Advice and tips for applying to NSERC postgraduate and postdoctoral programs

✓ Read the program description

✓ Read the application instructions

✓ Read the selection committee guide

✓ Watch the resource videos

Important tips

Research proposal

Two-page attachment

- Describe EDI considerations in your research plan, if applicable
- Write the proposal yourself
- Explain significance of your project
- Be clear and specific
- Make your proposal clear for reviewers
- Convey your passion

| Guidelines | Addendum | Program literature |

- Applications containing research proposals that are not eligible under these guidelines may be rejected
- You can only apply to one agency per academic year

Justification of research (optional one page attachment)
- Complete if any overlap with social sciences or health
- Used only by NSERC staff to determine eligibility
- Short explanation why your research fits within NSERC's mandate

Subject eligibility

Part 1: Contributions to research and development

- Articles published, accepted, and submitted only

Part 2: Most significant contributions

- Describe your role in three contributions from Part 1

Part 3: Applicant's statement

- Skills, experiences, and qualities demonstrating your excellence

PGS/CGS D – 2 pages
PDF – 4 pages

Contributions and statements

Choose references carefully

Invite references early

Provide background information
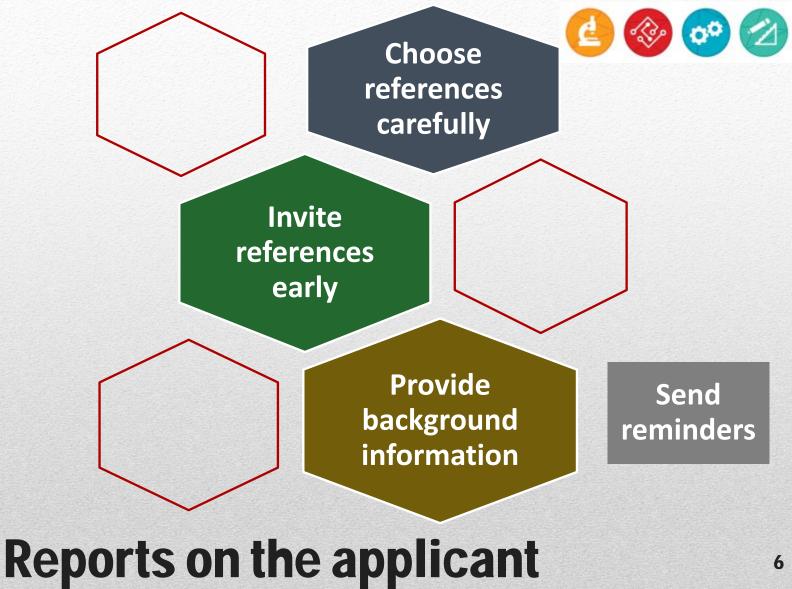
Send reminders

Reports on the applicant

Impact not explained

Repetitiveness

Missing citations

Lack of focus

Spelling or grammatical mistakes

Too modest

Common errors/mistakes

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Contact information