The SSHRC Connection competition supports researchers to mobilize research knowledge, and/or engage with participants on research issues they value. The competition does not support research. Connection grants require matching funding. The competition has four intakes per year. Applicants may apply only once in a calendar year but may re-submit a failed application in the next calendar year.

Deadlines are Feb 1, May 1, Aug 1, and Nov 1 (or the subsequent business day in the event of a weekend or public holiday). Research Administrative Services (RAS) deadlines are 5 business days before the sponsor deadline. Your faculty may have an earlier deadline, which your Associate or Vice-Dean, Research can confirm.

Grants are awarded for one year, with funding from $7,000 to $25,000 for events and from $7,000 to $50,000 or higher for outreach activities if well justified.

Your key contact for the Connection grant competition is **Ayantika Mukherjee,** the Research Partner for Creative and Community-Engaged Research: Ayantika.Mukherjee@ualberta.ca

Supports for the Connection grant competition are described below, organized according to the three grant-crafting stages of *planning, writing* and *submission to SSHRC*.

Planning Stage (6-8 months prior to the competition submission deadline)
- Confirm eligibility to apply for and hold funds
  - Quick Tip: if you are faculty, you are eligible. If not, check your employment contract and confirm with your Department Chair or Faculty Associate or Vice Dean, Research.
- Contact your Department Chair (if applicable) and your Faculty Associate or Vice Dean, Research:
  - to notify them of your intention to apply,
  - to confirm the internal departmental and faculty approval deadlines,
  - and if you need help with securing matching funding. Your ADR or Vice-Dean may be able to advise or support you in finding matching funding.
- Contact the lead Research Partner for Connection Grants. She will help you to
  - strategize types of activities and target audience,
  - identify potential avenues for applying for matching funding,
  - review eligibility and justifications for budget items,
- The CG application procedure checklist provides resources for obtaining matching funding, commitment letters as well as the steps to submit your application.
- Attend a Connection Grants Information Session (May and November).
- Peruse the Successful Grants Library for examples of successful CG applications. The archive is updated regularly (e.g.: eight new examples were added in 2024).

Writing Stage (2-4 months before the submission deadline)

- Consult GrEx resource materials, such as the [Students and Postdocs](#), [Budget](#) and [Knowledge Mobilization](#) sections for possible ideas on what to include in a CG application.
- Check out the SSH College library's short and helpful video on [preparing knowledge mobilization plans](#).
- For how to incorporate EDI into grant applications refer to the Research Partner Network 'EDI in SSHRC Grants Resources', such as
  - [EDI in SSHRC Grants Info Session Recording_2023](#)
  - [EDI in SSHRC Grants Info Session Transcript_2023](#)
  - [EDI in SSHRC Grants Resources and Key Contacts_2023](#)
- Start your [application](#) in the SSHRC portal. Use the portal to send invitations to any co-applicants or collaborators.
- Your Department Chair will need to authorize any teaching release or dedicated space for your project (SSHRC will not fund teaching releases, fyi).
- If your application is a resubmission for the November or February competitions, then request [Ms. Mukherjee](#) conduct a *Forensic Review* of the previous application.
- Faculty in the College of Social Sciences & Humanities are advised to request a College Budget template for help when creating the CG budget. Contact Dianne Johnson: csshoor2@ualberta.ca.
- Faculty in the College of Social Sciences & Humanities may reach out to a Research Partner to connect them with the SSH College Grant Assistant (GRA) for help with the following (2 months before submission deadline):
  - Budget estimates
  - CV populating
  - Literature scoping
  - Proofreading, copy-editing (not stylistic, structural or ESL editing).
- Receive a CG pre-submission review from the [Research Partner](#) for Connection Grants (1-2 months prior to the submission deadline).

Submission Stage (1-2 months prior to the submission deadline)

- Create a [new proposal request](#) in the Researcher Homepage
  - Help for this can be found by contacting a Research Administration Specialist (rsoinfo@ualberta.ca).
- Attach your SSHRC CG to the Researcher Homepage.
  - Your full application (with SSHRC CV) will be reviewed by your Chair and/or Associate Dean Research or Vice Dean of Research. They may suggest changes, and must provide their institutional sign off before releasing your application to Research Administrative Services (RAS).
- After the faculty review, your application will be reviewed by the RAS officer. Complete any changes requested by Research Administrative Services.
- Once informed by RAS that it is approved, you may submit your SSHRC CG application in the SSHRC portal.

Pro tip: Ensure that you are subscribed to the [sshrcUofA](#) listserv and RPN [Monthly Bulletin](#), which informs researchers about upcoming workshops, how to register, important deadlines, and other application supports available.