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## WiCS-Canada Small Research Grant for Junior Women Scientists

Building a research network is a particularly important investment for a woman's career in academe as they may have less easy access to influential contacts, have fewer mentors, face greater professional isolation, and are less likely than men to speak with other faculty daily about their research (e.g., Lyness & Thompson, 2000; Morrison & Von Glinow, 1990; Ragins & Sundstrom, 1989). In addition, diverse research experiences and cross-lab collaborations can be beneficial for emerging researchers as they develop their own programs of research.

Thus, WiCS-Canada offers a seed grant to junior scientists (graduate students and postdoctoral fellows) based in Canada to help them foster a new research collaboration with a senior or mid-career scholar at another institution in Canada or elsewhere. Although only junior scientists who identify as women are eligible for this award, the collaborating senior scientist can be of any gender.

At the discretion of the adjudication committee, one and possibly two awards will be granted.

A competitive application will document that the candidate has contacted a senior person and has begun to discuss details of collaborative research. Preference will be given to junior scientists who demonstrate preparation to initiate data collection and analysis for the collaborative project. In addition, preference will be given to new collaborations and those that are likely to have strong impact for the applicant's scientific career. Projects should be of modest scope so that researchers can realistically collect and analyze data within the period of one year.

Proposed topics of investigation should fall within the purview of CSBBCS.

The grant provides support of \$1500 for the collaboration. These funds can be used to support travel to the senior scholar's institution, to pay for research assistance, to pay research participants, or other costs associated with the research that are eligible under the [tri-council policy for research expenditures](#).

### **Applicants must:**

1. be a scientist who identifies as a woman.
2. be a graduate student or postdoctoral fellow in Canada.
3. be a current member of CSBBCS.
4. be requesting to visit a laboratory within or outside Canada where she has not worked previously, and outside of the institution at which the Master's and/or PhD will be (or were) awarded.

**To apply, submit the following to the WiCS-Canada Seed Grant Adjudication Committee:**

1. Evidence of an agreement to collaborate from the senior scholar who will be engaged in the research. The senior scholar need not be a member of CSBBCS.
2. The research plan. This plan should specify the general research question and theoretical context, and should detail the methodology including the methods of collecting data, proposed analyses, plans for dissemination, and timeline. The plan should also describe the relevance of this project to the applicant's research program. The plan should be approximately 2 pages long (single-spaced, using a 12-point font).
3. An itemized budget outlining how the seed grant funds will be spent to achieve the research goal.
4. A current CV for the junior scientist.
5. A current CV of the collaborating senior scientist.

**Relevant Dates:**

Submit all materials to the WiCS-Canada email address: [wicscanada@gmail.com](mailto:wicscanada@gmail.com) (subject heading = "2023 WiCSC Small Grant") by **5 PM EST on March 31, 2023**.

Winners will be notified on or around May 15, 2023 and will be honoured at the WiCSC Annual Meeting, which will be held on the first day of the CSBBCS Conference, July 17, 2023. Winners are required to submit a final report on the research collaboration within 15 months, and will consent to be featured by WiCS-Canada and CSBBCS in their promotional materials. The deadline for submitting the final report is August 31, 2024. Reports should be submitted to the WiCS-Canada email.

Decisions will be made by the WICS-Canada Seed Grant Committee chaired by Dr. Penny Pexman.

Funding for this program is provided by CSBBCS.

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