

Mobilize Capacity Development Grants: Extend

Purpose:

The purpose of the Extend grant is to provide support for course release for College faculty for projects that have secured external funding of at least \$20,000.

Scope:

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

Value:

A maximum of two course releases per year per applicant/project will be supported through Mobilize funding.

Eligibility and Funding Terms:

1. Applicants and approvals:

- 1.1. Extend grants are open to any OC employee that has been awarded external funding of at least \$20,000 through a grant or an industry/community contract that does not provide salary support or funds for course release.
- 1.2. Eligible projects must be within the scope of the applicant's role at OC and must have advance approval from the appropriate Dean/Director of their portfolio/department.
- 1.3. 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 Extend grant.
- 1.4. Funds cannot be used until ethics approval is in place.

2. Project:

Eligible projects must propose to apply or adapt knowledge or technology to resolve a community or industry need identified by a partner. Funded projects that are not applied in scope may not be eligible.

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:

- 4.1. External funding must be secured prior to applying for an Extend grant.
- 4.2. External funding that provides support for researcher salaries is not eligible to leverage for Extend grants.

- 4.3. Extend grants are only open to OC employees who are awarded funding as the Primary Investigator, where funds are administered by Okanagan College.
- 4.4. A maximum of two course releases will be supported per calendar or academic year, depending on the funding terms, the course schedule of the applicant, and funds available.

To be eligible for one course release, funding of at least \$20,000 must be secured from an external source.

To be eligible for a second course release for the same project, external funding must be equal to or more than \$50,000.

- 4.5. Additional funding terms will be discussed and determined on a case-by-case basis with applicants.

5. Overhead:

In line with the NSERC Mobilize program, Okanagan College will apply a 20% overhead rate on all external funds to support the administration of the project, unless the external funding is provided by an organization with a published policy that prohibits or limits overhead. This rate is included in the total project cost.

6. Use of funds:

Extend grants are paid directly to the portfolio or department of the applicant; no other project costs are eligible.

7. Reporting:

Applicants supported with Extend grants will be expected to provide project details to support the completion of Okanagan College's NSERC Mobilize report. Failure to meet this reporting requirements may result in ineligibility for future internal funding.

How to Apply:

Extend applications require the completion of the application form, documentation of confirmed external funding, and written approval of the applicant's Dean/Director.

Funding Available:

Extend applications will be received on an on-going basis and funded as long as funds are available. For FY 2025/2026 it is anticipated that 2-3 Extend grants will be available.

Adjudication:

It is expected that applicants will already be in conversation with the Office of Applied Research about their external funding. Applications that meet the eligibility criteria and have approval from the applicant's Dean/Director will be supported as long as funding is available.

