

Student Application Guide

Scope

The NSERC – CREATE Training Program in Climate Science (TPCS) is a program designed to combined research, hands on training and seminars in the area of climate related research. It also aims to promote research collaboration and professional development through a strong interdisciplinary and/or inter-laboratory approach.

The CREATE TPCS focuses on climate change, paleoclimate, biogeochemical cycles and water resources.

Students can participate in the CREATE TPCS in different ways, including via funded research project, travel funding or simply as participants in workshops, courses and events.

All funding provided by the CREATE TPCS requires an element of co-funding by supervisors. All funded students are required to participate in specified courses, events, workshops, and seminars and in the summer school.

Application

Once the student accepted in the appropriate graduate program, the research supervisor can nominate him/her as a CREATE participant. The nomination is a two-part application process. The first part of the application is completed by the student, and the second part by the supervisor. When the two parts are completed, the supervisor then forwards the complete application file to the CREATE program coordinator.

Student application forms can be found on the website or can be obtained from the program manager.

Supervisor forms should be requested from the program manager.

Only applications submitted by the research supervisor are accepted.

Any question should be directed to the program coordinator.

The program committee will review all applications and inform candidates of the status of their application.

Eligibility

Registered or accepted students at any of the participating universities who meet the criteria below are eligible to apply to participate and obtain funding.

Student's supervisor and co-supervisor must be CREATE TPCS research team members¹. No co-supervisor is contrary to the CREATE program.

¹ As of December 2010, members are: H. Beltrami, G. Ferguson, L. Kellman, N. O'Dricoll, D. Risk, L. Sushama, L. Tarasov and S. Ziegler.

Masters students should have completed no more than one semester of their studies at the time of application. PhD students should have completed no more than two years of their degree at the time of application.

Applicants must have secured the agreement of research advisors who will supervise their research project and provide co-funding.

Funding is available to students who do not currently receive NSERC or federal agency scholarships, and have received fewer than 4 years of NSERC salary or stipends during this degree (lifetime, for Masters Students). However, students holding NSERC PGS awards are welcomed into the program as a means to further their development in interdisciplinary research related to climate change, paleoclimate, biogeochemical cycles, and water resources.

Research projects must fall within the scope of the CREATE TPCS.

Term of acceptance and funding

Annual renewal of funding and continued participation in the CREATE TPCS is contingent on the student's participation in the summer school, required courses and designated events, and on the maintenance of good standing in the student's registered program.

CREATE stipends may be used to top up the student stipends. The maximum amounts that can be paid from CREATE funds are:

- Master's - \$17,300 annually
- Doctoral - \$21,000 annually

Direct scholarship support for graduate studies through CREATE fund is limited to a lifetime maximum of 1 year full-time equivalent for each individual at Master level, renewable for an additional year, and 1 year full-time equivalent at PhD level, renewable for an additional two years.

Candidates who hold already one or more external awards/funding are encouraged to apply to the CREATE TPCS in order to benefit from the formation and its add-ons. The CREATE funding will depend on the amount of the external funding. As a target, CREATE TPCS scholarships should represent 50% of total student stipends (from CREATE and external sources) over the length of the program (5 years).

External supervisors (i.e. not from CREATE research team member list) are required to provide program funding. CREATE collaborators² would not have to provide funding to act as co-supervisors. CREATE team members are encouraged to contribute to the program funding. It could take the form of student stipends (direct-to-student amount) or student training support. Supervisors, co-supervisors and collaborators are responsible for the student research program cost. It is anticipated that the annual summer school and workshop will cost \$2,000 each, or \$4,000 per student per annum. CREATE will only be

² As listed in the program application, CREATE collaborators are V.Bense, M. Lavigne, E. Zorita, S. Billing, A. VanPelt, A. Montenegro, J. Smerdon, R. Niven, S. StGeorge, Gonzalez-Rouco, F.J., and Montavez-Gomez, J.P.

expected to support part of the travel costs because this deliverable is of direct benefit to the overall research project, and the heaviest cost should be borne by broader (non-CREATE) research support.

Research Funding Awards and Travel Funding are awarded separately.

Travel funding

Reimbursement for eligible expenses is available to all students traveling between Partner Universities for required CREATE TPCS courses, workshops, seminars and events.

Travel funding is only available for trips outside the city area of the student's home university or primary laboratory.

Subsistence cost funding is only available for trips that require overnight accommodation.

All travel funding must be matched 50/50 by the supervisor.

For additional information about eligible travel and subsistence cost expenses, please contact the program coordinator.