Dear Colleagues,

As you are aware, the CFI recently migrated the Leaders Opportunity Fund (LOF) application forms to its new CFI Awards Management System (CAMS) platform. Below you will find some information that may be useful for the upcoming June LOF deadline.

With the new CAMS platform, CFI has transitioned from paper to fully electronic submissions of proposals. As such, paper copies are no longer required, instead a single signed cover letter accompanied by the list of submitted proposals will be required per deadline. You will find the various templates here: [http://www.innovation.ca/OurFunds/CFIFunds/LeadersOpportunityFund/LOFDocs](http://www.innovation.ca/OurFunds/CFIFunds/LeadersOpportunityFund/LOFDocs). Note that provincial processes may still require paper copies.

The LOF section of the CFI website has been streamlined. The new structure should make it easier to access documentation pertaining to the different funding options:

**LOF – Unaffiliated**

For proposals that are not part of joint application:
- Proposals for which the total cost is less than $1M can be submitted three times a year (February, June and October)
- Proposals for which the total cost is between $1M and $2M can only be submitted in June (with an NOI submitted in March)

Proposal type researchers need to select in CAMS after clicking “create a new proposal”: Leaders Opportunity Fund - Funding for research infrastructure

(note that the forms for the LOF and the LOF $1M-$2M are now identical)

**LOF – Partnerships**

For proposals part of a joint application and review process with:
- CIHR Programmatic Grants in Food and Health
- NSERC Industrial Research Chairs
- SSHRC Insight Grants
- SSHRC Partnership Grants
- CERC - New and Existing CERC holders

Proposal type researchers need to select in CAMS after clicking “create a new proposal”: Leaders Opportunity Fund - Funding for research infrastructure associated with an application for research support funding from another program
Except for candidates currently holding a CERC:

Leaders Opportunity Fund - Funding for research infrastructure associated with a Canada Excellence Research Chair

Since the same forms are used for both LOF – unaffiliated mechanisms (<$1M and $1M to $2M), CAMS will limit the total cost of those projects to $2M. Institutions should pay careful attention to ensure that the total cost of LOF proposals submitted outside of the June deadline window is below $1M.

Should you have any question or feedback about the new forms or online tools, please feel free to contact your Senior Programs Officer or myself.

Regards,

Patrick Pilot

Patrick Pilot
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