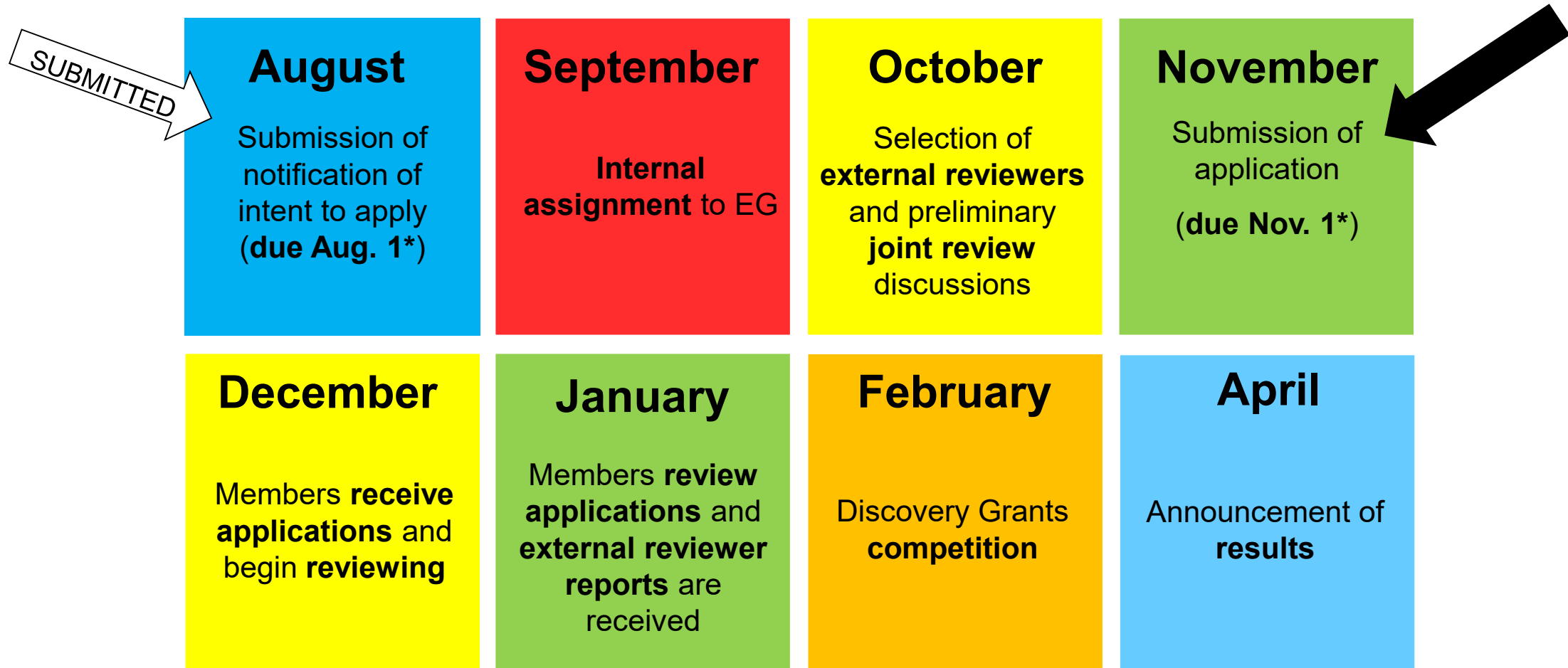# 1. How to prepare a Discovery Grant application

Full application overview and tips
(Part 1 of 3)

Discovery Grant application

Life Cycle of a Discovery Grant Application

SUBMITTED →

August	September	October	November
Submission of notification of intent to apply (**due Aug. 1***)	**Internal assignment** to EG	Selection of **external reviewers** and preliminary **joint review** discussions	Submission of application (**due Nov. 1***)

December	January	February	April
Members **receive applications** and begin **reviewing**	Members **review applications** and **external reviewer reports** are received	Discovery Grants **competition**	Announcement of **results**

Overview

- **Deadline:** November 1st * - internal deadlines are earlier

- **Main components:**
  - Grant application
  - Research proposal
  - Research contribution samples
  - Budget and justification
  - Canadian Common CV (CCV)

- **Submission:**
  - Research Portal

Discovery Grant updates - Early career researchers

- Applicants who have an <u>independent</u> academic position for <u>5 years or less</u> at the time of submitting the notification of intent

  - Five-year window adjusted for any eligible delay in research

  - All eligible leaves taken (e.g., parental, bereavement, illness of applicant or family) will now be credited as **twice** the amount of time taken

  - ECRs need to self-identify on the Research Portal at the full application stage by completing the Applicant Category module

Discovery Grant application

Discovery Grant - DND supplement and NRS

- ## DND/NSERC DG supplement

  - Proposed research must fit within DND defence and security target areas

  Contact: dndsuppmdn@nserc-crsng.gc.ca
  Webpage: DND*/ NSERC DG supplement

- ## Northern Research Supplements (NRS)

  - Updates from CY2020:
    - Boundary change: moved to the southern limit of "isolated patches of permafrost" from British Columbia to Labrador, including all of the three territories—wider area of inclusion
    - Selection criteria updated: weighted scoring applied to each criterion; more detailed feedback provided to applicants
    - Application incorporated into the Research Portal

  Contact: EnviroSciences-SciencesEnviro@nserc-crsng.gc.ca
  Webpage: Northern Research Supplements

RGS Program Updates

Discovery Grant Application:
Attachment for eligible leaves or delays

Applicants who report an eligible leave of absence or delay are entitled to list additional contributions beyond the last six years, for a period equivalent to the duration of the leave

Contributions prior to the last six years can be recorded in:

- 2-page attachment
- *Past contributions to the training of HQP* section
- *Most significant contributions to research* section
- *Samples of research contributions* section

Eligible leaves of absence include delays due to COVID-19

Delays in research and dissemination of research results

- Eligible leaves of absence (e.g., maternity and parental leave, personal illness, chronic illness, mental illness, or disability associated with reduced research activity, leave taken by applicant for family-related illness, bereavement, and extraordinary administrative duties) are those taken within the last six years.

- COVID-19-related impacts on research and training are considered eligible delays.

- The impact of delays is taken into consideration in the assessment of contributions to research and/or training.

Discovery Grant Application

Delays: Where and how to describe in your application

- Applicant delays are recorded in the CCV, under the Employment section

- HQP delays are recorded in the HQP section of the application

- In both cases, clearly explain:
  - the **duration** (start/end dates, FTE if period of reduced research and training)
  - the **impact** on research and training (e.g., dissemination of results, ability to recruit or train HQP)

- **Focus on the impact of the delay**, not on the personal circumstances.

- Additional guidance on how to describe COVID-19-related impacts:

Impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on research: New guidelines for NSERC's community

Discovery Grant Application

Delays in research: Leaves of absence attachment

Applicants who have reported an eligible leave of absence or delay in their CCV are entitled to an attachment that must be used to list **only** *supplemental contributions to research and to training* beyond the last six years, for a period equivalent to the duration of the leave or delay.

- Contributions to research: list of presentations, interviews and media relations, publications, intellectual property and recognitions

- Contributions to training: list of supervisory activities

Discovery Grant application

Review Process

Step 1: Merit Assessment

- **Three equally weighted criteria:**
  – Excellence of the Researcher
  – Merit of the Proposal
  – Contribution to Training of Highly Qualified Personnel (HQP)

- **Uses six-point scale**
  – From "Exceptional" to "Insufficient"

Discovery Grant application

Review Process

Criteria

Merit Indicators

DISCOVERY GRANTS MERIT INDICATORS

The Merit Indicators should be used in conjunction with the Peer Review Manual, which outlines how reviewers arrive at a rating.

		EXCEPTIONAL	OUTSTANDING	VERY STRONG	STRONG	MODERATE	INSUFFICIENT
Excellence of the Researcher		Acknowledged as a leader in terms of research excellence, accomplishments, and service. Contributions presented in the application are of the highest level of quality. Impact and importance of the work is clearly evident and groundbreaking.	Research excellence, accomplishments and service are far superior to others. Contributions presented in the application are of high quality. Impact and importance of the work is clearly evident and influential.	Research excellence, accomplishments, and service are superior to others. Contributions presented in the application are above average in quality. Impact and importance of the work is clearly evident.	Research excellence, accomplishments, and service are significant. Contributions presented in the application are of good quality. Impact and importance of the work is evident.	Research excellence, accomplishments, and service are reasonable. Contributions presented in the application are of reasonable quality. Impact and importance of the work is somewhat evident.	Research excellence, accomplishment, and service are below an acceptable level. Contributions presented in the application are limited in quality. Impact and importance of the work is not clearly evident.
Merit of the Proposal		Proposed research program is clearly presented, is extremely original and innovative and is likely to have impact by leading to groundbreaking advances in the area and/or leading to a technology or policy that addresses socio-economic or environmental needs. Long-term vision and short-term objectives are clearly defined.	Proposed research program is clearly presented, is highly original and innovative and is likely to have impact by contributing to groundbreaking advances in the area, and/or leading to a technology or policy that addresses socio-economic or environmental needs. Long-term goals are clearly defined and short-term objectives are well planned.	Proposed research program is clearly presented, is original and innovative and is likely to have impact by leading to advancements and/or addressing socio-economic or environmental needs. Long-term goals are defined and short-term objectives are planned.	Proposed research program is clearly presented, is original and innovative and is likely to have impact and/or address socio-economic or environmental needs. Long-term goals and short-term objectives are clearly described.	Proposed research program is clearly presented, has original and innovative aspects and may have impact and/or address socio-economic or environmental needs. Long-term and short-term objectives are described.	Proposed research program, as presented lacks clarity, and/or is of limited originality and innovation. Objectives are not clearly described and/or likely not attainable.
		The methodology is clearly defined and appropriate.	The methodology is clearly described and appropriate.		The methodology is described and appropriate.	The methodology is partially described and/or appropriate.	The methodology is not clearly described and/or appropriate.
			The application clearly demonstrates how the research activities to be supported are distinct from those funded (or applied for) by other sources.				The application does not clearly demonstrate how the research activities to be supported are distinct from those funded (or applied for) by other sources.
Training of Highly Qualified Personnel	Past Training of HQP	Past training is at the highest level in terms of the research training environment provided and HQP contributions to research. Most HQP move on to highly impactful positions that require skills gained through the training received.	Past training is far superior to other applicants in terms of research training environment provided and HQP contributions to research. Most HQP move on to impactful positions that require skills gained through the training received.	Past training is superior to other applicants in terms of the research training environment provided and HQP contributions to research. HQP generally move on to impactful positions that require skills gained through the training received.	Past training compares favourably with other applicants in terms of the research training environment provided and HQP contributions to research. HQP generally move on to positions that require skills gained through the training received.	Past training is modest relative to other applicants in terms of the research training environment provided and HQP contributions to research. Some HQP move on to positions that require skills gained through the training received.	Past training is below an acceptable level in terms of the research training environment provided and HQP contributions to research. HQP rarely move on to positions that require skills gained through the training received.
	Training Philosophy & Research Training Plan	Training philosophy and research training plans are of the highest quality: highly appropriate, clearly defined and expected to produce top quality results in terms of the overall approach and specific projects for HQP. Challenges related to equity, diversity and inclusion specific to the institution and field of research are clearly described. Specific actions to support the recruitment of a diverse group of HQP and an inclusive research training environment are clearly defined.	Training philosophy and research training plans are far superior: highly appropriate, clearly defined and expected to produce high quality results in terms of the overall approach and specific projects for HQP.	Training philosophy and research training plans are superior: highly appropriate, clearly defined and expected to produce quality results in terms of the overall approach and specific projects for HQP. Challenges related to equity, diversity and inclusion specific to the institution and field of research are described. Specific actions to support the recruitment of a diverse group of HQP and an inclusive research training environment are defined.	Training philosophy and research training plans are appropriate and clearly defined in terms of the overall approach and specific projects for HQP. Challenges related to equity, diversity and inclusion specific to the institution and/or field of research are described. Specific actions to support the recruitment of a diverse group of HQP and/or an inclusive research training environment are defined.	Training philosophy and research training plans are partially appropriate and partially defined in terms of the overall approach and specific projects for HQP. Challenges related to equity, diversity and inclusion specific to the institution and/or field of research are partially described. Specific actions to support the recruitment of a diverse group of HQP and/or an inclusive research training environment are partially defined.	Training philosophy and research training plans are not appropriate and not clearly defined in terms of the overall approach and specific projects for HQP. Challenges related to equity, diversity and inclusion specific to the institution and/or field of research are inaccurate or not described. Specific actions to support the recruitment of a diverse group of HQP and/or an inclusive research training environment are not appropriate or not defined.

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Discovery Grant application

Review Process

Step 2: **Funding Recommendations**

- Applications grouped into 'bins' of comparable merit

- Similar overall ratings within an EG receive comparable funding

Discovery Grant application

Review Process

Step 1: Merit assessment

	Exceptional	Outstanding	Very Strong	Strong	Moderate	Insufficient
Excellence of the researcher	X X	X X	X			
Merit of the proposal		X X	X X X			
Contribution to the training of HQP		X X	X X	X		

Outstanding – Very Strong – Very Strong

Step 2: Funding Recommendation

Funding Bin	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	...	P
Value	...$	...$	...$	...$	...$	...$	...$	...$	...$	...$	...$	...$	...$

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Full application overview and tips
(Part 2 of 3)
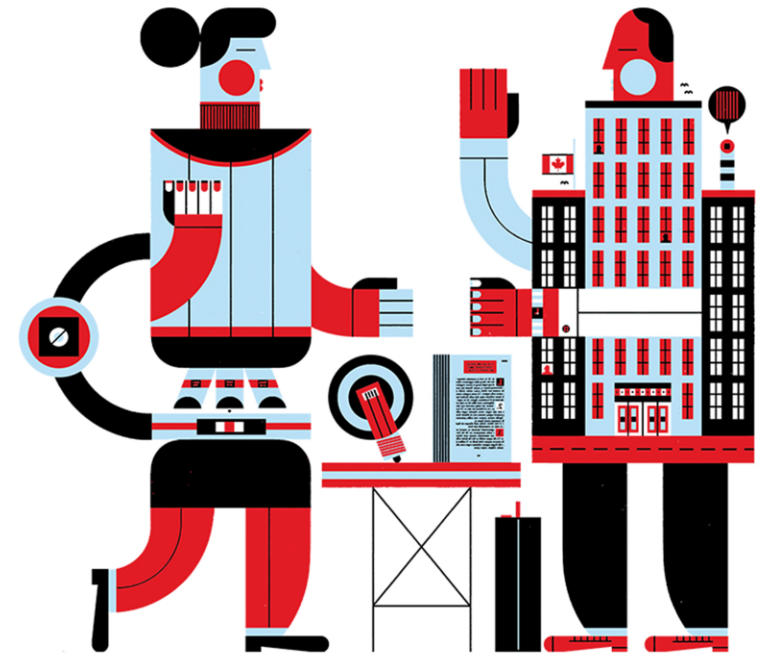
Discovery Grant Application

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI)

EDI within Evaluation Criteria

- **Excellence of the Researcher**

  – Applicants are asked to describe *past contributions* to the promotion of equity, diversity and inclusion in the research enterprise (*if they contributed this way*).

- **Merit of the Proposal**

  – Applicants are expected to describe consideration of sex, gender and diversity in the research design (*where applicable to the field of research*).

- **Contributions to the Training of HQP**

  – Applicants are **required** to describe EDI considerations in their future approaches to recruitment, training and mentoring.

  - Applicants are asked to describe specific actions implemented in support of EDI in their *past training* of HQP (*if they contributed this way*).

Discovery Grant application

Excellence of the Researcher

Assessment based on achievements demonstrated over the last active **six** years.

- Knowledge, expertise, and experience

- Quality and impact of contributions to Natural Sciences and Engineering (NSE) research

- Importance of contributions to researchers and end-users

Excellence of the Researcher

Members will assess this using information from:

- **Most significant contributions (up to 5)**
  - Highlight quality and impact

- **Samples of research contributions**
  - Up to 4 attached with application within the last active six years

- **Additional Information on Contributions**
  - Choices of venues, order of authors, etc.

- **CCV contributions, recognitions, activities**

- **Leaves of absence attachment (if applicable)**

Discovery Grant application

Excellence of the Researcher

Most significant contributions:

- Describe up to five most significant research contributions and highlight quality & impact

- List all types of research contributions

- Explain your role in collaborative research activities

- Give other evidence of impact

Excellence of the Researcher

CCV:

- Recognitions (honors, prizes and awards, etc.)

- Activities (international collaborations, event administration, editorial activities, organizational review, knowledge and technology transfers, etc.)

- Memberships (service on committees)

- Contributions (publications, books, patents, etc.)

Merit of the Proposal

Assessment based on the following elements:

- Originality and innovation
- Significance and expected contributions to NSE research
- Clarity, scope of objectives, and appropriateness of methodology
- Feasibility
- Consideration of sex, gender and diversity in the research design *(where applicable to the field of research)*
- Appropriateness and justification for the budget
- Relationship to other research support

Discovery Grant application

Merit of the Proposal

Members will assess this using information from:

- **Research proposal (5 pages)**
  - List of references (2 pages)

- **Proposed expenditures and budget justification**

- **Relationship to other research support**
  - Portal section (12000 characters)
  - CIHR and/or SSHRC summary and budget pages
  - CCV research funding history (applied & held)

Merit of the Proposal

Relationship to other research support

All grants from CIHR and SSHRC:

- Proposed ideas, objectives and expenses are entirely distinct from support held or applied for

- Anticipated contributions to research resulting from the DG will be distinct from the ones resulting from CIHR or SSHRC support held or applied for

Merit of the Proposal

Relationship to other research support

CIHR Foundation Grants (FG):

- DG applicants that **hold or receive funds** from a CIHR Foundation Grant must provide convincing evidence that **support from DG is essential to carry** out the work proposed.

Discovery Grant application

Merit of the Proposal

Relationship to other research support

Sources **other than** CIHR and SSHRC:

- Proposed ideas and objectives can be the same

- Proposed expenses must be distinct from support held

- Proposed expenses may be the same for support applied for, however applicants must indicate that no duplication of funds will occur if all applications are successful

# Subject Matter Eligibility

- NSERC supports research whose major challenges lie in the natural sciences and engineering (NSE), other than the health sciences.

- The intended objective(s) of the research must be to advance knowledge in one or more of the NSE disciplines.

- Applicants should refer to:

  - Selecting the Appropriate Federal Granting Agency

  - Addendum to the Guidelines for the Eligibility of Applications Related to Health
    The Addendum provides examples that illustrate the eligibility of applications related to human health.

Full application overview and tips (Part 3 of 3)
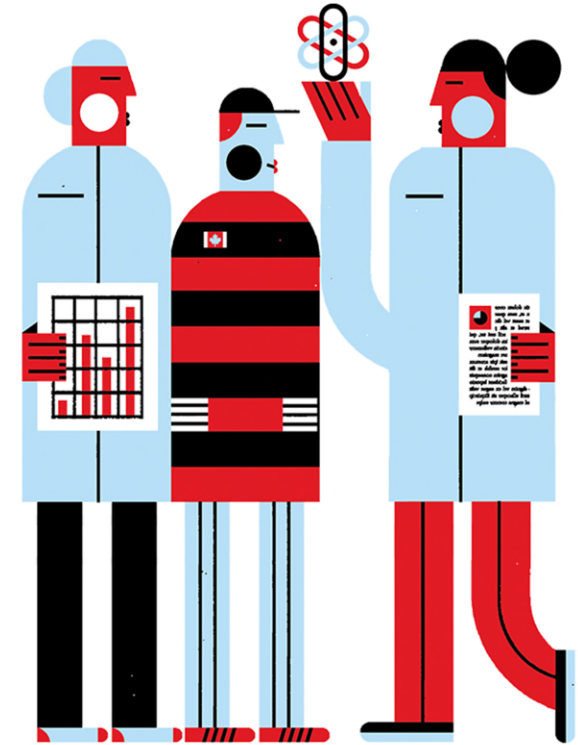
Discovery Grant application

Contributions to the training of HQP

There are two key elements; assessment is based on both:

- the **past contributions to training**; and

- the **future plans for training**

Quality **research training at all levels** are valued, including:
- Undergraduate students involved in research
- Graduate students and postdoctoral fellows
- Technicians and research associates
- Other research personnel from non-academic sectors (i.e., government or industry)

Contributions to the training of HQP

Evaluation Group will assess HQP using information from:

- **Application**
  - Past contributions to HQP training
  - HQP training plan

- **CCV**
  - Supervisory activities and contributions

Past contributions to the training of HQP

Assessment based on contributions to training over the last **active six years;** 2016-2022 in the absence of eligible delays for the 2023 DG competition.

Includes three components:
1. Training environment
2. HQP awards and research contributions
3. Outcomes and skills gained by HQP

Focus on **quality** and **impact** of training

Past contributions to the training of HQP

1. **Training environment (1/2)**
   - research training and development opportunities provided for HQP (e.g., science outreach and engagement, interdisciplinary research, promoting EDI in the NSE, collaborations, interaction with the private and public sectors)

Discovery Grant application

Past contributions to the training of HQP

1. Training environment (2/2)

- **Challenges or barriers** encountered in ensuring an inclusive research and training environment (*if you participated this way*)

- **Specific actions** implemented to support equity and inclusion in the research training environment (*if you participated this way*)

  - Specific actions can occur at any stage of training

  - There is no priority or value placed on different stages

  - You are not expected to participate at every stage

Past contributions to the training of HQP

2. HQP awards and research contributions

- Awards and scholarships of individual HQP can be described *when prior consent has been given*

- HQP should be indicated in CCV using "*" on research contributions (usually as co-authors) *when prior consent has been given*

Applicants are instructed to summarize HQP presentations in application; <u>do not </u>list them in the CCV.

Discovery Grant application

Past contributions to the training of HQP

3. Outcomes and skills gained by HQP

- Most significant HQP outcomes and how applicant's training contributed to HQP's success

- Successful outcome?

  - Any outcome in which the HQP has impact

  - Impact can be in the NSE or in other fields, but it must be clear how skills gained in the applicant's research training environment are being used by HQP

- Note impact of delays in training (those of HQP or the applicant)

Past contributions to the training of HQP

Within the CCV

- **Use asterisk (*)** to identify HQP co-authors in CCV *when prior consent has been given*

- Include present position in CCV (career, further studies) *when prior consent has been given*

- Do not select "academic advisor" in CCV

Within the application

- Describe the nature of HQP studies and their level of involvement in your research

- Explain your role in any co-supervision

- Explain any delays in training (e.g., leaves taken by HQP)

Future plans for training

Include two components:

1. Training Philosophy

2. Research Training Plan

- **Must** include consideration of equity and inclusion in planned approach to HQP training

- Focus on **quality**, **suitability** and **clarity** of plan.

- Must be planned training **in the NSE**

- Applicant's role should be defined in any planned co-supervision.

Future plans for training

1. Training Philosophy (1/2)

- **Existing challenges or barriers** to inclusion and advancement of underrepresented groups, specific to the applicant's research context
- **Planned approach** to promoting the participation of a diverse group of HQP, taking into account equity and inclusion in recruitment practices, mentorship approaches and initiatives aimed at ensuring an inclusive research and training environment

Discovery Grant application

Future plans for training

1. Training Philosophy (2/2)

- Approach to training HQP, how does the applicant intend to train the future generation of scientists and engineers

- Details of mentoring approach

- Intellectual involvement of HQP in the research program

- Type of research training and development opportunities that will be provided

Future plans for training

2. Research Training Plan

- Suitability and inclusion of HQP in research program and specific anticipated projects within NSE;

- Anticipated outcomes, planned future contributions to knowledge, and development of new skills or knowledge;

- Value of projects for HQP;

- Justification if any limitations to HQP training;

- Explanation of planned co-supervision or collaboration, if appropriate.

Tips

- **Read other successful applications**

- **Ask colleagues and/or your RGO for comments on your application**
  - Ask both experts in your field and non-experts to review

- **Plan ahead and check institutional deadlines**

- **Use the resources available**

Discovery Grant Application

Available Resources

- **Discovery Grants Information Centre**

- **Discovery Grants Program Description**

- **Discovery Grants Resource Video**

- **Peer Review Manual**
  - Includes information on each of the three criteria and the merit indicators

- **HQP FAQ Document**

- **Webinars on how to apply**

Discovery Grant application

NSERC Contacts

Discovery Grants Program (including eligibility)	resgrant@nserc-crsng.gc.ca
NSERC Staff	First name.last name@nserc-crsng.gc.ca
Deadlines, acknowledgement of applications and results	Your university Research Grants Office (RGO)
Financial Administration	financialmonitoring@nserc-crsng.gc.ca
On-line Services Helpdesk	webapp@nserc-crsng.gc.ca

Useful Links

- CCV, NOI and instructions: http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/ResearchPortal-PortailDeRecherche/Instructions-Instructions/index_eng.asp

- Resource Videos: http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/ResearchPortal-PortailDeRecherche/Resource-Informatives_eng.asp

- Financial Administrative Guide: https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/InterAgency-Interorganismes/TAFA-AFTO/index_eng.asp

- Evaluation Groups and Research Topics: http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/Grants-Subs/DGPList-PSDListe_eng.asp

- NSERC program information in relation to COVID-19: https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Media-Media/NewsDetail-DetailNouvelles_eng.asp?ID=1139

2. Competition 2022 Results

2022 Competition Results

Thank You!

2518 Discovery Grants (DG) Applications

468+ Evaluation Group (EG) Members
12 950+ Reviews by EG members
6687+ External Reviewers Reports

I'd like to offer my sincere thanks to all committee members and external reviewers for their hard work and dedication in the 2022 Discovery Grants competition, which was conducted virtually. Your tremendous efforts during these unprecedented times have helped keep Canada's research enterprise strong in the midst of this pandemic. I hope that you, your families, and your colleagues are safe and healthy, and remain so in the future.

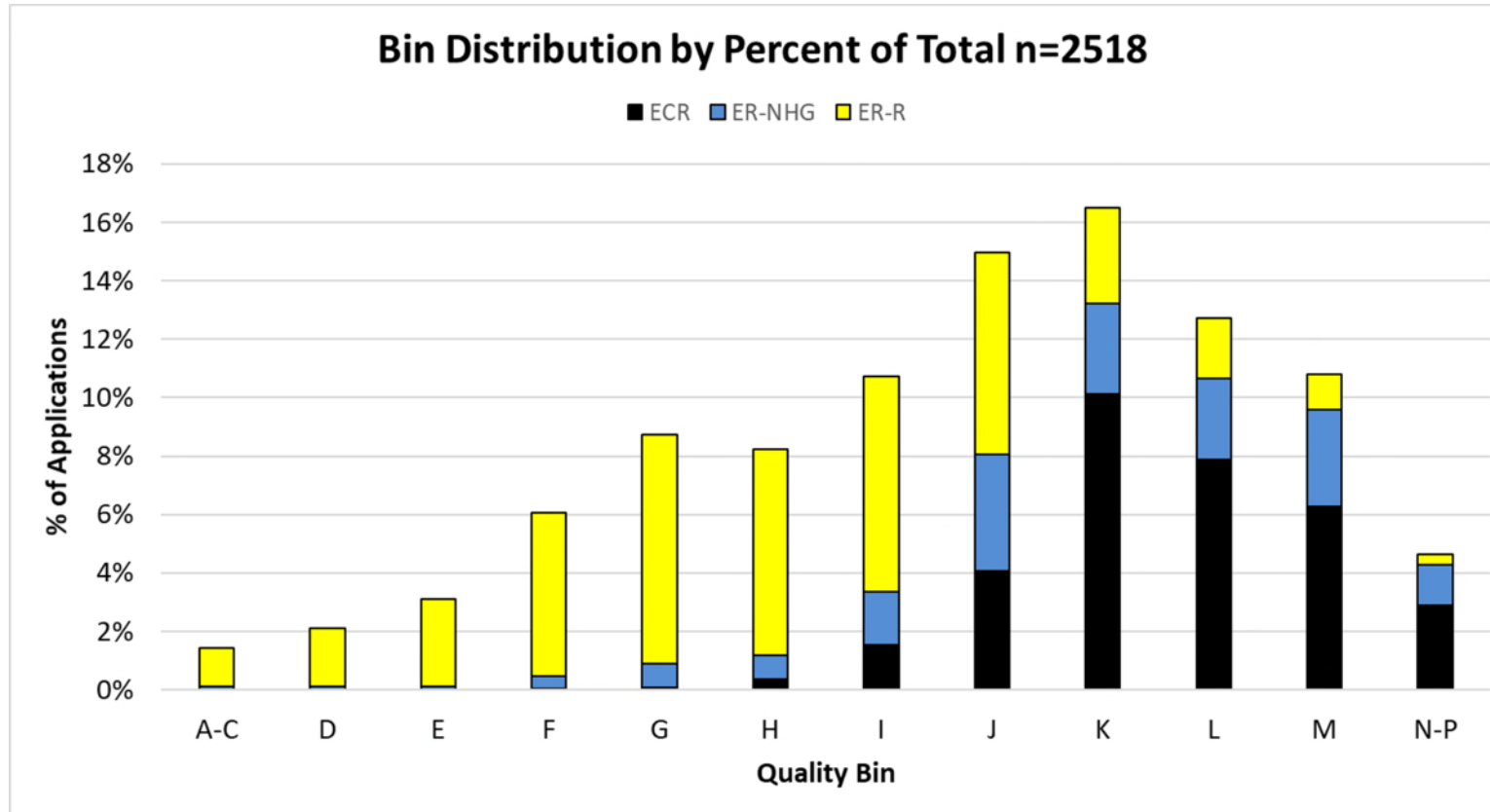**– Alejandro Adem, NSERC President**
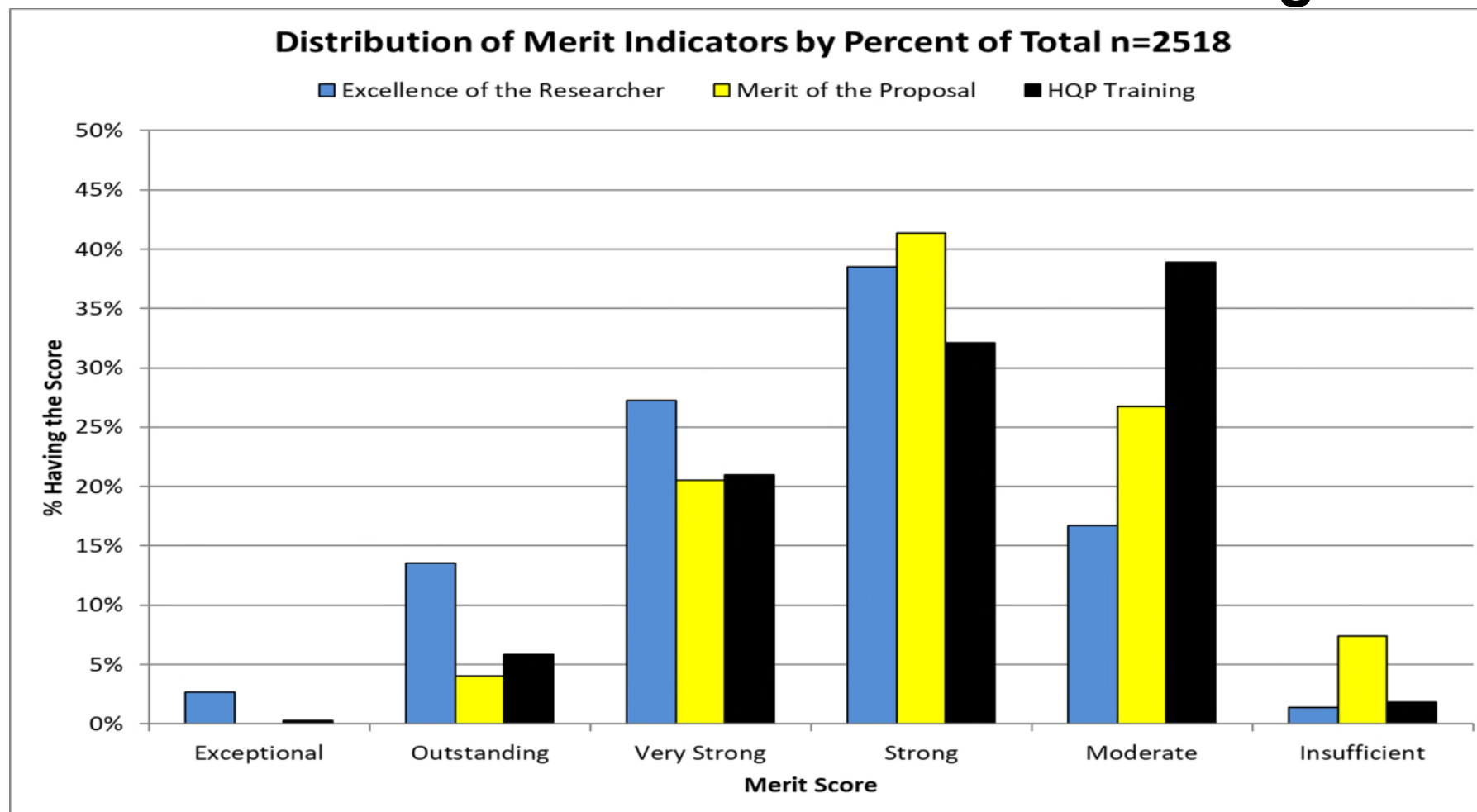
Overall DG – Results by Applicant Category

	Early Career Researcher (ECR)	Established Researchers (ER)			Total
		Not Holding a Grant (ER-NHG)	Returning (ER-R)	All Established Researchers	
# of applications	837	474	1207	1681	**2518**
# of awards	529	192	994	1186	**1715**
Success Rate	63%	41%	82%	71%	**68%**
Average Grant (yearly)	$28,386	$33,868	$43,292	$41,766	**$37,638**

2022 Competition Results

Overall DG – Results by Applicant Category

Overall DG – Distribution of merit indicator ratings

Distribution of Merit Indicators by Percent of Total n=2518

Legend: ■ Excellence of the Researcher ☐ Merit of the Proposal ■ HQP Training

Y-axis: % Having the Score
X-axis: Merit Score (Exceptional, Outstanding, Very Strong, Strong, Moderate, Insufficient)

2022 Competition Results

Overall DG – Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI)
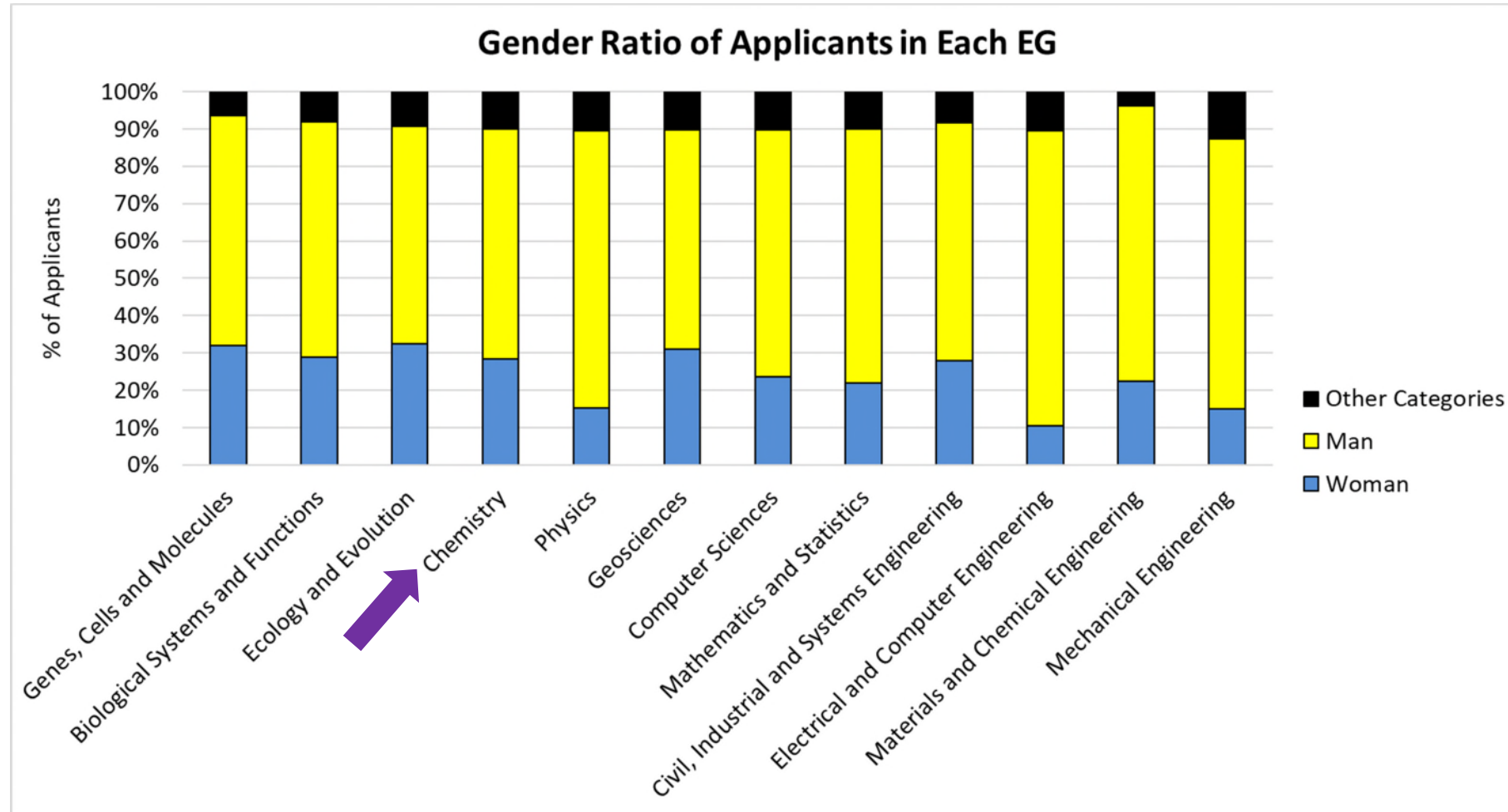
2022 Competition Results

Overall DG – Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI)

		Women	Men	Other Categories
Early Career Researchers (ECR)	Number of Awards	294	502	41
	Success rate	65%	63%	51%
Established Researchers Returning (ER-R)	Number of Awards	251	824	132
	Success rate	82%	82%	82%
Established Researchers Not Holding a Grant (ER-NHG)	Number of Awards	84	340	50
	Success rate	40%	41%	38%

2022 Discovery Grants Results
EG 1504 – Chemistry - Results by Applicant Category

| Applicant Status	ECR	ER			Total
	ECR	Returning	Not Holding a Grant	Total ER	Total
Applications in Competition	23	99	19	118	141
Number of Awards	16	89	10	99	115
Success Rate	70%	90%	53%	84%	**82%**
Average Grant	$25,500	$49,640	$36,800	$48,343	$45,165

ECR: Early Career Researchers, **ER:** Established Researchers.
*Not holding a grant established researchers include those that are returning unfunded, first-time academic but with more than 5 years previous unsupervised research experience.

2022 Discovery Grants Results

EG 1504 – Chemistry – Bin distribution by Applicant Category

	Early Career Researcher	Established Researchers (ER)			Overall
	(ECR)	Not Holding a Grant (ER-NHG)	Returning (ER-R)	All Established Researchers	
Success Rate	70%	53%	90%	84%	82%

Bin Distribution by Percent of Total n=141

Legend: ■ ECR ■ ER-NHG ■ ER-R
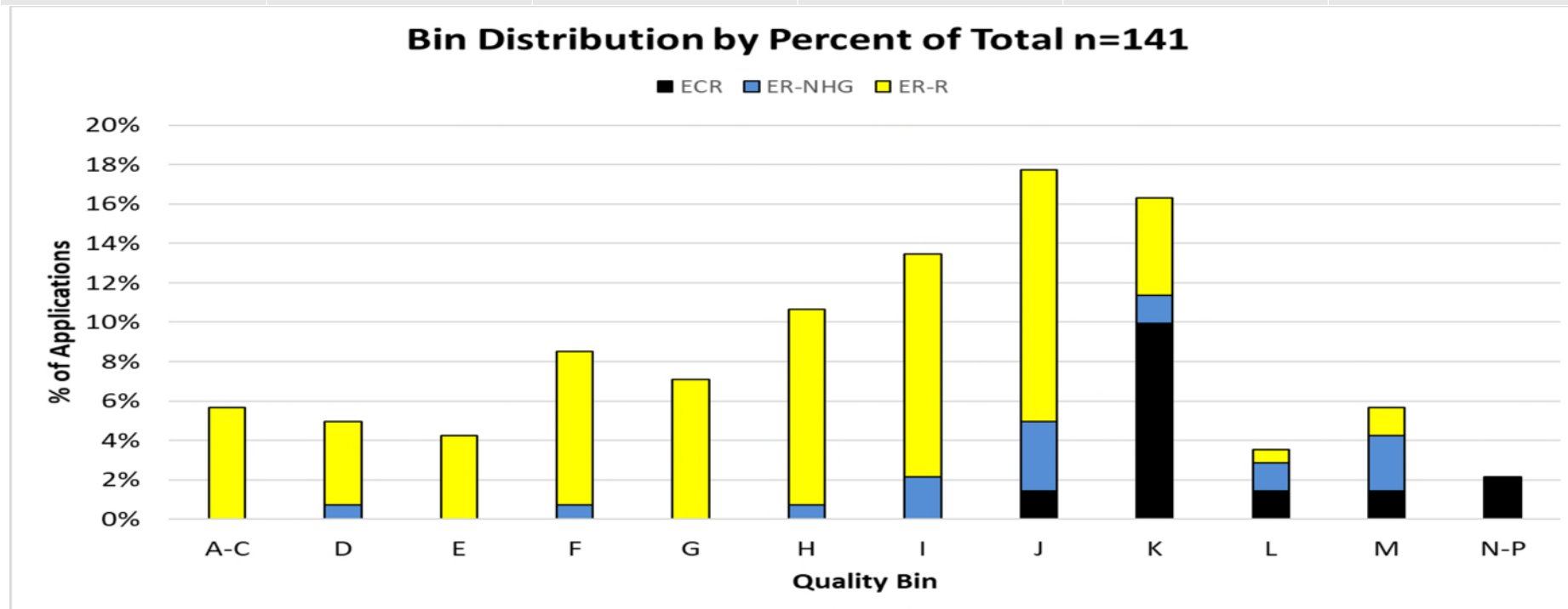
2022 Discovery Grants Results
EG 1504 - Chemistry – Distribution of merit indicator ratings

Distribution of Merit Indicators by Percent of Total n=141
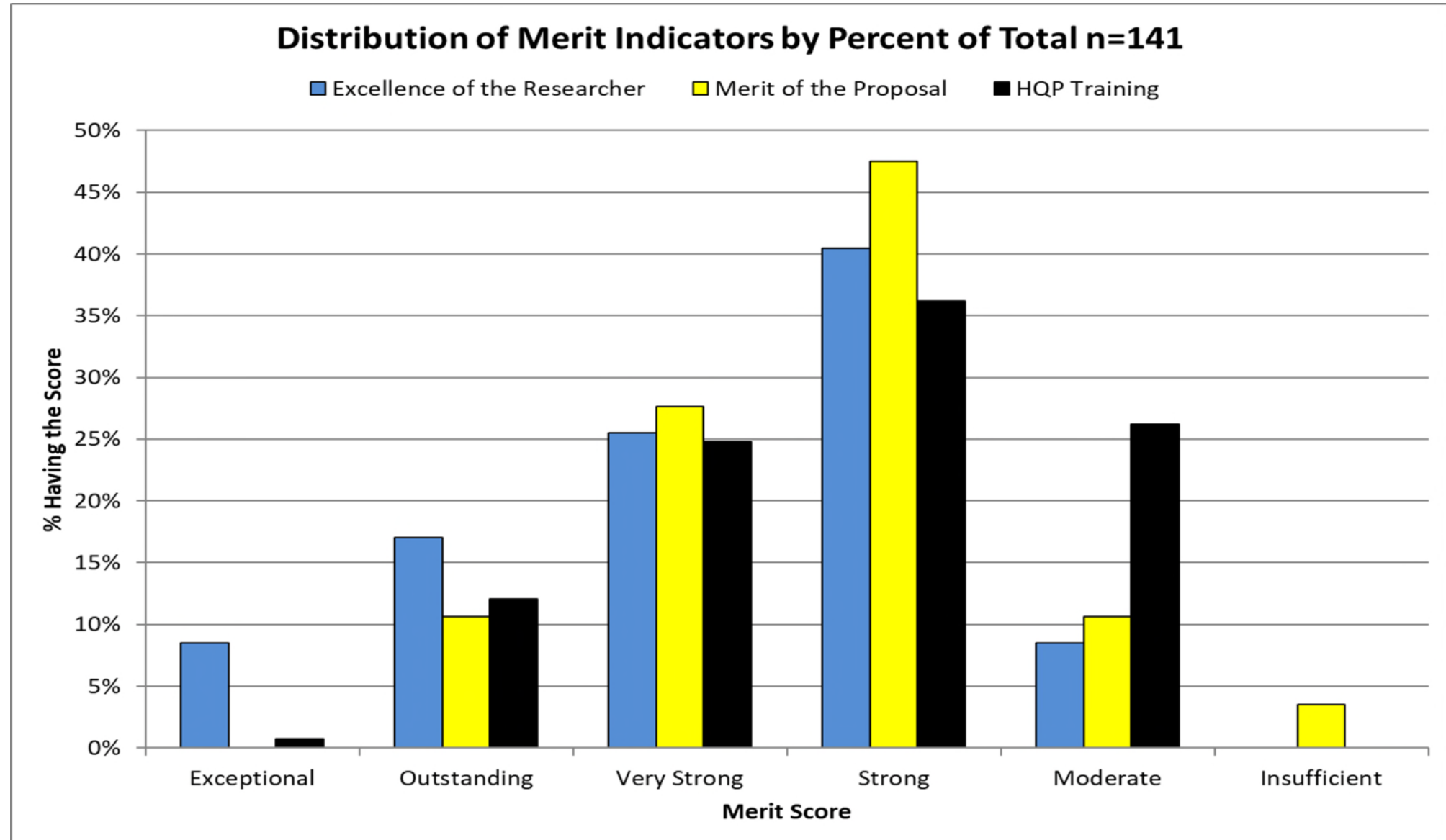
2022 Competition
EG 1504 - Chemistry - External Reviewer reports

Reviewers contacted	Number who accepted	Accept rate	Reports received	Submit rate
971	522	53.7%	420	80.45%

Number of submitted reports	Number of Applications	Percentage of Applications
0	1	1%
1	17	12%
2	34	24%
3	39	27%
>3	50	36%
3 reports or more (target)	89	63%

Research Tools and Instruments (RTI)

Program webpage:
https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/professors-professeurs/rtii-oiri/rti-oir_eng.asp

	2017	**2018**	**2019**	**2020**	**2021**	**2022**
Budget	$30.5M	$25.1M	$25.3M	$30.7M	$25.3M	**$25.0M**
# Appl.	748	1043	1005	893	811	**713**
# Funded	241	208	210	248	201	**207**
Success Rate	32%	20%	21%	28%	27%	**29%**
Funding Rate	33%	21%	22%	29%	25%	**29%**

Research Tools and Instruments (RTI)

Program webpage:
https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/professors-professeurs/rtii-oiri/rti-oir_eng.asp

nserc-crsng.gc.ca

	Overall	Chemistry
Number of Applications	713	**94**
Number of Awards	207	**27**
Success Rate	29%	**28.7%**
Amount Awarded	$25.0M	**$3.4M**
Funding Rate	29%	**29.7%**

2022 Competition Results

Discovery Development Grants (DDG)

Program webpage:
https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/professors-professeurs/grants-subs/discoverypilot-decouvertepilote_eng.asp

|	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Awarded	54	34	24	47	22	**28**

2022 Competition Results

Statistics

For more information on DG and other Research Grants results:

- 2022 competition statistics posted on the web: https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/professors-professeurs/discoverygrants-subventionsdecouverte/index_eng.asp

- **New resource**: Competition Statistics Dashboards for DG and RTI.

Contact resgrant@nserc-crsng.gc.ca if you have any questions.

3.
Research Grants and Scholarships (RGS) Program Updates
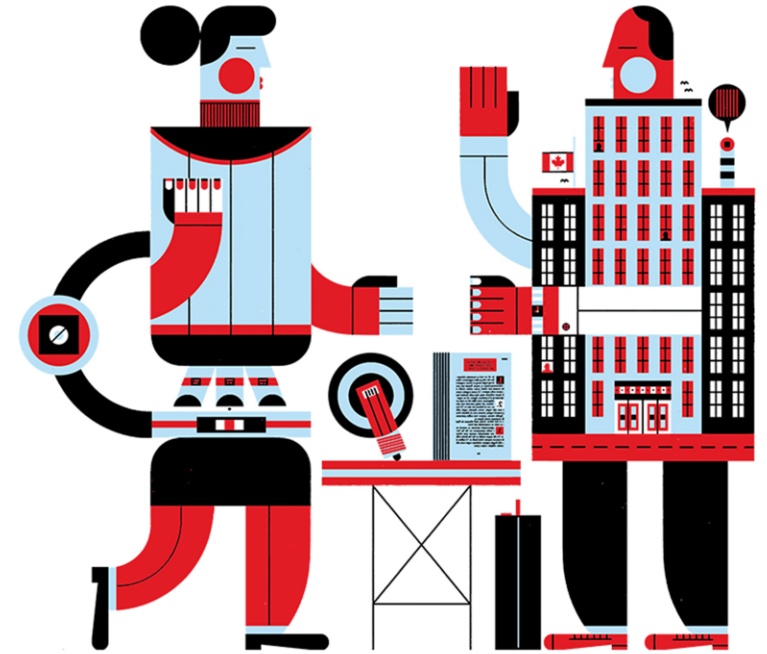
RGS Program Updates

2023 Discovery Grants Competition

As the global pandemic situation remains fluid, to ensure effective and timely delivery of the 2023 Discovery Grants competition and the safety of participants, the Discovery Grants review meetings will take place by videoconference once again this year following the successful delivery of the 2021 and 2022 competitions. Moreover, NSERC will be better positioned to provide more concrete direction on competition planning for future years after staff have integrated into our new NSERC headquarters (later this year).

NSERC is committed to maintaining a peer review process of the highest quality, including fairness and consistency between evaluating committees and across competition years.

Contact: resgrant@nserc-crsng.gc.ca

Support for Early Career Researchers (ECRs)

Early Career Researchers are applicants who have held an independent academic position for 5 years or less.

- Five year window adjusted for any eligible delay in research
- All eligible leaves taken (e.g. parental, bereavement, illness of applicant or family) are now credited as twice the amount of time taken

NSERC devotes additional funds to support ECRs through

- Increases to Discovery Grants
- Discovery Launch Supplement

ECRs re-applying for the first time have the option of extending their DG by one year with funds in addition to the Discovery Grants one-year extension with funds due to COVID-19.

RGS Program Updates

RTI Program

Application deadline date is **October 25;** Research Portal

Current change:

- Applicants and co-applicants awarded in April will not be eligible to apply in October for the next year's RTI competition

Recent changes:

- Changes to selection criteria (names have been shortened, and 2nd criterion no longer assesses the excellence of the researcher)

- Clarified instructions in Budget Justification section and added a template budget table applicants are to use to show tax and currency exchange rates and totals

- Confirmation of Financial Contribution documents are no longer required and should not be submitted

Guidelines on assessment of contributions to research, training and mentoring

Released in May 2022, the new <u>Guidelines</u>:

- Promote NSERC's support of research excellence in Canada and incorporate the principles of the Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA)
- Recognize and value a broader range of contributions, including outreach and mentoring, emphasizing their quality and impact
- Permit applicants to select from a broader variety of contributions and suitable indicators to demonstrate their impact
- Clarify eligible interruptions in research, training and mentoring

- These guidelines replace the <u>Policies and Guidelines on the Assessment of Contributions to Research and Training</u> and the <u>Guidelines for the Preparation and review of Applications in Engineering and the Applied Sciences</u>
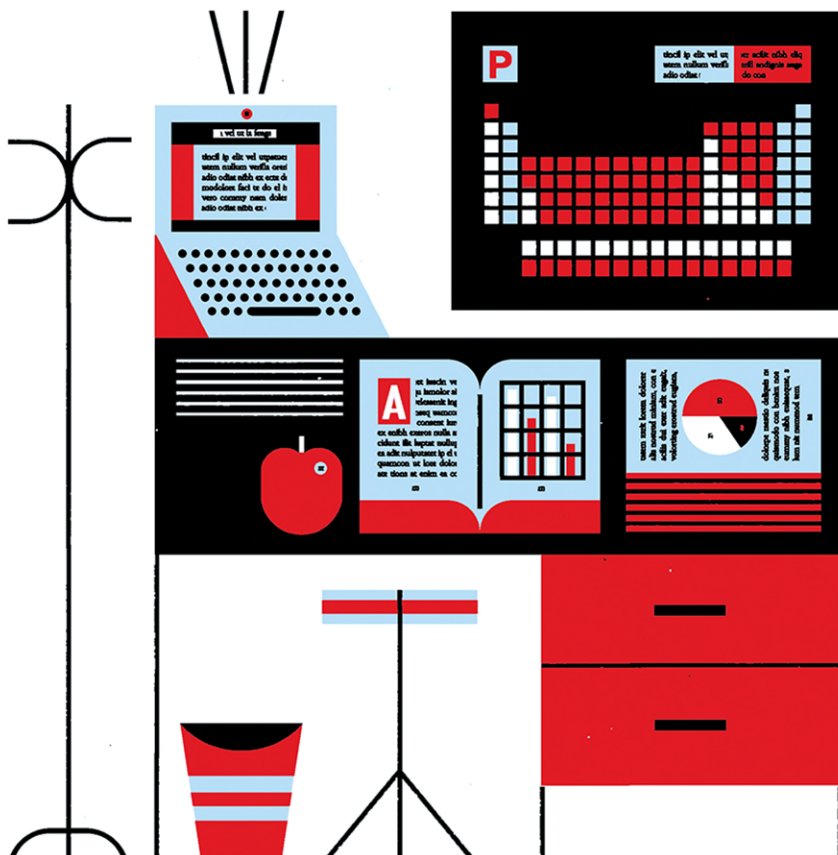
Questions?

Sophie Debrus

sophie.debrus@nserc-crsng.gc.ca

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