

MITACS Globalink Research Awards

Information Session

June 2021

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Program Objectives

- To provide funding to support the travel and subsistence expenses of students for an international research experience
- Support Canadian students to have international research experiences under the supervision of a host supervisor
- Support international students to have Canadian research experiences under the supervision of a host supervisor
- Unlike other MITACS programs, this is NOT an internship placement with a company or organization
- University to university arrangements

Eligibility

- Undergrads, masters, PhDs, and post-doc
- Must be full time students
- For undergrads (first degree), must complete year 2 of studies before departure and have a B average
- For Canadian students outbound to international locations, the host supervisor must be at a duly recognized university or research institution in their home country (if in doubt, ask)
- Students cannot go to countries where they hold citizenship or where they did a prior degree

Funding

- \$6,000 per award
- Funds are used primarily for travel and subsistence
- If costs are estimated to be less than \$6,000, or there is money “left over”, those funds can be budgeted for / used for research expenses and/or student stipend payment
- Ideally, the student will have a research grant or be a paid research assistant, to cover their “time”, and this award covers the travel
- Supervisor (in either country) can contribute additional funds if necessary / warranted
- **Note:** the award is made to the faculty supervisor at STFX who in turns is responsible for the expenses from the award

Partners

- MITACS has formal arrangements with a number of partner agencies globally who cost-share the program and/or providing significant funding to support stipends and other costs in addition to the base travel costs through MITACS
- Many partners have targeted efforts, for example:
 - UK Research and Innovation – doctoral only
- Most partners have their own call for applications within their own countries, with deadlines, both for inbound and outbound
- List of [partner organizations](#)

Eligible Countries

- Beyond the formal partners, MITACS permits inbound and outbound GRA awards in many countries (including those where they have partners)
- These countries have been identified as those where there is a strategic alignment with Canada's R&D interests
- Most European countries, USA, Australia, several South American and Asian countries, and others such as Israel
- List of [eligible countries](#)

STFX Agreement with MITACS

- Only universities with a MITACS agreement can participate in GRA
- 3 year agreement ending March 31 2023
- 5 awards per year permitted – regardless of type of student or inbound vs outbound
- Approved applications involving partners do not count toward quota
- For each approved application, STFX must provide \$2,000 towards the total \$6,000
 - **This must come from the faculty supervisor's sources of funds, such as DG, UCR, etc**
 - No matching funds required if the application is with one of MITACS' partners

Program Mechanics

- Contact David Bruce in Research Office, first
 - We have to request an application form (MITACS moving to an online application)
- No application deadlines, allow 10-12 weeks for decision
- Travel must start within 12 months of approval date
- Application submitted by student, with named home and host supervisors
 - David Bruce will review before submission, and facilitate signatures
- Award is made in the name of the Canadian supervisor as a research grant
- Research office facilitates account opening, etc
- Student (with help of supervisors) makes travel arrangements, completes all necessary MITACS forms, completes a “pre-departure” workshop on expectations / requirements for international travel
- End of project surveys completed by student and by both supervisors
- End of project report submitted by student

Application Requirements

- Application form
- Student CV
- Supervisor CV (both)
- Letter from each supervisor
 - Contact details, title, department affiliation
 - Details on supervisor's support for the participant and project (**very important for the host supervisor to clearly say how and why, with details**)
 - Describe the student's academic and research qualities and ability to complete the project
- Research proposal

Other (1)

- For outbound students, the role of the host supervisor is critical:
 - Quality support letter
 - Willingness to assist student with logistics to get to host country / site, etc
 - Willingness to provide some measure of mentorship, training, and support
 - A “good fit” with their own research program
- Ideal program to help STFX faculty build in a number of areas:
 - Strengthen existing, or establish new, international research collaborations
 - For inbound student experiences to STFX, adds to your track record of HQP / student (co-)supervision or training
- Ideal program for a student applying for an internal student research award

Other (2)

- When considering inbound students to STFX you need to commit to helping the student with local logistics
 - Where to live / stay for the visit – short term rentals, billeting, university residence
 - Make sure they are aware of any necessary paperwork they need to complete ahead of time, like getting a travel visa
 - Office of Internationalization (Donald Rasmussen) can advise on requirements
- When considering outbound students to other countries:
 - Make sure your student knows / finds out if they need travel or work visa
 - Direct them to get advice and guidance from our Office of Internationalization if necessary

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