Mobilize Capacity Development Grants: Mentor

Purpose:
The purpose of the Mentor grant is to provide applied research opportunities for students to either enhance existing applied research projects or seed new projects.

Scope:
Key thematic areas for Okanagan College are social innovation, sustainable building, and sustainable environments, but applied research projects are invited under the broad umbrella of innovation in alignment with Okanagan College's strategic plan.

Value:
Maximum request of $5000. Applicants must demonstrate that they have already used their annual Grant-in-Aid funds as well as research assistant funding available internally from Okanagan College Applied Research.

Eligibility and Funding Terms:

1. Applicant and approvals:

    1.1. Mentor grants are open to all OC employees.

    1.2. Applicants are limited to one application per funding cycle.

    1.3. Proposed projects must be within the scope of the applicant's role at OC and approved by the Dean/Director of their portfolio/department.

    1.4. Projects that require ethics approval must submit their application to the Okanagan College Research Ethics Board within 30 days of their award; failure to do so may result in the cancellation of the Mentor grant.

    1.5. Funds cannot be used until ethics approval is in place.

2. Project:

    2.1. Mentor applications can provide student applied research opportunities at any stage of a new or existing applied research project.

    2.2. Eligible projects must be focused on applying or adapting knowledge or technology to resolve a community or industry need identified by a partner.

    2.3. Eligible projects must articulate a role for the student to engage with the partner to address their need.

3. Community:

    Projects that propose working with Indigenous communities or partners must be in line with the CCI program guidelines for working with Indigenous communities, and must be developed in collaboration with OC's Indigenous Services office.

4. Funding:

   Applicants must have already used their GIA as well as the Applied Research Student Research Assistant fund in order to be eligible for a Mentor grant.

5. Student:

   5.1. Students funded through a Mentor grant must be currently enrolled OC students.

   5.2. Special consideration may be made for students enrolled at other Canadian colleges or polytechics if there is clear rationale.

   5.3. University students and students not currently enrolled in a college program are not eligible for funding under a Mentor grant.

6. Use of funds:

   Mentor grants will only fund student research assistants; no other project costs are eligible.

7. Reporting:

   Successful applicants will be required to submit a final report and will be expected to provide project details to support the completion of Okanagan College's NSERC Mobilize report. Failure to meet either of these reporting requirements may result in ineligibility for internal funding.

How to Apply:
Mentor applications require the completion of the application form, a description of both the applied research project and the research duties of the student (maximum 1 page), and a CV from the primary investigator.

Completed applications must be submitted to ocappliedresearch@okanagan.bc.ca by 11:59pm PST on the deadline.

Funding Available:
In general, a maximum of 2 Mentor grants will be awarded per funding cycle, though awards depend on availability of funding.

Adjudication:
Applications will receive an internal review by Applied Research staff. All eligible applications will be entered in a lottery and awarded based on funds available.