



Funding Support to University-Industry Projects

Guideline for Academic Researchers

Materials and Manufacturing Research Institute (MMRI), with support from the National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC IRAP), is offering financial assistance to UBC researchers to undertake short-term joint R&D projects with small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) in British Columbia (BC). The projects are expected to aim at diagnosing technical challenges of SMEs and identifying potential solutions, along with fostering the translation of academic research and innovation into industry practice. The identified solutions through this seed funding may be pursued to the next step by the faculty member and the SME for a longer term collaboration through Mitacs, NSERC, etc.

Proposal submission:

- Deadline: Monday, November 4, 2019 (round 1).
- Application review and funding decision will be made within about a week after the submission.
- The successful project applications will be funded on the first-come, first served basis. Early proposal submission is highly encouraged.
- Researchers must ensure that their industry partners are in agreement with the proposal objectives and action plan.
- The [application form](#) must be filled out and emailed to Mahdi Takaffoli, MMRI Research Engineer, at mahdi.takaffoli@ubc.ca.

Funding availability:

- Maximum \$5,000 per project for salaries and operating expenses.
- Additional maximum \$500 for project-related travel support.

Requirements:

For academic researchers:

- Must be from UBC, either Point Grey or Okanagan Campus.

For partnering companies:

- Must be a Canadian or provincially incorporated business.
- Must have less than 500 employees.
- Must be for-profit.
- Must be located in BC.

For projects:

- Must have relevance to materials and manufacturing.
- Must finish within two months.
- Only one project is allowed per faculty member and one project per SME.



- To maximize the interaction, the research assistants (students) are highly encouraged to spend at least a few hours a week at the company location while executing the project.

Eligible costs:

- Salary cost of research assistants in the academic labs (max \$4,000)
- Operating costs (materials purchase, lab service fees, machine shop fees, etc.) for project use only (max \$1,000).
- Travel support for faculty members and their research assistants to visit their partnering companies (max \$500).

Note: Per program requirements, it is strictly important that the PIs adhere to the above cost breakdown.

Review criteria:

Proposal will be reviewed by MMRI Management and NRC IRAP Industrial Technology Advisors (ITAs) based upon the following criteria:

- Eligibility of the industry partner as an NRC IRAP client as outlined above.
- Significance of the project to the SME.
- Intellectual merit of the proposal, including relevance to materials and manufacturing.
- Appropriateness of the requested budget for supporting the proposed research plan.

Reporting:

- A short technical and financial report will be due 15 days after the end date of the project (templates will be provided).

Please direct any inquiries to:

Mahdi Takaffoli, MMRI Research Engineer
mahdi.takaffoli@ubc.ca
(250) 807-9108

Initiative supported in part by the National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC IRAP):



**National Research
Council Canada**

**Conseil national de
recherches Canada**