

## Additional Research Grant Review Support Pilot Project

The UW hopes to improve our success rates with external research grant applications for upcoming competitions by providing specialized external support for large grants. This year, the Research Office is piloting a support program for applicants submitting grants in excess of \$100,000 that will allow the principal applicant to receive help from an external reviewer experienced in specific granting agencies. The Research Office will pay the costs of an external reviewer.

Interested faculty will be able to choose from two options when they fill in the Research Starts Here form. Researchers will be able to either:

- Ask the Research Office to find and engage an external grant reviewer on their behalf; or
- Identify an external grant reviewer and have the Research Office make all the arrangements for the contract.

The external grant reviewer will only review draft applications and not write the whole proposal. Researchers can meet with their external grant reviewer prior to their draft application for some initial advice as they conceptualize their proposal. Once a draft proposal is developed, faculty can work with the external grant reviewer on a more substantive review. The external grant reviewer will provide feedback on the overall connection between project conception to methodology and budget and ensure that it aligns with the particular grant call. These grant reviewers will have specialized experience with the granting agencies. They can also help with completing the CCV or obtaining ResearchNet PINs etc.

This pilot program will first be available for NSERC Discovery Grants in the summer of 2021. The Notification of Intent (NOI) to Apply for a Discovery Grant is due to NSERC on August 1. Interested researchers should log into the WebGrants portal and fill in the Research Starts Here form in Funding Opportunities as soon as possible in order to allow enough time to arrange for external help. It will only be possible to accommodate requests made well in advance of the grant deadline.

If you have questions about this pilot project, please contact:

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