

STUDENT LED RESEARCH GRANTS

Background and Purpose of Award:

The Student Led Research Grants initiative connects the B.C. Government with university students and their professors to conduct research that addresses public policy issues. It provides students with unique opportunities to apply their research skills to challenges faced by government and encourages them to think of the public service as a place of employment.

To support the implementation and development of the research projects cross government, the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO), Ministry of Labour and Citizens' Services, is providing one time funding grants to post secondary institutions in British Columbia to support student led research. The intent of the grant is to promote partnerships with post secondary institutions and to facilitate student research. The program is coordinated through the Cross Government Research, Policy and Practice (CGRPP) Branch, OCIO.

(http://www.cio.gov.bc.ca/about/find_it/cross_govt_research_policy_practice.asp)

This initiative provides a great opportunity for students to conduct research on key social issues and enhance the quality of their education. Students may be able to assist government in addressing social issues by researching best practices, approaches and help us to move forward with an evidence-based policy and practice approach. It will also provide opportunities to encourage students to look at the BC government as the employer of choice and best place to work. This funding will also support and encourage student opportunities in government as part of governments succession plan and to help us develop our knowledge workforce for the future.

These grants provide a funding source for UFV to provide funding directly to undergraduate and graduate students in the form of honorariums, travel and education grants to attend and present research at conferences for working on government related research and learning events.

- The award amount is up to \$1,500 per student, (only one student in any given project may be awarded the funds)
- A product from a research award is required: i.e. research paper, survey, presentation.
- A final report is required following the format of CHSRF:
http://www.chsrf.ca/knowledge_transfer/communication_notes/comm_reader_friendly_writing_e.php
- Travel will cover hotel, meals, transportation in accordance with government guidelines

Eligibility:

Any undergraduate/graduate student enrolled at UFV and is legally entitled to work in Canada.

Adjudication:

Grant applications will be assessed by an Advisory Committee comprised of UFV faculty researchers. This committee will provide recommendations to the AVP of Research who will make the final decision. It is expected that the competition results will be announced within 30 days of the competition deadline.

Criteria:

In evaluating applications, the Advisory Committee will consider the following criteria:

Quality of the Proposed Research:

- Originality and Innovation
- Merit of Research; relevance to the objectives of the Cross Government Research, Policy, and Practice Branch (**CGRPPB**)
- Strength of research design and overall feasibility of proposed research
- Interdisciplinary Elements (not mandatory, but encouraged given the mandate of the CGRPPB)
- Clarity, presentation, and logic of proposal

Researcher's ability, qualifications, potential for growth:

- Personal initiative and ability to work independently
- Ability to think critically and analytically
- Ability to apply skills and knowledge
- Ability to complete projects in a timely fashion
- Communication skills
- Past academic achievement
- Relevant academic training and experience
- Other relevant experience and accomplishments

Grant Administration:

Individual research accounts will be established for each grant holder through their supervisor/faculty advisor. Expenditures against this account will be processed through the UFV Office of Research Services.

Signatures:

All applications must have the signature of the applicant and his/her supervisor.

Reporting:

A financial report showing how the funds were used, and a brief report showing research results, and/or a brief description of the project (including reference to the Government Ministry or Agency the research is relevant to) will be required

within **30 days** of the project end date. The student's supervisor must sign off on this report. Please submit this report to the Office of Research Services.

Please use the format suggested by Cross Government Branch:

http://www.chsrf.ca/knowledge_transfer/communication_notes/comm_reader_friendly_writing_e.php

Application Procedure:

Students wishing to apply must be associated with a faculty member. The faculty member must agree to be the supervisor. Students should complete the application and submit it with all necessary attachments to their supervisor. To ensure confidentiality, the supervisor will complete his/her portion of the application, sign the application and submit the document to the Office of Research Services which will oversee the adjudication process.

Please note that only complete applications will be considered.

Expense Claims:

All expense claims must be submitted to your supervisor, who will prepare the appropriate reimbursement documents for subsequent submission to the Office of Research Services.