NSERC COVID-19 Grant Extensions: Quick Guide for Queen’s researchers

NSERC has announced two types of extensions due to COVID-19:
1. Discovery Grants: 12-month extension with funds for all active grants
2. Additional 12-month extension to the period to use unspent funds for all active NSERC grants with a project spending deadline up to March 31, 2021, inclusively.

1. Discovery Grants\(^1\): 12-month extension with funds for all active grants
- **No action required by PIs at this time.** NSERC will contact eligible PIs once the implementation mechanism is in place, and will explain options available
  - process will prioritize grants with project spending deadlines (PSD of March 31, 2021)
- Active grants are those with an installment expected in the 2020–2021 fiscal year or later, and including Discovery Grants awarded in the recent 2020 competition
- Accepting the funding extension does not affect eligibility for future extensions
- Extension available even if PI has already had previous extensions, and/or deferred installments
- Extension is not available for:
  - grants that received a final installment in the 2019–20 year (or earlier)
  - grants now in the automatic extension period to use unspent funds (applies to both the standard non-COVID-19 extension period, and the additional COVID-19 extension to use unspent funds)
  - applicants who did not receive funding in the 2020 DG competition
- 2021 Discovery Grant competition will be for anyone not currently holding a Discovery Grant, including first time applicants; and those who choose not to accept the extension.

Please see [NSERC FAQ](#) on the DG funding extensions; including questions about 2021 DG competition.

2. Additional 12-month extension to the period to use unspent funds for active NSERC grants with a project spending deadline up to March 31, 2021, inclusively.
- PIs must request this extension by emailing Research Accounting, it is not automatic
  - send an email to research.accounting@queensu.ca
  - do not contact NSERC
- PIs named on eligible projects were contacted by Research Accounting (March 26, 2020)
- All questions should be sent to research.accounting@queensu.ca
- Grant funding transfers to collaborators will be handled by the usual process; contact Magda Monreal at monreal@queensu.ca

Other programs for which formal extension programs have not been announced, OR grants not eligible for the above extensions, but that have been affected by COVID-19:
- PIs should submit a request for installment deferral and/or project extensions to the agency via the usual process and before the end of the grant (timing details may vary between programs, please refer to relevant program guidelines).
- Please send questions to research@queensu.ca

Please refer to [NSERC News](#) for additional information, and links to COVID-19 program updates.

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\(^1\) Includes all Discovery Grant (DG) programs: DG - Individual, DG - Subatomic Physics, and DG - Northern Research Supplements