



# Canada Research Chair Open Call

The Canada Research Chairs (CRC) Program provides an opportunity to nominate a diverse cadre of outstanding researchers for professorships in areas that align with [McGill's Strategic Research Plan](#)<sup>1</sup>. Chairholders are nationally recognized as exceptional researchers and innovators in their discipline.

This call is open to new recruits and internal candidates at McGill University. This call is launched to fill current and upcoming CRC vacancies:

Tier	CIHR	NSERC	SSHRC
1	-	1	-
2	2	-	-

**Tier 1 CRCs:** Reserved for established scholars recognized as outstanding, original researchers of world-class calibre and leaders in their field.

**Tier 2 CRCs:** Reserved for emerging researchers, providing support to realize their exceptional promise. Note: Tier 2 Chairs are not intended as a pipeline for Tier 1 Chairs.

Eligibility for Tier 2: Candidates should normally have received their highest degree within the last 10 years. Exceptions may be made for career interruptions due to parental leave, medical leave, clinical training, or family care responsibilities. For questions about eligibility, contact <mailto:crc.provost@mcgill.ca>. Decisions will follow the CRC's [Tier 2 justification process](#).

If additional Canada Research Chair positions become available within the next twelve months, candidates identified through this recruitment process may be nominated for those roles. Anyone who meets the requirements outlined in this Open Call and is interested in a Canada Research Chair position is encouraged to apply.

## Nomination Process

### Step 1: Faculty-Level

Deans, Associate Deans (Research), Chairs, and Directors are responsible for identifying and nominating excellent researchers through a process that is [open, transparent, and accountable](#), as mandated by the Tri-agency Institutional Programs Secretariat (TIPS). Faculties are encouraged to proactively identify a diverse pool of candidates, especially from under-represented equity-seeking

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<sup>1</sup> Nominations for the 2026-1 cycle should reference McGill's next Strategic Research Plan, expected release December 2025.

groups, including Indigenous Peoples, Persons with Disabilities, Racialized Individuals, and Women and Gender Equity-Seeking Groups. Members of these federally designated groups (FDGs) are encouraged to put their names forward to their Faculty or Department for consideration.

It is important that all candidates are aware of the [equity targets](#) that the TIPS has set for McGill. All candidates should be strongly encouraged to complete the internal [Equity Self-Identification](#) form which is confidential and used solely for applying [McGill's CRC EDI Action Plan](#).

Faculty decisions regarding nominations should be:

- Based on the candidate's record of scholarly achievement.
- Made pursuant to a review by a Faculty-level committee composed of at least three members including the Faculty's Dean (or delegate) and Associate Dean (Research). This committee should reflect diversity, including gender diversity, and its members must have received McGill equity training within the past 3 years. (Contact to arrange training if needed).
- Documented to demonstrate compliance with the TIPS requirements for an open and transparent nomination and recruitment process (template provided to Faculties).

## Step 2: Institutional level

Nominations are assessed by the [Standing Internal Review Committee](#) (SIRC) with expertise in the nominee's field (CIHR, NSERC, and SSHRC).

The nomination package must include:

- A joint recommendation letter from the Dean and Chair/Director (for internal review only)
- [CV details](#) (Education, Affiliation and Employment, Funding, Interruptions and Special circumstances) for the reference period 2021–2026. A template is provided to Faculties.
- Condensed [CRC Supporting documents](#), including:
  - Executive summary (maximum 100 words) (Section [2a of the instructions](#))
  - Description of proposed research program (maximum 3 pages following [2b-e of the instructions](#)).
  - Quality of the Institutional Environment, Institutional Commitment, and Fit of Proposed Chair with [McGill's Strategic Research Plan](#). **Nominations should reference the incoming SRP, pending release** (maximum 3 pages following [3a-c of the instructions](#)).
  - Full [CV documents](#) (sections 1-6, reference period 2021-2026).

## Important dates

- **8 January 2026:** all Faculty nomination packages to be submitted to [crc.provost@mcgill.ca](mailto:crc.provost@mcgill.ca).
- **12 January – 30 January 2026:** Review of nomination packages by SIRC subcommittees.
- **3 – 5 February 2026:** SIRC selection meetings for SSHRC, NSERC, CHIR subcommittees.
- **By 9 February 2026:** Decisions, comments, and recommendations from the SIRC subcommittees will be communicated to Faculties.
- **16 March 2026:** Selected nominees' deadline for uploading FINAL applications with all the comments and recommendations addressed, for administrative review.
- **7 April 2026:** OPEVPA will send memos to Faculties to confirm the institutional commitments for their nominee(s).
- **14 April 2026:** Deadline for selected nominees to submit any minor modifications to the CRC application online.

## Selection Criteria

- **Tier 1 Chairs:** Nominees must be full professors or associate professors expected to be promoted to full professor level within one or two years of the nomination or possess equivalent qualifications.
- **Tier 2 Chairs:** Nominees must be emerging scholars, at least assistant or associate professors, or possess equivalent qualifications. See [Tier 2 Justifications](#) for more information.
- **Record of Research Funding, Dissemination, and Impact:** Candidates must demonstrate research success through peer-reviewed grants, publications, conferences, patents, products, services, technology transfer, impactful data sets, policy reports, or knowledge mobilization within public, private or non-governmental sectors. The application should provide evidence of research impact, recognizing that high-impact venues and forms of research may vary by discipline.

**Note:** It is up to the candidate to explain the choice of venues for the dissemination of research results. Diverse forms of research – such as land-, field- or community-based research or interdisciplinary or partnered research – may take longer to reach the point of knowledge translation/dissemination and its impact may be measured through non-traditional metrics, which would include, for example, work within communities or Indigenous governance structures.

- **HQP Training Record:** Candidates will be evaluated on their ability to create an environment that attracts, develops, trains, and retains outstanding and diverse researchers in areas and technologies critical to Canada's cultural, social, and economic growth, vital public policy issues, and quality of life. The application should provide evidence of training effectiveness, including outcomes for trainees and, for early Tier 2 researchers, potential to recruit and train emerging researchers.
- **Program of Research:** The proposed program of research must be original, innovative, and of high-quality, anchored to the candidate's research successes and aligned with [Strategic](#)

[Research Plan](#). The program should demonstrate potential to advance Canada’s leadership in research of high social, cultural, scientific, or technological impact.

- **Demonstrated Engagement in Collegial Governance and Service:** Nominees must engage meaningfully in the academic community, supporting collegial governance and service. Faculty nomination letters must include a statement of the nominee’s performance in governance and service with examples of leadership and impact that demonstrate that they have performed at the level of at least “reasonable”, and ideally “superior”, over the past three years (or less if recently appointed).

The review committee will assess applications equitably, considering career interruptions and the candidate’s career stage. Safeguards are in place to ensure fair and confidential treatment of this information.

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## COMMITMENT TO EQUITY AND DIVERSITY

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McGill University is committed to equity and diversity within its community and values academic rigour and excellence. We welcome and encourage applications from racialized persons, women, Indigenous persons, persons with disabilities, ethnic minorities, and persons of minority sexual orientations and gender identities, as well as from all qualified candidates with the skills and knowledge to engage productively with diverse communities. *McGill’s selection of Canada Research Chairs in the April 2026 round must give preference to qualified nominees who self-identify as a member of one or more of the following federally designated groups (FDGs) to respect the [equity targets](#) that have been set by the CRC Program: Racialized individuals, Indigenous Peoples, Persons with disabilities, and Women and gender equity-seeking groups.*

At McGill, research that reflects diverse intellectual traditions, methodologies, and modes of dissemination and translation is valued and encouraged. Candidates are invited to demonstrate their research impact both within and across academic disciplines and in other sectors, such as government, communities, or industry.

McGill further recognizes and fairly considers the impact of leaves (e.g., family care or health-related) that may contribute to career interruptions or slowdowns. Candidates are encouraged to signal any leave that affected productivity, or that may have had an effect on their career path. This information will be considered to ensure the equitable assessment of the candidate’s record.

McGill implements an employment equity program and encourages members of designated equity groups to self-identify. It further seeks to ensure the equitable treatment and full inclusion of persons with disabilities by striving for the implementation of universal design principles transversally, across all facets of the University community, and through [accommodation policies and procedures](#). Persons with disabilities who anticipate needing accommodations for any part of the application process may contact, in confidence, this [email](#) or phone at 514-398-2477.

**Posting date: 10 Nov 2025**