

Explore Grants

Application Deadlines:

October 31, 2019

March 15, 2020

(pending funds)



Eligibility

All VIU Faculty (full time, part time and sessional) are eligible to apply for this grant if they do not have any outstanding reports on previous grants.

Priority is given to those who have not received funding in the previous year.

Value

Up to \$2000

Duration

1 year

Adjudicated by:

Vancouver Island University
Research Awards Committee
(VIURAC)

Supporting student-faculty research mentorship opportunities

VIU understands that transformative learning experiences occur when students are able to work with faculty mentors on research and creative activity projects. The Explore Grants are part of a new suite of programs to support the realization of the Scholarship, Research and Creative Activity Plan (2017-22).

The **Explore Grants** are expected to support the **Cultivate Talent** objective of this plan. They are intended to allow VIU faculty to undertake that aim to explore and create new knowledge outputs where at least one undergraduate or graduate student is involved in the investigation. Explore Grants will enable VIU faculty to advance their own investigations and gain experience mentoring students. These opportunities will create new and transformative training opportunities for students and cultivate their talent in research.

The source of funding for these awards includes: 1) Vancouver Island University and 2) the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) through the SSHRC Explore Grants and the SSHRC Institutional Grant programs, 3) National Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) through the General Research Fund (GRF). The allocation of funding from the SSHRC Exchange Grant will only be provided to SSHRC eligible faculty and NSERC GRF will only be provided to NSERC eligible faculty whereas the VIU portion can fund all other disciplines. The VIURAC committee has the ability to reallocate funding for any of the grants it adjudicates, depending on the quantity and quality of submissions received.



Eligible Expenses

1. Wages or compensation for students
2. Travel costs associated to the research project
3. Costs associated to hosting meetings or gatherings to conduct the project or share the results
4. Materials and supplies
5. Promotional materials
6. Equipment costs are an eligible expense but proponents are encouraged to utilize existing VIU equipment where possible. Any equipment purchased must be made available to other VIU Faculty for research projects.

Application Instructions



Need assistance with your proposal?

Contact one of VIU's Grant Facilitators

Bettina Ruhstein (Bettina.Ruhstein@viu.ca)

or Roisin Mulligan (Roisin.Mulligan@viu.ca)

Criteria for Evaluation

Strength of Project Proposal (50%)

1. Clear articulation of the research problem, issue or opportunity and the proposed research or creative activity to be undertaken.
2. Clear description and appropriateness of the methods or approach to be used;
3. Significance and potential for the project to create potential impact in society;
4. Potential for the project to build/enhance the research program and reputation for the proponent, student and VIU.

Implementation (20%)

1. Likelihood that the proposed objectives will be met within the timeline.
2. Identification of any potential risks that may occur during implementation and strategies that will be used to manage them (where possible) for a successful outcome.
3. Appropriateness of the proposed budget and justification of resources.

Capability of the Team (10%)

1. Evidence of adequate quality of expertise to implement the proposed plan;
2. Clarity of roles and responsibilities for the team members identified in the workplan.

Engagement of VIU students (20%)

1. At least one VIU undergraduate or graduate student must be engaged in a meaningful way in all Explore Grants in a paid capacity.
2. Clear articulation of the strategies to engage and train the student(s) involved in the project.

Proposal components:

Apply online using the

[VIURAC Application Form](#)

Proposals should include:

1. [A signed Institutional Signature Sheet](#)
2. Abstract (300 words) ready for sharing publicly on the web if funded
3. Project description (max 5 pages) that includes: a) problem, issue or opportunity that requires innovative solutions, b) brief literature to support the approach, c) methods to be used with a timeline, d) outputs and anticipated outcomes and impacts, and e) plans to mobilize or commercialize the knowledge or outputs.
4. Budget and justification (max 1 page)
5. Project team, roles and responsibilities and training plan (max 1 page).
6. References

Scholarship, Research and Creative Activity

