

Scotiabank Net Zero Research Fund

2023 SUBMISSION GUIDE

OVERVIEW

As part of its continued efforts to combat climate change, Scotiabank has established a [Net Zero Research Fund \(NZRF\)](#) to initiate partnerships with leading think-tanks and academic institutions that are supporting key sectors in their efforts to decarbonize. The CAD \$10 million (\$1 million annually over ten years) will advance research and leadership in support of global decarbonization efforts.

Scotiabank is a leading bank in the Americas. Guided by our purpose: “for every future”, Scotiabank helps customers, their families and their communities achieve success through a broad range of advice, products, services and community investment. In 2019, Scotiabank published its [Climate Commitments](#), a statement of its enterprise climate strategy to support the transition to a low-carbon and resilient future. In addition, Scotiabank has committed to establishing bank-wide, quantitative, time-bound targets for reducing GHG emissions associated with our lending activities, and to report on our plans and progress toward achieving these targets.

Scotiabank has established the NZRF to contribute to the transition to a net zero global economy by:

- Stimulating research, dialogue and understanding of the shift to a net zero emissions global economy by 2050 or sooner in order to achieve the objectives of the Paris Agreement
- Identifying initiatives that require investment to accelerate adoption or scale of application
- Strengthening relationships between academic and non-profit research institutes and the corporate sector through collaboration and knowledge sharing
- Continuing to evolve the Bank’s climate change strategy and views on the transition to a net zero global economy

Applications will open on April 19, 2023, and close on May 31, 2023. We invite interested parties to submit applications for funding consideration during this period.

More details about the program and application process are found below.

NZRF RESEARCH THEMES

Through this initiative, we seek research proposals that have the potential to accelerate the transition to a net-zero emissions future by 2050 or sooner. Successful proposals may focus on, but are not limited to, one or more of the following themes below:

1. Detailing of potential pathways for decarbonization:
 - On a national economy (e.g. Chile) or substantive sub-national economy (e.g. Province of Quebec) basis, across industrial economic sectors
 - On an individual industrial or economic sector basis (e.g., mining, cement, steel, built environment), across systems, processes, materials, etc.
2. Identification and quantification of novel carbon sinks (sources of carbon sequestration) and specific mechanisms for carbon removal
3. Emerging and innovative financing mechanisms to support acceleration of decarbonization efforts
4. Public policy and/or regulatory changes required to enable or facilitate more rapid decarbonization
5. Areas of innovation that need to be better understood or funded to accelerate decarbonization pathways. This includes improvements to greenhouse gas emissions-related measurements, data aggregation, and dissemination, especially in sectors with limited data availability and regional variability (such as agriculture and residential mortgages).
6. Levers for increasing consumer, municipal, or industrial demand for drastically lower / zero carbon technologies

Relevance to Scotiabank's primary markets (Canada, US, Mexico, Colombia, Peru, Chile), current priority sectors described in Scotiabank's Net-Zero Report (oil and gas, power and utilities, agriculture, residential mortgages), and/or core business activities is an asset, but not a requirement.

WHAT MAKES A STRONG PROPOSAL?

Submissions will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- The research being conducted is novel, filling a gap in knowledge or understanding (30%)
- The knowledge to be developed and disseminated is demonstrably beneficial to sectoral, national, or global decarbonization efforts and/or a financial institution's ability to support those efforts (30%)
- The applicant has relevant research experience and climate change expertise as well as organisational staff resources to guide the development of the project (20%)
- The project has clearly articulated deliverables, timeline and budget (20%)

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for funding through the Scotiabank NZRF, partner organizations must be registered not-for-profit or charitable organizations in their jurisdiction.

If you are uncertain of your eligibility, please contact NetZeroResearchFund@scotiabank.com.

GRANT AMOUNTS

Scotiabank will award grants from a minimum of CAD \$25,000 up to a maximum of CAD \$100,000 through this 2023 Call for Submissions. Any submission not granted funds through this process may be re-submitted for a future Call for Submissions, with the next Call expected in Spring, 2024.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Submissions must be fully completed and submitted for review. The deadline for submissions is Wednesday May 31, 2023 at 11:59pm EST.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Q: When do I need to submit my proposal?

A: Full submission needs to be submitted by Wednesday May 31, 2023 at 11:59pm (EST)

Q: How will I know that Scotiabank received my proposal?

A: A response will be provided by email to all those who submit proposals confirming receipt.

Q: Who is reviewing my proposal?

A: Scotiabank will be inviting internal and external experts in the respective fields outlined in the RFP to provide a secondary review. These adjudicators have been specifically selected because of their subject matter and expertise.

Q: If my proposal gets funded, how are the funds distributed?

A: When a proposal gets accepted, a legal contract (gift agreement) needs to be signed between both parties (NFP/Organization and Scotiabank). Financials will be outlined and agreed upon prior to signing.

Q: What is the timing to receive funds once the gift agreement is signed?

A: Once the gift agreement is signed by both parties, it will take between 4-6 weeks for funding.

Q: What is the ideal length of time for a project?

A: The ideal length is what your team deems necessarily to meet its objectives. Some projects may only need four months while others may need twelve, eighteen, or up to twenty-four months given the objectives and complexities.

Q: How will I found out if my proposal has been accepted or rejected?

A: You will receive an email from Scotiabank between August - September with a final determination.

Q: What is the format and writing style for the proposal?

A: Your proposal should be clear and concise, and the content should follow the application form. Abbreviations should be explained the first time they are presented, and jargon should be avoided as much as possible.

Q: Who is eligible to apply for the research grant?

A: Any Not-for-Profit or Registered Charity in Canada, US, Latin America and the Caribbean.

Q: Can my organization submit multiple submissions?

A: Organizations can only apply for one submission to represent the entire organization.

Q: If my submission is declined, can I reapply in future?

A: Organizations who are unsuccessful in one Call are welcome to apply to the NZRF again for the next year. However, due to the number of submissions, Scotiabank is not able to provide specific feedback or reasons as to why a proposal has not been selected for funding. Please visit [Climate Change Centre for Excellence](#) for past recipients.

Further questions – should be sent NetZeroResearchFund@scotiabank.com.