

Inquiry 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 \$5000

Duration

1 year

Adjudicated by:

Vancouver Island University
Research Awards Committee
(VIURAC)

Supporting investigator-led inquiry in all disciplines

VIU recognizes that its faculty members are scholars and experts in their disciplines and that they are curious about a wide diversity of topics. The Inquiry Grants (*formerly known as the Research Fund*) are part of a new suite of programs to support the realization of the Scholarship, Research and Creative Activity Plan (2017-22).

The **Inquiry Grants** are expected to support the **Creation of Knowledge, Innovation, Applications and Works** objective of this plan. They are intended to allow VIU faculty to design and undertake research, scholarship and creative activity initiatives that allow them to contribute to the advancement of disciplinary or interdisciplinary knowledge and/or inquiry in the scholarship of teaching and learning and to enhance their teaching. These grants are not intended to serve as a substitute for major grants from outside funding agencies. It is expected that grants will “seed” projects and provide greater opportunities for faculty to be successful obtaining external funding in future competitions.

Note: Applicants cannot apply for Innovate and Inquiry Grants for the same project.

The source of funding for these awards is from Vancouver Island University (up to \$20,000 annual allocation) and they are adjudicated by the Vancouver Island University Research Awards Committee (VIURAC). *The VIURAC committee has the ability to reallocate funding for any of the grants that it adjudicates, depending on the quantity and quality of submissions received.*

Scholarship, Research and Creative Activity



Application Instructions

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.

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. Strategies to mobilize the knowledge to academic audiences;
5. Potential for the project to build/enhance the research program and reputation for the proponent, student and VIU.
6. Potential to attract external funding and/or identifies leveraging of funds from other sources.

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. *Refer to eligible expenses on the application form.*

Capability of the Team (20%)

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 (10%)

1. VIU students are not required to be involved in Inquiry grants, however, projects that provide meaningful engagement of at least one VIU student are strongly encouraged to help build capacity in research and creative activity.

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 6 pages) that includes:
a) problem, issue or opportunity that requires innovative solutions, b) 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
6. References

Scholarship, Research and Creative Activity

