Faculty of Science Research Chairs in Fundamental Science
Physical Sciences | Life Sciences | Mathematical and Computational sciences

This call is for applications to the newly established Faculty of Science Research Chairs in Fundamental Science program. Three Chairs are available to support research in each of the following areas: 1) physical sciences, 2) life sciences and 3) mathematical and computational sciences. The purpose of the Chair awards is to recognize and support researchers in the Faculty of Science that are conducting outstanding fundamental research in these areas. Applicants should have a track record level comparable to candidates competing for Tier 1 or 2 Canada Research Chairs.

Each Chair award will provide $20,000 of research funding per year for 3 years to support new and creative directions in fundamental research. The awards are renewable for an additional 2 years contingent upon research progress and available funding. Chair recipients will also receive 3 credit hours of teaching relief per year.

Deadline: Applications are due to Tanya Zacharias (tanya.zacharias@umanitoba.ca) by March 1, 2019 at 4:30 PM.

The Faculty of Science intends to have future calls depending on available budget and program success.

Application guidelines

There is no formal nomination process. Candidates should instead self-identify and submit their applications directly to the Faculty of Science. Applications must include the following:

1) Cover page
   - Name of applicant, Department, and current position
   - Title of research proposal
   - Identify major research area (physical sciences, life sciences or mathematical and computational sciences; in the case of interdisciplinary research that crosses boundaries identify the main and secondary areas of impact clearly).
   - Proposal summary (150 words)
2) Full CV including h-index and total citations at the time of application (include the source of these calculations)
3) Description of research accomplishments and reputation at the national and international level (1.5 page maximum)
4) Research proposal¹ (3 pages maximum – excluding references)
5) Figures (1 page maximum)
6) Budget² (1 page maximum)
Note:
1 The intention of these Chair awards is to enable new avenues of fundamental research. While the research proposal may have conceptual overlap with existing research, the proposal should clearly state how the chair will enable novel research that is not currently funded.

2 The budget should include a table anticipating how the funds will be allocated/spent.

Eligibility:

1) All assistant professors, associate professors, professors, and distinguished professors whose primary appointments are in the Faculty of Science are eligible to apply.

2) Eligible applicants cannot concurrently hold a Canada Research Chair, NSERC Industrial Research Chair and Canada Excellence Research Chairs.

Evaluation:

Depending on the research area identified, applications will be ranked by one or more panels selected by the Dean. Evaluations will be weighted as follows:
   40% on the applicant’s track record and
   60% on the research proposal, with a focus on originality and potential.
Evaluations/expectations will be appropriate for the career level of the applicant.
Decisions will be announced by March 14, 2019.

Post-award administration

Chairs will run from May 1, 2019 through April 30, 2022. A one page written report to the Faculty of Science Dean detailing progress on the research proposal each year is required. After three years the chair holder will be asked to submit a more comprehensive three page report detailing the research outcomes achieved.

If a 2-year renewal is sought, the report must also be accompanied by a new research proposal that expands upon research progress made during the first 3-years. Renewal will depend on demonstrated progress, the originality and potential of new the proposal, and availability of funding.