



Industrial R&D Fellowships Application Guide

The Research & Development Corporation (RDC) is partnering with the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) to co-fund Industrial R&D Fellowships (IRDF) in Newfoundland and Labrador. Applicants may also qualify for an investment through the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency's (ACOA) Business Development Program.

Program Overview

Attraction and retention of highly skilled personnel is critical to industry growth and economic development. NSERC's IRDF program provides financial support to enable recent doctoral (Ph.D.) graduates in science and engineering to pursue their R&D career interests in the private sector. RDC is building on NSERC's IRDF program to enable small and medium-sized companies to enhance their R&D capacity.

Through IRDF, RDC is partnering with NSERC to enable Newfoundland and Labrador companies to hire recent Ph.D. graduates in support of research and development – a key driver behind innovation and the commercialization of new products, services and processes. The following illustrates the NSERC-RDC co-funding model:

Industry	\$10,000 salary (plus benefits)
NSERC IRDF	\$30,000 salary
<u>RDC IRDF</u>	<u>\$30,000 salary</u>
Total	\$70,000 salary (plus benefits)

Funding may also be available from ACOA's Business Development Program (BDP). ACOA's investment varies, provided that total funding from all government sources does not exceed 75% of eligible project costs. For more information about the NSERC and ACOA program components, please visit their respective websites at http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/PD-NP/Industrial-Industrielle_eng.asp and <http://www.acoa-apeca.gc.ca>.

Purpose

To attract and retain highly qualified people in areas which enhance the R&D capacity of Newfoundland and Labrador's private sector.

Objective

The objective of the Industrial R&D Fellowships program is to increase the R&D capacity of the Newfoundland and Labrador private sector through:

- (i) The support of Newfoundland and Labrador companies to hire recent Ph.D. graduates in aid of their R&D activities.
- (ii) The opportunity for recent Ph.D. graduates to pursue a R&D-related career in the private sector in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Eligibility

In addition to NSERC's IRDF eligibility requirements, RDC post-doctoral applicants must propose research with either a private sector company or industry-relevant not-for-profit organization resident in Newfoundland and Labrador which currently performs or plans to undertake R&D activities as a result of the proposed position.

Level of Support

RDC will provide up to \$30,000 a year for a maximum of two years in support of the fellowship.

Application Process

To be considered for IRDF support through RDC, please submit an application package to NSERC as per the instructions found at http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/PD-NP/Industrial-Industrielle_eng.asp.

The following documentation must be submitted to NSERC, if requesting RDC IRDF support:

- A completed NSERC application package, as per NSERC's instructions;
- A signed letter providing NSERC with permission to share the application package, all related documentation, and evaluation results with RDC; and
- A signed, completed RDC IRDF Application Form.

Prior to application, the proposed industry partner must be approved as an eligible host organization for IRDF by NSERC. For more information on the eligibility process, please visit http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/Eligibility-Admissibilite/org-org_eng.asp.

In addition to the standard application forms and requirements under its Business Development Program, ACOA requires applicants to provide a letter to their Newfoundland and Labrador

office, outlining the host organization's contributions (salary and benefits) to the IRDF award, so that potential ACOA contributions can be determined. Note: ACOA's investment varies, provided that total funding from all government sources does not exceed 75% of eligible project costs.



Evaluation Process

The application package will be evaluated by RDC and NSERC to ensure their program criteria are met. RDC will also assess the application for relevance to Newfoundland and Labrador's competitive advantages, contribution to private sector R&D capacity, innovation and commercialization, identified market opportunities and potential economic impacts.

Applications to ACOA must meet the eligibility criteria of its Business Development Program. It is possible that an application may be approved by one or two of the funding partners (NSERC, RDC and ACOA). In this case, the fellowship can still proceed with the approved source(s) of funding.

Notification

Each co-funding partner will independently notify the applicant of their decision to fund the fellowship. Separate contracts will be required between each co-funding partner and a successful applicant.

Disbursement

Disbursement of funds will be through the industry partner. The organization will be responsible for providing salary and benefits to the fellow in the same manner as other employees. RDC and NSERC will reimburse the organization for salary costs in four month intervals (three times per year). The ACOA payment schedule will be outlined in the contract.



For More Information:

Research & Development Corporation

P.O. Box 13067, Station A

St. John's, NL A1B 3V8

Canada

Tel: +1.709.758.0913

Fax: +1.709.758.0927

Email enquiries: programs@researchnl.com

Website: www.researchnl.com

www.researchnl.com