

## Queen's Research Opportunities Funds: Research Leaders' Fund

An objective of the [Strategic Research Plan \(SRP\)](#) is to make institutional commitments in support of aspirational exploration and discovery that strategically align with Queen's University's research strengths and priorities. The goal of the Research Leaders' Fund is to enhance areas of research strength that are of strategic importance to the university by giving researchers or scholars in these areas an opportunity to accelerate or reposition their research programs.

### *Who can apply?*

Any tenured or tenure-track faculty member or clinical faculty member with protected time for research in an existing or emerging area of research strength can apply for up to \$25,000. The funding period is for one year. Awards as small as \$10,000 will be considered. The financial requirements of the request must be justified. Researchers cannot apply for funding in the year immediately following their grant expiry date.

Applicants are expected to propose a series of related activities intended to accelerate or reposition their research program. There is no particular restriction on the nature of these activities except that they must conform to university policies on research eligible expenses. All applicants are expected to demonstrate convincingly how the proposed research/scholarly activity will enhance their research program in a manner that aligns with one (or more) objectives of the SRP. In addition, applicants must show how their research focus supports one of the six Strategic Research Themes articulated in the SRP:

1. Securing Successful and Just Societies through Scholarship, Governance and Policy
2. Fundamental Principles of Nature: from Discovery to Application and Innovation
3. Mobilizing Creativity and Enabling Cultures
4. Health, Wellness and the Determinants of Human Health
5. Sustainability, Environment and Resources
6. Interdisciplinary Research in Materials, Computational Analytics and Human-machine Interactions

### *How to apply?*

Once per year in the fall, the Office of the Vice-Principal (Research) (OVPR) will circulate a call for Letters of Intent (LOI) to apply to the Research Leaders' Fund. The LOIs will be adjudicated by a review committee and those who submit a successful LOI will be invited to submit a full application. The LOI and full-



application deadlines will be advertised broadly across campus in order to ensure widespread awareness.

### ***How will applications be adjudicated?***

The objective of the OVPR is to ensure that the ultimate award winners meet the excellence criteria and that they represent the breadth of research across disciplines and Faculties.

In their applications, researchers must fully articulate the goals of their overall research program.

Applications will be ranked based on the following criteria:

- ability of funding to accelerate or reposition the applicant's research program
- ability to leverage or match external funding
- impact of the project's expected outcomes
- alignment of the project to SRP research themes and strategic objectives
- overall contribution of the project to research excellence

Researchers will need to disclose, in their applications, if they have applied to receive or have received external funding for the project they are proposing.

### ***Successful projects:***

Successful projects will commence in May. At the end of the one-year award period, funded researchers will need to submit a one to three-page report describing how they have met the criteria of the Research Leaders' Fund. If an application is unsuccessful, researchers may resubmit a revised project proposal in the next call for proposals for the Research Leaders' Fund.

*Please see our FAQ if you have additional questions*