

Call for Applications

The NSERC CREATE Training Program on Sustainable Engineering in Remote Areas (SERA) is targeted at graduate students and undergraduate Aboriginal students with an interest in renewable energy systems or sustainable and energy efficient buildings. Graduate students must be enrolled at one of the four participating institutions (Queen's University, University of Manitoba, University of Ottawa and the Royal Military College of Canada) at the time of taking up the award. Undergraduate students from any institution may apply but they must hold their awards at one of the four institutions. Graduates of the SERA program will be well-equipped to become leaders in their fields as a result of the unique training they will receive through seminars and workshops, high-level research projects, industry internships and first hand visits to remote Indigenous communities. For more information, visit www.queensu.ca/sera.

Graduate:

Applications are now being accepted for graduate level awards as part of the NSERC CREATE SERA program. Graduate awards are valued at up to \$14000 per annum subject to the submission and approval of annual progress reports. All students enrolled in or applying to a graduate level program at a participating institution with a research interest related to the research themes of the SERA program are encouraged to apply. Note that any awards allocated to students not yet enrolled in a graduate program will be contingent upon their acceptance and enrollment in an approved program. Applicants are also encouraged to review the objectives of the program and should be aware of and committed to participate in mandatory industry internships representing at least 20% of their time. Such internships will enable students to practice skills learned in the seminars while tackling practical problems in remote areas or Aboriginal communities. To receive an application, please send an email to sera@queensu.ca.

Undergraduate:

Applications are being accepted for undergraduate level awards for the NSERC CREATE SERA program. Undergraduate awards are available for self-identified Indigenous applicants only. All eligible students enrolled in an undergraduate level program (at any university) with a research interest related to the research themes of the SERA program are encouraged to apply. Undergraduate students must hold their awards at one of the four participating institutions. Fourth year undergraduate students are considered eligible to apply for this award even though they may have completed their degree requirements before starting the award. However, the undergraduate award may not be held while the applicant is registered as a graduate student.

Undergraduate applicants are also encouraged to apply for the NSERC Undergraduate Student Research Award (USRA). Students have to hold the USRA awards for 16 consecutive weeks, full-time, usually this is May 1 to August 31. Successful undergraduate applicants **can hold both NSERC USRA and SERA awards at the same time. They may also use the NSERC USRA application form to apply for the SERA program.** Undergraduate NSERC USRA applicants should be aware of their departmental deadline (likely around February 07, 2017). Students who miss the departmental USRA deadline can still apply if their universities are willing.

All applications will be reviewed by the SERA Academic Progress Committee (APC); the number of awards allocated will depend on the quality of the applications and the perceived fit within the SERA program. While academic excellence is required to receive an award, it is not the only selection factor. To meet the objectives of the program, the awards will be distributed among various researchers within different fields of study. SERA reserves the right to re-announce the call for applications if positions in key strategic areas are not filled.

All applications must be received **no later than 4:30 pm EST on March 3rd 2017.**