

DEFINITION OF RATINGS Application

For each of the three (3) criteria, please provide your rating using the following scale:

- 1) Fully satisfies and exceeds - satisfies and significantly exceeds in one or more aspects
- 2) Fully satisfies - satisfies in all aspects
- 3) Mostly satisfies - satisfies in most aspects but has some minor weaknesses
- 4) Does not satisfy - does not satisfy in most aspects and has some major weaknesses

The Fund is designed to help post-secondary institutions with internationally-recognized research strengths build on these strengths, and in doing so, become globally leading institutions. It is not designed to allow institutions to build capacity in emerging areas. Institutions will have to demonstrate that they are already internationally recognized in the area(s) they propose, and that their plan to achieve global leadership status is sound and achievable.

The LOI assessed the institution's existing scientific capacity in the area it proposed to advance in its scientific strategy (part of criterion 1) and it assessed the alignment of the proposed research area(s) of focus with the federal ST&I research priority areas (part of criterion 2). These will not be reassessed at the full proposal stage. However, the ratings from the LOI will be carried forward for reference and consideration in the final adjudication. The LOI application will be made available to provide background information and context for the review of the full proposal.

Note: Given the aspirational nature of this program in targeting global excellence and leadership, proposals must score high across all the selection criteria to be considered for funding. Proposals will ultimately be differentiated on the potential of a proposed initiative to achieve globally leading research outcomes in areas of long-term economic advantage for Canada.

SCIENTIFIC STRATEGY (Part B of the application)

Criterion 1 – Scientific merit and demonstrated capacity to lead on an international scale – Future Potential

Please consider the following when rating:

- originality and positioning of the proposed research with respect to existing national and international capacity;
- potential* for the proposed research to provide breakthrough impact on a global scale; and
- potential* for the institution to demonstrate global research leadership in the proposed area(s).
**time frame extends beyond the seven year award.*

Rating	Descriptor
Fully satisfies and exceeds (satisfies and significantly exceeds in one or more aspects)	Potential to achieve global leadership: among the top 1 to 5% in world. The proposed research is highly original and strongly positioned with respect to national and international capacity (talent, infrastructure and the environments and opportunities for training). The research program has already had breakthrough impact on a global scale and will continue to advance its impact. The institution has already demonstrated global research leadership in the proposed areas(s) and will continue to advance its leadership. The scientific strategy, if implemented successfully, will establish or maintain the institution among the top 5% in the areas of focus, in terms of international competitiveness to generate breakthrough discoveries and attract top talent.
Fully satisfies	Potential to achieve global leadership: among the top 5 to 10% in world.

(satisfies in all aspects)	The proposed research is original and well positioned with respect to national and international capacity (talent, infrastructure and the environments and opportunities for training). The research program has very strong potential to provide breakthrough impact on a global scale. The institution has very strong potential to demonstrate global research leadership in the proposed area(s). The scientific strategy, if implemented successfully, will establish the institution among the top 10% in the areas of focus, in terms of international competitiveness to generate breakthrough discoveries and attract top talent.
Mostly satisfies (satisfies in most aspects but has some minor weaknesses)	Potential to achieve global leadership: among the top 10 to 15% in world. The proposed research is somewhat original and moderately positioned with respect to national and international capacity (talent, infrastructure and the environments and opportunities for training). The proposed research program has moderate potential to provide breakthrough impact on a global scale. The institution has moderate potential to demonstrate global research leadership in the proposed field(s). The scientific strategy, if implemented successfully, will establish the institution as one of the top 15% in the area of focus, in terms of international competitiveness to generate breakthrough discoveries and attract top talent.
Does not satisfy (does not satisfy in most aspects and has some major weaknesses)	Potential to achieve global leadership: below the top 15% in world. The proposed research lacks originality and/or its positioning is weak with respect to national and international capacity (talent, infrastructure and the environments and opportunities for training). The research program is not likely to provide breakthrough impact on a global scale. It is not likely that the institution will demonstrate global research leadership in the proposed field(s).

Criterion 2 – Strategic relevance to Canada

Please consider the following when rating:

- potential for the proposed research to create long-term economic advantages for Canada;
- ability of the proposed initiative to leverage additional resources and promote knowledge mobilization through partnerships with:
 - the private sector;
 - international research institutions; and/or
 - public sector, academic and philanthropic organizations, both in Canada and abroad; and
- potential for the research results to foster innovation (e.g., to create or build upon commercial endeavours, advance public policy or otherwise mobilize research discoveries).

Rating	Descriptor
Fully satisfies and exceeds (satisfies and significantly exceeds in one or more aspects)	The proposed research has outstanding overall potential to create long-term economic advantages for Canada. This may include strengths in a combination of the following elements. The initiative demonstrates an outstanding ability to leverage additional resources and to promote knowledge mobilization through highly strategic partnerships with the private sector, international research institutions, and/or public sector, academic and philanthropic organizations, both in Canada and abroad. There is outstanding potential for research results to foster innovation.
Fully satisfies (satisfies in	The proposed research has very strong overall potential to create long-term economic advantages for Canada. This may include strengths in a combination of the following elements. The initiative demonstrates a very strong ability to leverage additional

all aspects)	resources and promote knowledge mobilization through relevant partnerships with the private sector, international research institutions, and/or public sector, academic and philanthropic organizations, both in Canada and abroad. There is very strong potential for the research results to foster innovation.
Mostly satisfies (satisfies in most aspects but has some minor weaknesses)	The potential for the proposed research to create long-term economic advantages for Canada is strong in most respects . This includes a combination of the following elements. The initiative is strong in most respects in terms of its ability to leverage additional resources and promote knowledge mobilization through partnerships with the private sector, international research institutions, and/or public sector, academic and philanthropic organizations, both in Canada and abroad. The potential for the research results to foster innovation is strong in most respects.
Does not satisfy (does not satisfy in most aspects and has some major weaknesses)	It has not been demonstrated that the proposed research has potential to create long-term economic advantages for Canada. This includes a combination of the following elements. The initiative demonstrates weakness in its ability to leverage additional resources and promote knowledge mobilization through partnerships with the private sector, international research institutions, and/or public sector, academic and philanthropic organizations, both in Canada and abroad. It has not been demonstrated that the research results will foster innovation.

INSTITUTIONAL STRATEGY AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (Part A of the application)

Criterion 3 – Quality of implementation plan

Please consider the following when rating:

- quality of the institution's vision, and the institution's willingness to commit internal resources toward supporting the proposed initiative;
- demonstrated strength of the institution's research culture and standards;
- quality of the implementation and risk management plans; and
- suitability of the institution's performance measurement plan as a basis for monitoring progress and assessing results.

Rating	Descriptor
Fully satisfies and exceeds (satisfies and significantly exceeds in one or more aspects)	The implementation plan is outstanding . The vision and strategy are entirely consistent with the international leadership that the institution already demonstrates. The institution is fully committed to the vision and strategy (i.e., it has concentrated the majority of its resources in this strategy and these focus areas in recent years and is proposing to continue to do so). The institution and the team proposed have a solid track record at championing change and implementing large-scale institutional initiatives. The institution and the team proposed have an extensive proven track record to engage with partners, both international and domestic. The implementation strategy, proposed management and governance plan, proposed budget and process to allocate resources to meet the institutional goals, the equity plan, and the plan to track progress and make adjustments based on results are entirely sound. Major risks have been identified and appropriate mitigation strategies developed. The proposed performance measures and targets are ambitious but realistic. The institution's capacity for self- assessment is appropriate. There are no weaknesses.
Fully satisfies (satisfies in all aspects)	The implementation plan is strong . The vision and strategy are consistent with the potential for global leadership that the institution has already demonstrated. The vision and strategy are among the institution's top priorities (i.e., the institution has concentrated a significant portion of its resources on areas and activities consistent with the vision and strategy and is proposing to continue to do so). Institutional policies and the governance structure are adequate to achieve success. The institution and the team proposed have

	<p>relevant experience in championing change and implementing large-scale institutional initiatives. The institution and the team proposed have a proven track record to engage with partners, both international and domestic. The implementation strategy, proposed management and governance plan, the proposed budget and process to allocate resources to meet the institutional goals, the identification of major risks and development of appropriate mitigation strategies, the equity plan, and the plan to track progress and make adjustments based on results are sound. The proposed performance measures and targets are adequate. The institution's capacity for self- assessment is appropriate. There are a few weaknesses, but these will likely be addressed during implementation.</p>
<p>Mostly satisfies (satisfies in most aspects but has some minor weaknesses)</p>	<p>The implementation plan is acceptable. The vision, if implemented successfully, will improve the institution's capacity to participate in global initiatives and be recognized internationally. The vision and strategy are mostly consistent with the known strengths of the institution and its global leadership potential. The institution has demonstrated some level of commitment towards this vision and strategy in the past (i.e., the institution has invested in focus areas, but not significantly more than in other areas) and is proposing to concentrate a significant portion of its resources on the strategy in the future. The research environment is average, but the institution stands out as a leader in some areas (e.g., entrepreneurial capacity, institutional approach to research planning, etc). The policies and governance structure that are in place are adequate, but some things may be missing. The institution has some experience with engaging partners in initiatives of the scale expected, both international and domestic. The implementation strategy, proposed management and governance plan, the proposed budget and process to allocate resources to meet the institutional goals, the identification of major risks and development of appropriate mitigation strategies, the equity plan, and the plan to track progress and make adjustments based on results are mostly sound. The proposed performance measures and targets are mostly adequate. The institution's capacity for self- assessment is mostly appropriate. There are some weaknesses that are not insurmountable, but would require some focused attention at implementation in order to not jeopardize achievement of objectives.</p>
<p>Does not satisfy (does not satisfy in most aspects and has some major weaknesses)</p>	<p>The implementation plan is weak. The vision, if implemented successfully, will improve the institution's competitiveness within Canada. The vision and strategy represent a new direction for the institution or demonstrate limited strength. The institution has not previously invested significantly in these areas and/or is not planning any particular concentration of resources in the future. The policies and governance structure in place are not adequate. The institution does not have much experience with engaging partners, both international and domestic, on the scale expected. The implementation strategy, proposed management and governance plan, the proposed budget and process to allocate resources to meet the institutional goals, the identification of major risks and development of appropriate mitigation strategies, the equity plan, and the plan to track progress and make adjustments based on results contain significant weaknesses that could jeopardize achievement of objectives. The proposed performance measures and targets are not adequate. The institution's capacity for self- assessment has some significant weaknesses.</p>