



EXPERIENCE AWARDS

The Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) has formed a regional partnership with the National Research Council Canada – Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC–IRAP) and the NWT & Nunavut Construction Association (NNCA) to help increase opportunities for undergraduate students to conduct research activities in the three territories.

Small and medium-sized companies in the three territories that hire undergraduate science and engineering students for a 12 to 16 week research project may be eligible for an Experience Award and thus, may be reimbursed up to \$12,500 per student (up to \$4,500 from NSERC and up to \$8,000 from NRC-IRAP). Payments will be prorated based on the number of weeks the student has worked; see page 3 for details.

Company eligibility	Must meet criteria and apply for participation
Application success rate	Approximately 90%
NSERC contribution	\$4,500 for a 16 week work term*
NRC-IRAP contribution	\$8,000 for a 16 week work term*
Minimum company contribution	\$1,125 toward the Student’s Salary for a 16 week work term*
Duration of award	12 to 16 consecutive weeks of full-time employment
Intellectual property ownership	Host company retains all titles and rights to the results of the student’s work. The host company’s patent policies apply to any patentable inventions.
Experience Award – Application submission – NSERC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using the NSERC On-line System Login at: http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/OnlineServices-ServicesEnLigne/Index_eng.asp the student creates an account and receives an electronic PIN. • The student signs in, completes and electronically submits Form 202 Part 1, along with an updated official university or college transcript, to NSERC. The student will be assigned a Reference Number. • Once the student has completed this task, the company official must create an electronic profile (or use its existing profile) and complete Form 202 Part 2 under the Partner tab. The company official then links Form 202 Part 2 to the student’s Form 202 Part 1 and transcript using the student’s Reference Number to submit the completed application. • Please note that companies submitting an initial application must also complete Form 183B online, print it, scan it and send it to industrial.awards@nserc-crsng.gc.ca.
Evaluation time – Experience Award - NSERC	Three to four weeks
Top-up Award: NRC – IRAP	Once NSERC has approved an Experience Award, the NNCA will contact the company’s designated person to confirm the project and student details, and to discuss the NRC-IRAP funding and reporting criteria. There are a limited number of NRC-IRAP Top-up Awards available.



	Evaluation time: three (3) business days for a complete submission.
Status of the award holder	Employee of the company for the duration of the award
Management of funds	<p>The company pays the funds and issues the T4 or T4A directly to the student. NSERC pays their contribution directly to the company at the end of the work period.</p> <p>NRC-IRAP funds are administered by the NNCA and are paid on a monthly basis upon receipt and approval of the required reporting.</p>
Progress monitoring	Before the end of the work term, the company and the student will receive separate online surveys via email. Both documents must be completed and emailed back to NSERC in order for the company to be reimbursed.

Which students are eligible?

Students registered in an eligible university or college bachelor’s degree program in natural sciences or engineering. Students must have a cumulative average of B or B-, depending on the university or college. Students may hold only one Experience Award per fiscal year (April 1 to March 31) and may hold a maximum of three Experience Awards throughout their academic career. These Awards may be held during co-op placements.

Where can a student hold their award?

Experience Awards can be held only in the research and development facilities of companies in Canada. Producer-oriented industry associations may also be eligible to apply for awards. The Top-up Award is specific to the North.

How are students selected?

Companies can select candidates based on interviews and other referrals. NSERC may support up to 15 students per eligible organization per fiscal year (April 1 to March 31). Please note that NRC-IRAP may limit the number of top-up awards per company per year depending upon demand and funds available. Awards will be given on a first-come, first-served basis, subject to availability and to fulfilment of the eligibility criteria.

Who supervises the student?

Students must be supervised by full-time employees of the company. Whenever possible, supervision should be provided by research staff.

When is the application deadline?

NSERC should receive EA applications from the organization at least **four weeks** before the scheduled start date of the work term. Applications received **more than two months** after the start date of the student’s work term will not be approved.



Travel allowances

NSERC may approve a travel allowance for the actual costs a student incurs to travel to the host organization’s work location. The allowance is based on the economy air fare between the location of the university or college at which the student is registered and the location of the host organization.

Financial details*

Length of work term	Minimum company contribution	NSERC prorated payments	NRC-IRAP Top-Up Awards	Total minimum Student Salary
12 weeks	\$843.75	\$3,375.00	\$6,000.00	\$10,218.75
13 weeks	\$914.10	\$3,656.25	\$6,500.00	\$11,070.35
14 weeks	\$984.38	\$3,937.50	\$7,000.00	\$11,921.88
15 weeks	\$1,054.69	\$4,218.75	\$7,500.00	\$12,773.44
16 weeks	\$1,125.00	\$4,500.00	\$8,000.00	\$13,625.00

For more information

Please visit the NSERC website for complete information about this program:

http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/UG-PC/USRAI-BRPCI_eng.asp

Partner contact information:

NSERC	NRC – IRAP	NNCA
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