Globalink Research Award (GRA) for International Collaborations

Annie Hoang, MSc

Senior Advisor, Calgary
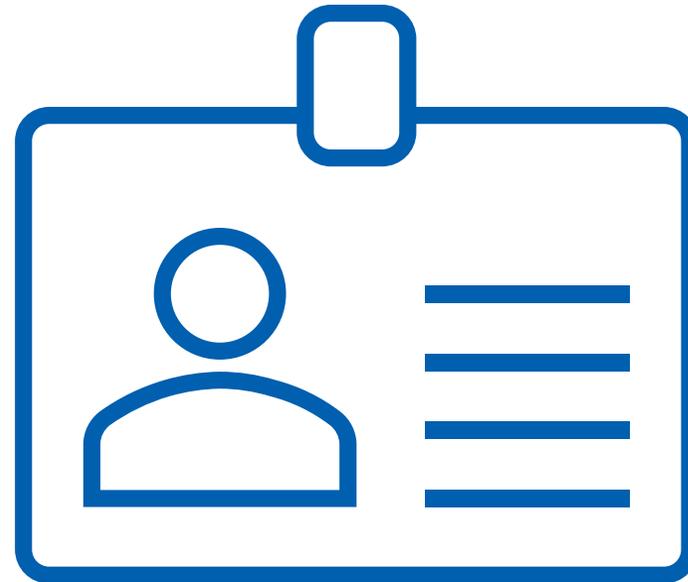
Mitacs & UofC Webinar. Oct 1, 2025

Who's Here Today?

In the chat, please include your position and department/faculty.

- E.g., Assistant Professor, Social Work
- E.g., Master's Student, Physics

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Purpose

Mitacs **empowers** Canadian innovation through partnerships that deliver solutions to our most pressing problems. We drive economic growth, productivity, and meaningful change to improve quality of life for all Canadians.

Mission

Mitacs is a **catalyzing force** in the Canadian innovation ecosystem. We will build a world-class, diverse community of innovators through our collaborative model, attracting and deploying top talent to industry, and matching need with expertise to create ambitious solutions to real-world challenges.

Vision

Canadian innovation will create change that **transforms** the world.

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Thanks to our funding partners

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We Have a New Look!

- Please note Mitacs' programming is always evolving
- New rules in **"GRA 2.0"** started in April 2025
- **Subject to change**

Our Flagship Programs – *open to all disciplines*

Industry/Community Collaborations*

Accelerate

Research collaboration with an industry or community partner

BSI

Development project with an industry or community partner

Academic (International) Collaborations

Globalink Research *Internship* (GRI)

International recruitment of undergraduates to Canada

Globalink Research *Award* (GRA)

International exchange of students to/from Canada

Elevate was phased out on May 1, 2025

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Mitacs Globalink Programs

GRI
Globalink Research **Internship**

GRI is the other main Globalink program:

- Summer cohort (12 weeks) of senior undergraduate students from *specific* countries (**inbound** to Canada only).*
- Highly competitive (full costs covered)
- **For Profs:** Stay tuned for reminder emails next spring! i.e., Apply in spring 2026 for summer 2027 student(s).

GRA
Globalink Research **Award**

⭐ **Today's session is all about GRA!**

GRA for International Collaborations (Academic)

Outbound
(Outgoing)

Inbound
(Incoming)

Canadian
Institution

Non-Canadian
Institution
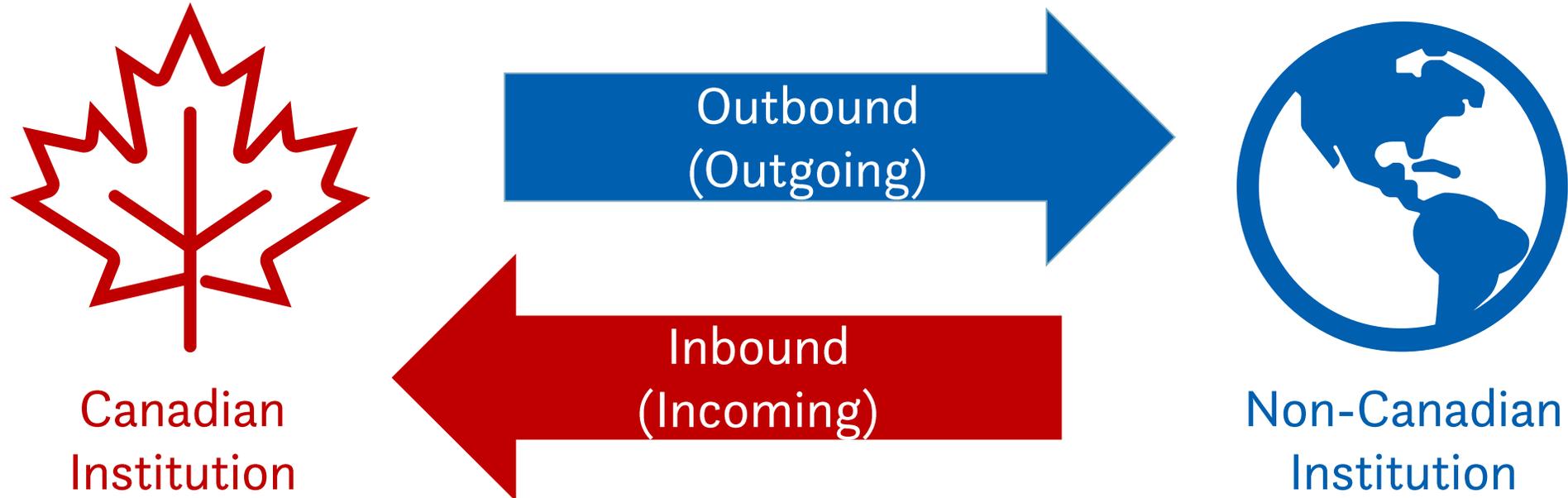
- Develop or strengthen international collaborations through the exchange of students/post-docs
- Recruitment of international talent

GRA – *The Basics*

Open to full-time senior undergraduate (2nd year and above), graduate students, and postdoctoral fellows

All disciplines

Academic supervisors in Canada and abroad (home/host supervisors)

Reference letters are no longer required

Travel to Canada or from Canada

<u>Up to</u> 5 students per application*

2 GRA units per lifetime*

$6,000 CAD
travel grant
(or more for some special streams)

12–24 weeks research project

- 75% minimum is spent abroad at the host institution
- 25% maximum is spent at the home institution
- E.g., 12 weeks = 9 weeks (75% min) at the host institution
  + 3 weeks (25% max) at the home institution

mitacs **Some schools may only allow 1 GRA unit per lifetime and limited students per application*

I'm still confused! (FAQs for GRA)

Which GRA stream/call do I apply for?

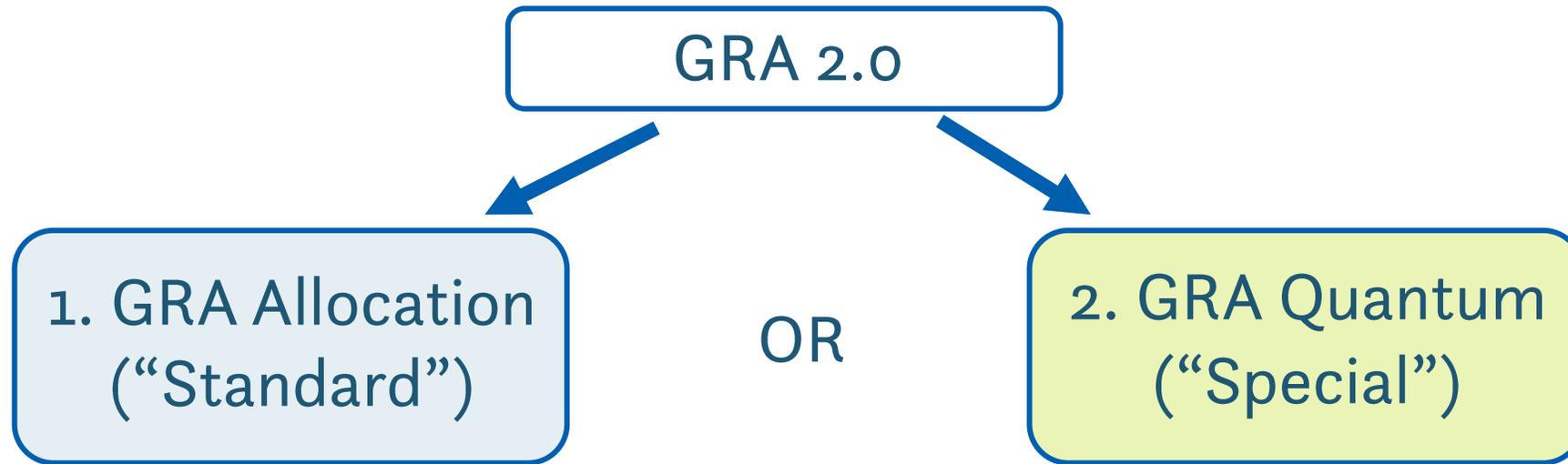Is [Country X] or [University Y] eligible for GRA?

How do I apply? What are the new rules for GRA 2.0?

How do I obtain an endorsement from the Canadian institution?

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GRA 2.0 Streams (as of April 2025)

```
                    ┌─────────────────┐
                    │    GRA 2.0      │
                    └─────────────────┘
                      ↙           ↘
```

1. GRA Allocation ("Standard")   OR   **2. GRA Quantum ("Special")**

- All disciplines
- Most countries eligible
- Competitive at UofC due to limited spots
- Call-based model at UofC* (*selected applicants only*)

- Quantum or "quantum-adjacent"
- Most countries eligible
- Non-competitive (no limit per school)
- No EOI required before applying at UofC
- Open all year
- Contact a Mitacs Advisor first

mitacs   *Two phase competitive call: Expression of Interest (EOI) followed by a full application

Which Countries are Eligible?

Travel advice and advisories by destination

The Government of Canada's official source of travel information and advice, the Travel Advice and Advisories help you to make informed decisions and travel safely while you are outside Canada. Check the page for your destination often, because safety and security conditions may change. See Travel Advice and Advisories – FAQ for more information.

Where are you going? [Select a destination ▾] [Go!]

Use this tool for outbound projects

Legend			
✅ Take normal security precautions ✔	⚠️ Exercise a high degree of caution ✔	⊖ Avoid non-essential travel ✖	❌ Avoid all travel ✖

For more details about the risk levels.

- For Outbound/Outgoing – Use travel advisories for GRA "Standard" and GRA Quantum
- For Inbound/Incoming – Most countries are eligible except Russia and North Korea
- Country eligibility is **subject to change**
  - *Note: Named Research Organizations (NROs) are **not** eligible, especially for sensitive research areas*

mitacs   https://travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories

GRA Quantum Stream

Quantum technology applies the principles of quantum mechanics (Quantum Science) — primarily quantum entanglement, superposition, or tunneling — to build new technologies whose performance depends on one or multiple quantum principles.

The three main verticals include*:

- Quantum computation (hardware), algorithms, and software

- Quantum communication, networks, and cryptography

- Quantum metrology, sensing, imaging, and materials

*Not an exhaustive list. Projects that are "quantum-adjacent" may also be eligible.
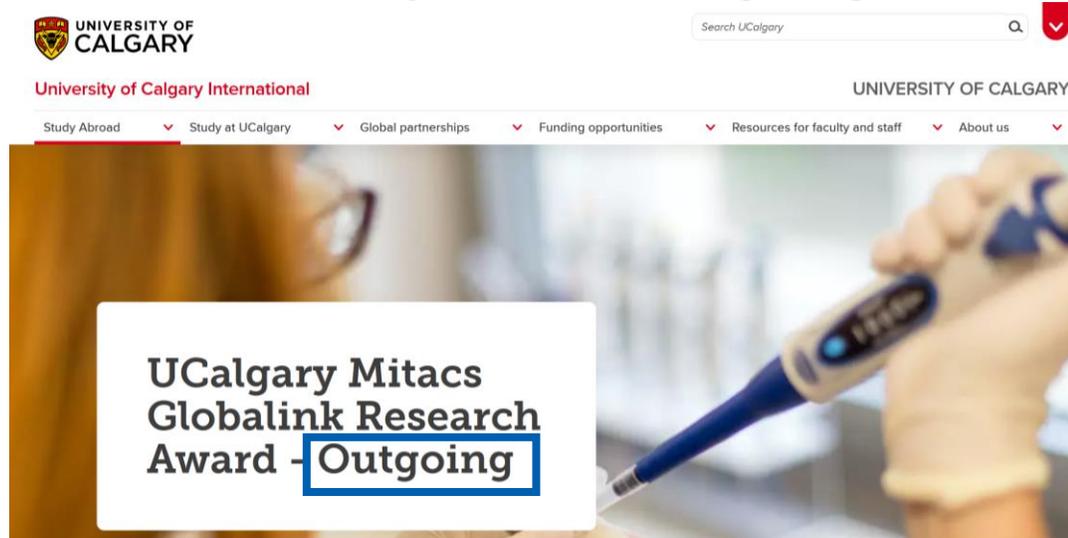
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GRA Quantum Stream

- **$6,000 CAD** award if the project is between **12-24 weeks**
- **$12,000 CAD** award is the project is between **24-48 weeks**

- Most countries are eligible, with some exceptions (Refer to Slide 12)
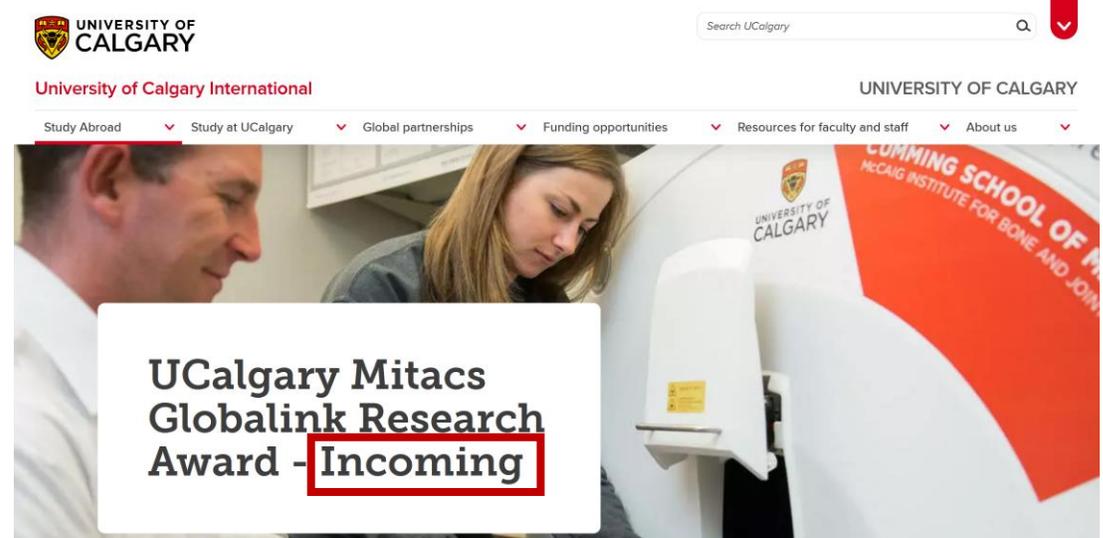- Non-competitive and open all year

- The **"sweet spot" is 24 weeks** to qualify for the higher award
- E.g., 24 weeks = 18 weeks (75% min) at the host institution
  + 6 weeks (25% max) at the home institution

Use the Specific GRA Instructions from UofC!

Outbound (UofC students going abroad)

Inbound (Students coming to UofC)

- The eligibility on the UofC webpages refer to the GRA "Standard" (Allocation) stream, but most of the content (except EOIs) applies for GRA Quantum
- Use the Mitacs GRA webpages for:
    - FAQs, latest updates/changes, etc.

https://www.ucalgary.ca/international/study-abroad/mitacsoutgoing
https://www.ucalgary.ca/international/study-abroad/mitacsincoming

Use the Specific GRA Instructions from UofC!

University of Calgary International

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

| Study Abroad ▾ | Study at UCalgary ▾ | Global partnerships ▾ | Funding opportunities ▾ | Resources for faculty and staff ▾ | About us ▾ |

Application process

Step #1 Confirm your Eligibility ▾ ← Please ensure you check the eligibility first!

Step #2 Secure Your Home and Host Supervisor ▾

Step #3 Complete your Mitacs Application ▾ ← Only **selected** applicants proceed to Step 3!

Step #4 Application Submission ▾

Step #5 Application Review by Mitacs ▾

Step #6 Prepare for your Departure ▾

Step #7 Upon Completion of your Project, Submit Required Reports to Mitacs ▾ ← No formal final report (do exit surveys instead)

- Remember to choose the correct category on the GRA portal!

https://www.ucalgary.ca/international/study-abroad/mitacsoutgoing
https://www.ucalgary.ca/international/study-abroad/mitacsincoming

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Additional Funding Sources

University of Calgary International
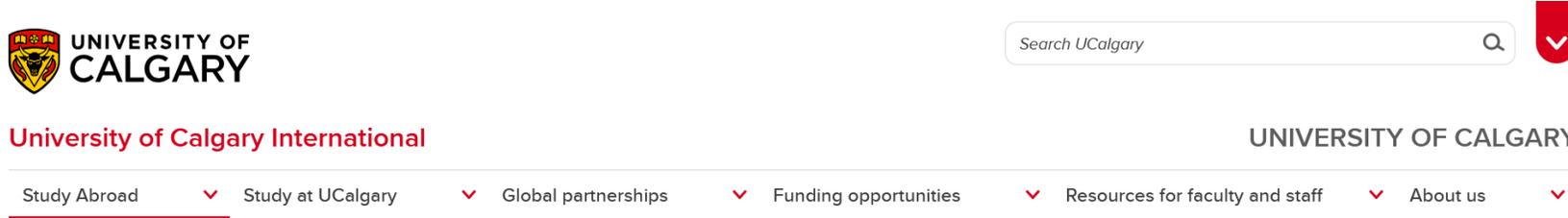
Funding Opportunities

One of the biggest benefits of studying abroad on a University of Calgary program is that you continue to pay tuition and fees to the University of Calgary at the same rates you normally pay. You also remain eligible for regular UCalgary awards and scholarships, and you can take your student loans with you as well.

But that's not all: The University of Calgary is committed to making international opportunities as accessible as possible. As a result, there is almost half a million dollars in UCalgary funding available to students going on UCalgary study abroad programs, not to mention a variety of external awards that may also apply to your program. Start your research early and pay attention to the deadlines so that you don't miss out.

- Students are responsible for **checking all terms and conditions** of other funding sources
- E.g., Faculty of Science IDEAS Fund, NSERC CREATE, external awards (e.g., ThinkSwiss)
- **Cannot** hold a GRA and another Mitacs award at the same time

https://www.ucalgary.ca/international/study-abroad/student-funding

Examples of GRA Projects with the UofC

1. A PhD student (History) from the UofC travels to the United Kingdom to research the legal mechanisms and social structures for land tenures in the 1600's *(GRA Standard Allocation).*

Outbound

2. A PhD student and an undergraduate (BSc) student (Physics) from the UofC travels to CERN in Switzerland to investigate the matter-antimatter asymmetry problem *(GRA Quantum).*

Outbound
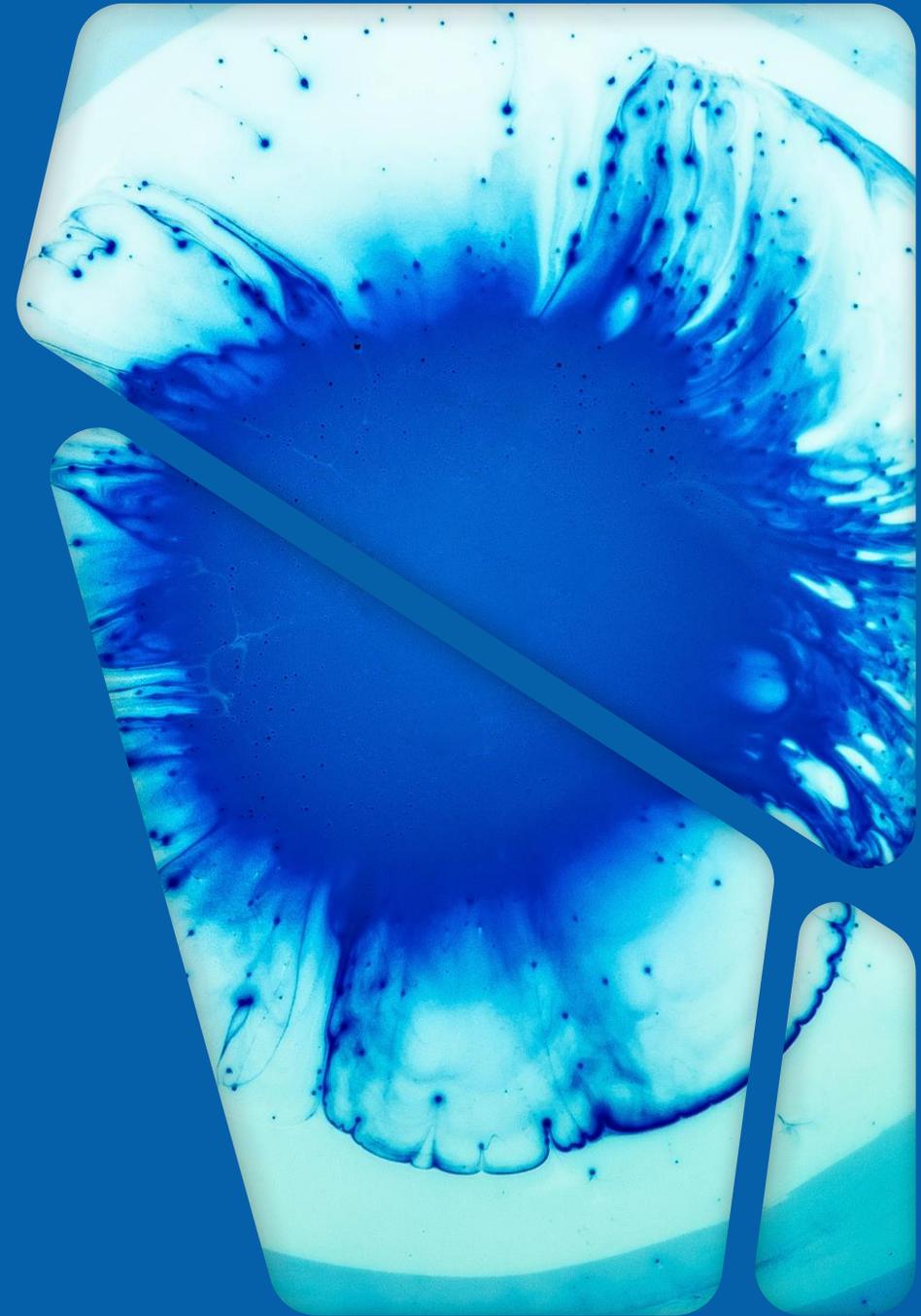
3. A Master's student (MSc, Computer Science) from South Korea travels to the UofC to research the impact of user and virtual agents in collaborative work *(GRA Standard Allocation).*

Inbound

GRA Application Process
(Selected applicants only)

GRA Application Portal

Step #3 Complete your Mitacs Application ⌃

NEW: Mitacs has launched their **Global Research Award Application Portal**

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Globalink Research Award Application Portal

Français

Sign In | **Create an Account**

🏠 Dashboard

Mitacs Online Application

Register now to save, submit and review your application

Learn more on how to apply for a Mitacs Globalink Research Award at gra_program_guide_2025_en.pdf

Not registered with Mitacs?

Create a new account

Recommended browsers are: Edge and Chrome.

- For GRA only: **https://gra.mitacs.ca** (different than BSI & Accelerate)
- Select your Mitacs Advisor (e.g., Annie Hoang for UofC) & the correct stream (GRA Standard (Allocation) or GRA Quantum)

mitacs   https://gra.mitacs.ca/assets/documents//gra_program_guide_2025_en.pdf

GRA Application Portal – *Participants (1)*

- **Participants:** invite co-applicants to the application portal
- Select "Additional Persons with Access to the Proposal" and input Mitacs GRA Global Learning, with the e-mail **MitacsGRA@ucalgary.ca** *(this is a UCalgary email!)*

Additional Persons with Access to the Proposal

+ Add Additional Persons with Access to the Proposal

Name	Email	Invitation status	Editor ❓	Actions
Annie Hoang	ahoang@mitacs.ca	⊘ Invitation accepted	☑	⋮
Mitacs GRA Global Learning	MitacsGRA@ucalgary.ca	⊘ Invitation accepted	☑	⋮

GRA Application Portal – *Proposal (2)*

- **Proposal:** use the latest template (older templates are no longer accepted)
- Use the *Program Guide* on the portal's landing page to find proposal tips!
- Follow page limits, do **not** delete section questions, and do **not** change the format
- Research declarations (*Sensitive Technology Research Areas* -*"If yes, please describe"*)*

Questions on Research Security? Contact: researchsecurity@ucalgary.ca

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GRA Application Portal – *Budget (3)*

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Globalink Research Award Application Portal

Français
Annie Hoang

🏠 Return to Dashboard / Project Title: Quantum Computing   Status: Draft

Download Application   Project Overview   Participants   Proposal   **Internship Budget and Schedule**   Review Application

- **Internship Budget and Schedule:** see example below
- All GRA projects with UofC: **Allocate all funds as "stipend"** *(other categories are $0)*
- Students can use the award for travel/living expenses without doing expense claims

Intern Name	Start and end date	Stipend	Travel and Living Expenses	Research Costs	Total Expenses	Actions
Student Name	Start date – End date	$6,000	$0	$0	$6,000	⋮
Total		**$6,000**	**$0**	**$0**	**$6,000**	

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Pre-Submission Feedback *(Mandatory)*

Don't send for sign-off until you have addressed all feedback from the Mitacs Advisor & UofC Research Security

- **Review Application:** check for any error messages

- Pre-submission feedback from a Mitacs Advisor & UofC Research Security (3-5 business days) is used to check for any issues in the eligibility, budget, proposal, declarations, etc.
  - Once you have no error messages, send a copy of the PDF preview ("Download Application") of the completed application package to your Mitacs Advisor (e.g., Annie Hoang for UofC) **AND** UofC Research Security **researchsecurity@ucalgary.ca**

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GRA Application Portal – *Sign-off (4)*

7.4 Academic Institution Approval Document

Project:

You or a Mitacs BD advisor can download the Academic Institution Approval Document to collect signatures from the university representatives of the Office of Research Services or International Relations and the Canadian institution Vice-President Research or designated person.

Representatives at the Academic Institution must sign off on the last page of the application.

The professor responsible to execute this project must collect all these signatures, scan each signed page, and upload them to the ORS section of the Mitacs RAP submission page. **Only upload this signature page please.**

Canadian academic institution representative (Office of Research Services or the Office responsible for International)

_____   _____
(Print the name of the University above)   (Print the name of the ORS reviewer or equivalent)

GL TO SIGN HERE
_____   _____
(Signature here with heavy ink pen as this will be scanned)   (Print the date of the signature above)

Endorsement from the Canadian institution Vice-President Research or designated individual:

_____   _____
(Print the name of the University above)   (Print the name of the ORS reviewer or equivalent)

GL TO SIGN HERE
_____   _____
(Signature here with heavy ink pen as this will be scanned)   (Print the date of the signature above)

- Once the feedback has been addressed, all participants must sign-off on the GRA portal (will change status to **"completed sign-off"**).
  - *Pre-departure form is submitted **after** project approval (click on "upload later")*
- Send the PDF preview (click on "Download Application") to UofC Global Learning (**MitacsGRA@ucalgary.ca**) via email
  - Cc your Mitacs Advisor (Annie) on the email
  - Attach a copy of the research security confirmation to the request email
- (**GRA only**)*: **UofC Global Learning will be the final signing authority for GRA applications****
  - Upload the final signature page (Section 7.4) to the portal and click on the submit button

For Accelerate and BSI, the Mitacs Advisor at UofC will obtain the university signature
*** No RFAA or RMS entry required for GRA applications*

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Tips & Tricks

1. **Carefully read** the UofC webpages for GRA, program guide, and FAQs.

2. Address the feedback from the **"pre-submission review"** and UofC Research Security before officially submitting

3. Check **"Step #6"** on the UofC webpages for GRA regarding pre-departure steps
   - Mitacs does **not** advise on visas, permits, immigration, housing, etc.

4. We recommend **~16 weeks in advance**, plus visa processing timelines
   - 12 week review + pre-departure form (after approval) + send travel award to UofC

5. If approved, remember to **"Accept"** the award and **confirm travel dates (AND complete the pre-departure form*)** in order for the Notice of Award (NOA) to be processed by the Mitacs Grants Team (grants-subventions@mitacs.ca)

6. Wait to **receive both the Mitacs Outcome Letter and Notice of Award** from the Mitacs Grants Team before travelling

mitacs   ** MitacsGRA@ucalgary.ca will sign the pre-departure form for outbound students from UofC*

FYI: Interested in Other Mitacs Programs? **(e.g., Accelerate)**

Be a catalyst in shaping Canada's knowledge-based economy.

A national, not-for-profit organization that offers funds to support internships for full-time students and postdoctoral researchers.

Mitacs supports collaborative research and innovation projects between industry partners and post-secondary institutions. Eligible industry partners for Mitacs projects can include for-profit companies of all sizes (including startups), non-profit organizations, hospitals and municipalities. This support helps business and community partners to succeed, improves students' on-the-job skills development, and strengthens Canada's world-class innovation ecosystem.

Mitacs programs offer support for paid internships across all industries and all disciplines. Mitacs offers over a dozen different programs. Learn more about the most popular Mitacs programs below, and be sure to check their website for the full range of opportunities.

Mitacs Programs

Accelerate

Accelerate is the flagship program of Mitacs, and is open to undergraduate students, graduate students, and postdoctoral fellows from all disciplines. Accelerate interns will have the opportunity to collaborate with industry on **research-focused** projects. (Student entrepreneurs should contact Mitacs about a special opportunity to apply for funding for their own startups under this program.) Projects can range from four months up to 5 years in length, with funding starting at $10,000. Applications are accepted throughout the year on a non-competitive basis.

Visit: Mitacs Accelerate

Mitacs Menu

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External Funding
Institutional Program Funding
Internal Funding
Research Accounting
Research Agreements – General Counsel
Research Agreements - CSM Legal
Signatures Guide
Late Applications
Electronic Submission Tool

- For research partnerships with eligible **industry/community partner(s) in Canada**
- Must have eligible partner cash for leveraging
- Projects are 4 months - 5 years long and can have multiple interns
- Students/post-docs **cannot** be on multiple Mitacs projects at the same time

https://research.ucalgary.ca/research-services/find-and-manage-funding/external-grants/mitacs

Stay tuned for the next part and Q&A!

Thank you

Annie Hoang
ahoang@mitacs.ca

**Please note that Mitacs' programming is always evolving, and there may be new changes in the future. **

mitacs.ca