



Vice-Principal (Research and Innovation)

Office of Sponsored Research

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McGill's SSHRC General Research Fund (GRF) and NSERC GRF Application Guidelines

[SSHRC and NSERC will allow McGill University to retain residual funds](#) from prior years under certain conditions, as determined by their Finance and Awards Administration Division. These funds will be transferred to a General Research Fund (GRF) for the University to use in accordance with Tri-Agency regulations for the "broad purpose of enhancing the quality of research in the natural sciences and engineering, or in the social sciences and humanities". Primary SSHRC and NSERC grant holders whose grants have expired, but who have unspent funds remaining, may formally apply to McGill's SSHRC or NSERC General Research Fund (GRF), which is administered by the Office of Sponsored Research (OSR), in order to access these funds to complete the research project originally funded.

Eligibility: Applicants must have held a SSHRC or NSERC grant from an eligible program that expired with unspent funds remaining. ***Funds with an unspent balance greater than 50% of the original grant amount are not subject to this application process, and these funds must instead be returned to the Tri-Agency.*** The OSR must receive applications to the institutional GRF within one year of the original grant expiry date. Applicants must be eligible to hold a research fund at McGill, and must hold and maintain a Ranked Academic appointment at the University for the duration of the GRF grant period.

Deadline: Two months prior to the expiration date of the original Tri-Agency grant.

Application Process: Complete McGill's SSHRC/NSERC GRF application form and submit it by email to vera.milbradt@mcgill.ca.

Duration: The grant period will be for one year. ***Grantees will be obligated to spend at least 50% of the awarded funds within six (6) months of the award date.*** Requests to access any funds remaining at the end of the GRF grant period will not be considered, and these funds will be returned automatically to McGill's SSHRC/NSERC GRF.

Funding: Applicants to the NSERC GRF may request a maximum of one year of funding from their original NSERC grant, whereas applicants to the SSHRC GRF may request a maximum of 33% of the original SSHRC grant amount. GRF awards will be treated as new grants and funds awarded will be deposited into a new internal research fund for the applicant.

Funds must be spent in accordance with the [Tri-Agency Financial Administration Guide \(TAFAG\)](#).

Certifications: Applicants whose research activities will involve the use of animals, biohazardous materials, or human participants must retain active certifications for the duration of the GRF grant period. Failure to maintain the necessary certifications will result in a hold placed on the research fund.

Adjudication: The applicant's Department Chair must approve the application form before submitting it to the OSR for review. OSR approval of requests for GRF funds might depend on confirmation from the Agency (SSHRC/NSERC) on the final authorized transfer to the GRF, which is posted once a year, in the middle of November. *All decisions are final.*

OSR Contact: Vera Milbradt, vera.milbradt@mcgill.ca or local 3790