

Institute Research Funds

January 2020

<https://www.bcit.ca/appliedresearch/funding/institute.shtml>

**“If we knew what we were doing,
it would not be research”**

Albert Einstein

What is the research question?

How will you answer it?

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Goals and Objectives

- Allow BCIT employees to pursue research initiatives for which they are unable to obtain funding from other sources
- Allow researchers to leverage Institute funds to obtain research funding from external agencies and partners that they would otherwise be unable to access.

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Key Facts

Pays for:

- Release time
 - Project expenses
 - Time for preparation of external applications
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- Up to 3 years maximum
 - Maximum \$25,000 per year per application
 - **2020:** Funding available for multi-year applications.

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2020 Dates (10th Round of Funding)

Jan 31, 2020

- Deadline for applications, submitted to School Research Committees (SRC)

Feb 3 to Feb 21, 2020

- SRC meetings

Mar 18, 2020

- IRC Meeting to review applications

Mar 30, 2020

- Deadline for successful candidates to be notified

Apr 1, 2020

- Funding available (next fiscal year)

Sep 1, 2020

- Anticipated project start, allowing for scheduling and release

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School Research Committees

- School of Business: Kevin Wainwright
- School of Computing & Academic Studies: Aaron Hunter
- School of Construction & the Environment: Eric Saczuk
- School of Energy: Mehrzad Tabatabaian
- School of Health Sciences: Shan Satoglu, Janet Morrison
- School of Transportation: Guy Ellis
- Services & Support: Joe Boyd

<https://www.bcit.ca/appliedresearch/committees/src.shtml>

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Research proposal

- **Researcher** Background Information - (interests, industry experience, publications (patents, papers, presentations, reports))
- Summary of **Proposed Research** (1 page)
- **Budget** – accurate, detailed list of expenses and budget justification (2 pages)
- Description of existing or proposed **facilities** (1 page max.)
- List of **personnel** required to support research project
- **Reporting** criteria (quarterly, mid project, end project, etc. as required by School Research Committees).

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Evaluation Criteria

- **Research plan:** Are the study design, research methods and analysis plan appropriate to answer a well-defined research question or questions?
- **Feasibility:** Is the project deliverable based on challenges with the study?
- **Alignment:** Does the project align with BCIT and School mandates and strategic plans?
- **Students:** Participating as researchers, not just subjects
- **Partnerships:** Internal to BCIT, and external: industry, university, institute or college, non-profit organization
- **Funding:** Other funding support or opportunities

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Tips for preparing an effective application

- Read the guidelines carefully before writing. Follow instructions.
- Start early. It takes time to arrange teaching schedules and release time, collaborations, other funding.
- Does it fit the priorities and interests of your School? Of BCIT?
- Write a reader-friendly application. Don't assume the reviewer is an expert on the topic.
- Emphasize the “how” more than the “why”.
- Be as accurate and detailed in your budget as possible.
- Get all the required signatures. Start early.

Talk to your School Research Committee

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Resources

- <https://www.bcit.ca/appliedresearch/funding/institute.shtml>
- Instructions
 - https://www.bcit.ca/files/appliedresearch/pdf/bcit_institute_research_funds_v3.pdf
- Application Form
 - https://www.bcit.ca/files/appliedresearch/doc/bcit_internal_research_funds_application_form_v3.docx
- Past Awards
 - <https://www.bcit.ca/appliedresearch/funding/irfawards.shtml>

**What is the research question?
How will you answer it?**

Talk to your School Research Committee