

Frequently Asked Questions – Queen’s Research Opportunities Funds

1. What are the Queen’s Research Opportunities Funds?

There are four Queen’s Research Opportunities Funds:

- *The Research Leaders’ Fund* – for strategic institutional commitments to aspirational research in support of the university’s research strengths and priorities
- *The International Fund* – to assist in augmenting the university’s international reputation through increased global engagement
- *The Arts Fund* – designed to support artists and their contributions to the scholarly community and to advancing Queen’s University
- *The Post-Doctoral Fund* – to both attract outstanding post-doctoral fellows to Queen’s and to support their contributions to research and to the university

2. What kind of an investment is being made into the Queen’s Research Opportunities Funds?

The Queen’s Research Opportunities Funds provide up to \$500,000 in funding each year. The funds will be tracked annually to gauge how they are dispersed across scholarly disciplines and to determine the impact they are having in advancing the objectives of the [Strategic Research Plan](#).

3. Who is eligible to apply to the Queen’s Research Opportunities Funds?

Tenured or tenure-track faculty members or clinical faculty members with protected time for research are eligible to apply to the Research Leaders’ Fund and the International Research Fund.

The Arts Fund program for artist production is open to Queen’s University academic staff who are practicing artists and who were hired in part on the basis of their artistic work. Any Queen’s academic staff member may apply to the visiting artist in residence program.

Potential post-doctoral fellows must apply to the post-doctoral fellowship program of the Post-Doctoral Fund with the support of the faculty member(s) with whom they propose to work. Any Queen’s post-doctoral fellow can apply for the travel award.



4. What is the process for applying?

Researchers interested in applying to the Research Leaders' or International Funds will be required to submit a Letter of Intent (LOI). The LOIs will be adjudicated by a review committee and those who submit a successful LOI will be invited to submit a full application. Those interested in applying to the Arts or Post-Doctoral Funds must submit a full application; an LOI is not required.

The LOI and full application deadlines will be advertised broadly across campus.

5. By what criteria will the applications be adjudicated?

The goal of the Queen's Research Opportunities Funds is to provide institutional support for areas of existing or emerging research strength that are of strategic importance to Queen's University. The LOIs and full applications will be judged on research excellence and on alignment with the [Strategic Research Plan](#). More particular criteria are outlined in the descriptions of the respective funds.

6. What is the relationship between the Queen's Research Opportunities Funds and external research funding?

Preference will be given to researchers who clearly demonstrate how they will use these internal research funding opportunities to leverage or match external funding, or to develop an external grant proposal. The Queen's Research Opportunities Funds are not intended to replace external research funding.

7. What are the reporting responsibilities once an applicant has been granted an award?

All Queen's Research Opportunities Funds recipients will be required to complete a one to three-page report at the end of the funding period that indicates progress towards the research goals outlined in the application and whether set deliverables have been achieved.

Access to further funding from the Queen's Research Opportunities Funds is contingent on a positive review of the final report.

8. Can an applicant apply for more than one award in a funding period?

A faculty member can only be the principal investigator on one research grant at any one time but may be a co-investigator on an application during this period.

9. After receiving an award as a principal investigator, when can applicants apply for another award?

This varies depending on the fund:

- Once the one-year funding period has concluded for an award from the Research Leaders' Fund or from the International Research Fund, applicants must wait 12 months before they are eligible to apply for another award.
- Applicants may apply to the Arts Fund programs annually.
- After having received a travel award, post-doctoral fellows are no longer eligible to apply for the travel award program of the Post-Doctoral Fund.

10. How long will projects be funded if an application is successful?

The funding periods for the awards are as follows:

- Research Leaders' Fund – 1 year (start date May)
- International Research Fund – 1 year (start date May)
- Arts Fund – 1 year (start date May)
- Post-Doctoral Fund – 1 year (Fellowship) (start date July); PDFs are only eligible to receive one travel award during their position at Queen's.

11. If recipients have not spent all of their funding within the funding period, are they eligible for an extension?

No. Extensions will only be given under extenuating circumstances. Any unused funds will be returned to the Vice-Principal (Research) at the end of the funding period.

12. What other research funding programs are administered by the Office of the Vice-Principal (Research)?

The SSHRC Institutional Grant (SIG) funding opportunity offers two grants to eligible Queen's researchers. Information on the grants and how to apply is available on the Vice-Principal (Research) [website](#).