

Webinar Q&A: Questions Submitted but Not Answered Live

Question:

Where can we find list of research projects and advisors?

Answer:

You can search our InfoRAP database [here](#).

Question:

If the project is a collaborative effort, how do we discuss parts of the project that will be done by someone else through collaboration?

Answer:

I would recommend clearly defining your contributions, how those collaborators assist, and how this collective effort adds value to the project.

Question:

For the list of publications & presentations – Do presentations include poster presentations? Does it include presentations given outside academic conferences (e.g., outreach presentations, instrument user meetings, semi-formal events)?

Answer:

My suggestion is to indicate whether the presentations are national/international, regional, or local. It also helps the reviewer to know if each were oral or poster presentations for evaluation.

Question:

If a reviewer does think a candidate would be better suited for another research opportunity, at what point would that transfer take place? After review/interviews? Before?

Answer:

Reviewers are assigned a defined set of applications and are encouraged to provide constructive feedback on those submissions. They will not recommend alternative research opportunities to applicants, since the program includes more than 1,500 available opportunities.

Question:

The publications and presentations section is limited by page number. Do you recommend focusing on the publications (even if slightly different from the field of the research proposal) and omitting the presentations?

Answer:

This section is page-limited but single-spaced, giving applicants ample space to highlight their expertise and research accomplishments.

Question:

Is it usually beneficial to provide more than 3 letters of recommendation?

Answer:

Applicants may enter the contact information for up to five individuals to serve as letter writers for the application. Only three letters of recommendation are required. For postdoctoral associate applicants, one of the three required letters must be from the dissertation adviser.

If a fourth and/or fifth letter is submitted, it will be included in the application package. The maximum number of letters that may be included in an application package is five.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to identify and notify a fourth and/or fifth letter writer in the event that one or more of the primary letter writers is unable to submit a letter by the application deadline. Doing so helps ensure the application remains complete and eligible for review.

Question:

Are you able to apply to multiple NRC opportunities in the same cycle? What happens if one lab gets back to you earlier than the other lab?

Answer:

You can apply to more than one, but they must be within different programs. See a list of the different programs [here](#). If one program makes an offer before the other, it is your choice whether to accept or decline that offer and wait for the second.

Question:

Do you need to have your PhD at the time of the offer, or is it okay so long as you get your PhD during the 6-month period between getting an offer and starting?

Answer:

You do not have to have your PhD at the time of offer, but you will have to present proof that you successfully defended and obtained the PhD before your start date.