



1. Important update on the Omicron variant and research operations

From now until Monday January 31, 2022, all research work that can be conducted remotely must be done remotely, and researchers may only work on campus if the nature of the work requires them to be on-site. Face-to-face (F2F, in-person) research involving human participants is now paused except for exceptional situations (online/virtual research may continue). Please visit the DLSPH's [Research Restart](#) page for more details. The pausing of research should follow the emergency stop plans, stated in the approved F2F request forms. New amendments to pivot to online or virtual methodologies is needed if not documented in the approved REB. The REB will continue to review requests for F2F research but final approval for these requests will not be granted until public health conditions allow.

All university sanctioned activities outside of Canada are cancelled for U of T students until further notice. Please review the [University's Guidance on Research and Travel During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#) and the [Off-Campus Safety Planning Record](#).

Please monitor the [Update on the Omicron Variant and Research Operations](#) page for updates.

For any questions, please contact the Office of Research. research.dlsph@utoronto.ca

2. Community Resilience Fund Call for Applications

The 2021 CRF Call for Applications is accepting applications for new programming projects with an evaluation component; conferences/workshops/seminars; research projects; and youth-led projects.

The Youth-Led Projects funding stream aims to support projects empowering young people working to counter radicalization to violence. Youth-led projects may focus on research, programming or Conferences/Workshops/Seminars as detailed in the [Funding Application Guide](#). This stream uses a simpler, streamlined application process to support new youth-led ideas.

For more information on the 2021 call for applications priorities, eligible project types, maximum budgets and award duration, and cost-share requirements where applicable please consult the [Funding Application Guide](#).

Public Safety Program Advisors are available to provide advice on the eligibility of applicants, activities and costs, and to answer general questions about the Community Resilience Fund at crf@ps-sp.gc.ca or psontario-spontario@ps-sp.gc.ca

Deadline: CRF applications for research projects must be signed on behalf of UofT by Research Services. Applicants must submit an MRA in advance of the deadline so that it is **received by Research Services no later than noon, Thursday January 20, 2022**. The MRA must include a nearly final draft application and a finalized budget.

The sponsor deadline to submit an application has been **extended** until **January 25, 2022 at 11:59 p.m. Pacific Standard Time (PST)**.

3. Amazon Research Awards Winter 2022 Call for Proposals

The winter 2022 call for proposals is open for **Amazon Research Awards (ARA)** for ***Alexa Fairness in AI***. Proposals will be reviewed for the quality of their scientific content, creativity, and their potential for impact at scale. Proposals related to theory, practice, and new techniques are all welcome.

Alexa AI-Natural Understanding's (NU) mission is to build and enable engaging, world-class conversational AI capabilities that are broadly accessible. Under this call for proposals, Amazon Science is seeking to fund research projects on the following topics:

- Transparency, explainability, and accountability in AI systems.
- Theories of computational/algorithm fairness and factors that affect algorithmic trustworthiness.
- Detecting and ameliorating adverse biases in data and algorithms, and fairness-aware design of algorithms.
- Metrics and methods for designing, piloting, and evaluating systems that mitigate against adverse biases and ensure fairness, including the use of human-machine collaboration and decision support.

ARA provides **grant recipients unrestricted funds and AWS Promotional Credits**. Funded projects are assigned an Amazon research contact, and recipients also receive training resources, including AWS tutorials and hands-on sessions with Amazon scientists and engineers. Funds are awarded for a 1-year term and budgeted according to the needs of the project; however, follow-on projects may subsequently be proposed.

Deadline: Submission period 12/6/21 - 1/21/22. Decision letters will be sent out May 2022. Before applying, Amazon Science encourages researchers to [visit the ARA website](#) and [read the frequently asked questions](#) for more specific program information.

4. SSHRC Talent Award

Call for nominations

[The Talent Award](#) recognizes outstanding achievement by an individual who holds a SSHRC doctoral or postdoctoral fellowship or scholarship. This includes, but is not limited to, a Canada Graduate Scholarship, Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship or Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship. The Talent Award is given to an individual who maintains academic excellence, has a talent for research and knowledge mobilization and has demonstrated clear potential to be a future leader within and/or outside the academic sector. The Talent Award may be taken up as a fellowship to fund the recipient's doctoral or postdoctoral research over a one-year period, or may be used, within one year of receiving the award, as a grant to support research, knowledge mobilization or other research-related activities.

The Talent Award is one of five SSHRC Impact Awards given annually, which also include:

- [SSHRC Insight Award](#)
- [SSHRC Connection Award](#)
- [SSHRC Partnership Award](#)
- [SSHRC Gold Medal](#)

How to Nominate

The University of Toronto may nominate **one candidate annually** for each of the SSHRC Impact Awards. An advisory committee of representatives from across the social sciences and humanities reviews internal nominations to select the University's nominees each year.

Nominations will be valid for one award cycle and will require a nomination letter and three reference letters (referees may be affiliated with the nominee's current institution). Please visit the [SSHRC website](#) for more information about nominating eligible candidates.

Deadline: To submit a candidate for consideration by the University of Toronto internal committee, please complete the following steps:

- Submit an online [Expression of Interest](#) (EOI) by **January 26, 2022**.
- Submit the [two-page internal nomination form](#) and the candidate's CV to vpri.awards@utoronto.ca by **5:00pm on February 4, 2022**.

Sponsor Deadline: April 1, 2022

5. CIHR Planning and Dissemination Grants ICS (Winter 2022)

The Institute/Initiative Community Support (ICS) Program is offering [Planning and Dissemination Grants](#), intended to provide support for planning and/or dissemination activities (either virtual or in-person) consistent with the [mandate of CIHR](#) and relevant to CIHR Institutes and Initiatives.

Participating Institutes/Initiatives have tailored this funding opportunity to meet the unique needs of their respective communities. For more information, please visit the [Sponsor Description](#) section for details, research areas and funds available.

Events/activities may focus on, but are not limited to, the following:

Planning:

- Activities that assist potential teams of researchers, knowledge-users and/or partners in working together to identify research questions or emerging issues and priorities that could form the basis of a grant application
- Stakeholder consultations, including citizen engagement activities regarding needs, gaps and opportunities in the health research landscape, priority policy issues and/or priority research questions, where such common understanding is currently lacking or requires further development
- Initial planning and discussion of a research project among potential team members
- Conducting an environmental scan or preliminary synthesis of relevant literature, activities or programs
- Early-stage planning to determine possible commercial viability of a discovery
- Opportunities for knowledge exchange
- Gatherings of partners, health researchers, and/or knowledge-users where the main objective is to facilitate regional/national and/or international collaboration among individuals or groups from a variety of backgrounds interested in applying to a funding opportunity

Dissemination:

- Education of groups, such as patients, health professionals, community organizations, policy makers, and the general public
- Knowledge dissemination that will inform practice, clinical care, partnership best practices, policy and decision making
- Dissemination and/or discussion of research findings at scientific meetings, workshops, conferences, congresses or symposia
- Development and dissemination of knowledge translation products and tools

Please visit [ResearchNet](#) for specific instructions on completing your application and note that requirements may vary depending on the Institute or Initiative.

Deadline: The current deadline for submission is January 18th, 2022.

Please Note: The CIHR Planning & Dissemination grant has posted that the deadline will be extended, and a new date to be announced this week. Check [ResearchNet](#) for up-to-date requirements and deadlines.

6. Elsevier and SAGE Open Access

Update on agreements

In early December, a [memorandum from Larry Alford](#), included in the Provost's Weekly Digest, was sent about the results of the Canadian Research Knowledge Network negotiations with Elsevier.

[The new agreement](#) for ScienceDirect ejournals includes a cost reduction of 10.5% over 3 years, a 20% discount on Author Processing Charges (APCs) for most journals, and the elimination of a non-disclosure clause. This 20% discount on APCs applies to both hybrid and gold open access journals. Consult [Elsevier's tool](#) to determine whether a particular journal in your area of research is included in this deal.

Another recent deal that may be of interest to researchers is SAGE, which started on January 1, 2021. The [agreement](#) removes Article Processing Charges (APC) from over 900 [SAGE Choice](#) journals (some [exclusions apply](#)) and offers a 40% discount on APCs to publish in SAGE's gold open access journals. In the time since the agreement was signed, 312 articles have been published open access in SAGE journals. More information on this transformative agreement with SAGE is available on the [CRKN website](#).

For more information explaining how this agreement works visit UTL's [Publishing Discounts](#) webpage.

Questions or comments?

Consult your [Campus Liaison Librarian](#)

Email scholarly.communications@library.utoronto.ca

7. SSHRC Connection Grants

Call for applications

Connection Grants support events and activities geared toward short-term, targeted knowledge mobilization initiatives, including workshops, colloquiums, conferences, forums and summer institutes. Applications should be made using the Individual Connection Grant form; the form and instructions are available on the [SSHRC website](#).

Connection Grants are intended to support applicants and project directors who are running a knowledge mobilization event or outreach activity. Applicants must provide evidence that they are playing an active and significant role in the organization and delivery of the event or outreach activity.

Most SSHRC funding is awarded through open competitions. Proposals can involve any disciplines, thematic areas, approaches or subject areas eligible for SSHRC funding. See the guidelines on [subject matter eligibility](#) for more information.

Value: \$7,000 to \$25,000 for events, and up to \$50,000 for other outreach activities; higher amounts for outreach activities may be considered

Consult the [funding opportunities webpage](#) for additional details on eligibility and how to apply.

Deadline: Applications must be submitted by January 27, 2022 (internal deadline is January 24, 2022)

8. SSHRC Insight Development Grants

[SSHRC insight development grants](#) enable the development of new research questions, as well as experimentation with new methods, theoretical approaches and/or ideas. Funding is provided for short-term research development projects, of up to two years, proposed by individuals or teams. Insight Development Grants foster research in its early stages but are not intended to support large-scale

Funding is available for two distinct categories of scholars: established scholars and emerging scholars (as defined by SSHRC):

- Established scholars: Funding for [established scholars](#) provides support to explore new research questions and/or approaches that are distinct from the applicant's previous/ongoing research.
- Emerging scholars: This funding supports high-quality research projects by [emerging scholars](#) to develop new research questions and/or approaches. Such projects may build on and further the applicant's (or team's) graduate work and/or represent a continuation of their overall research trajectory.

The Insight Development Grant is submitted through the SSHRC Research Portal and uses the Canadian Common CV format. Consult the [VPRI website](#) for additional details regarding MRA submission, internal deadlines and the SSHRC application and submission process.

Deadline: Internal deadline - **noon - Monday, January 24, 2022**, SSHRC application deadline - **9 am - Friday, January 28, 2022**

9. SSHRC Partnership Grant Program

[The Partnership Grant Program](#) Stage 1 application is submitted as the first step in a two-step application process. Only applicants successful at the first stage will be invited to submit an application at the second stage. Applications successful at Stage 1 receive up to \$20,000 to develop the Stage 2 application.

Partnership Grants are intended for large teams working in formal collaboration between postsecondary institutions and/or organizations from the public, private and/or not-for-profit sectors. Funds are available to support a variety of formal partnership initiatives, e.g. disciplinary, interdisciplinary, inter-institutional, international and/or cross-sectoral, in any of the [disciplines and themes eligible for funding at SSHRC](#).

Partnerships must advance research and/or knowledge mobilization in the social sciences and humanities through mutual co-operation and sharing of intellectual leadership, and through resources as evidenced by cash and/or in-kind contributions. Research training is a significant component of any partnership proposal, but SSHRC also encourages proposals which focus primarily on partnered research training. SSHRC welcomes applications involving [Indigenous research](#), as well as those involving [research-creation](#).

Those considering applying for [SSHRC's February Stage 1](#) deadline should contact Research Services to discuss their proposal as early as possible.

Deadline: **Friday, 4 February 2022**, internal for online submission, RSO will give the application a final administrative review and with institutional approval will forward it to SSHRC by the sponsor deadline, **Feb 10th. (MRA deadline is Jan 28th)**