We fund **R&D**
and test prototypes

INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS CANADA

Dedicated to **Canadian innovators** who want to innovate, create and get to market.

$140M per year to fund R&D and test prototypes in real-life settings

Two streams dedicated to Canadian innovators who want to innovate, create and get to market.

Challenge stream

Competitive process to meet specific government needs

- Early stage R&D (technology readiness levels 1-6)
- Receive up to $1.15M to prove your concept and build your prototype
- Challenge-based competitions

Testing stream

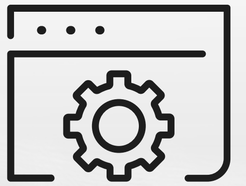
Competitive process to fund testing of prototypes in real-life settings

- Late-stage prototype testing (technology readiness levels 7-9)
- Up to $550k to test non-military innovations, and up to $1.15M to test military innovations
- Open and theme-based calls for proposals

Challenge
stream

Challenge stream

Challenge development



Ideation

The department develops idea for a challenge.

Consultation

We consult Industrial Research Assistance Program experts to make sure a commercial solution doesn't already exist in the marketplace.

Define

The department collaborates with our team to finalize the parameters of the challenge and post them on our website.

Browse and apply

You browse our challenges and apply directly through the website.

Phase 1 : Proof of feasibility

Phase 1

Evaluate

Proposals received in response to the challenge are evaluated.

Award

You get funding to prove how you will solve the challenge (up to $150K may be awarded).

Develop

You have up to 6 months to submit your proof of feasability report.

Submit

You hand in your report and receive an invitation to submit your Phase 2 proposal.

1/3 of the award can be outsourced (academia, other company, etc)

Phase 2 : Prototype development

Phase 2

Evaluate
We review your Phase 1 report and your Phase 2 proposal.

Award
You get funding to develop a prototype (up to $1M may be awarded).

Develop
You have up to 2 years to develop your prototype.

Submit
You hand in your Phase 2 report.

1/2 of the award can be outsourced (academia, other company, etc)

Pathway to **commercialization***

Evaluate

We evaluate your prototype to determine if it's market ready.

YES

Is the solution market ready ?

NO

Testing stream

Your solution may be eligible for further R&D and testing through the testing stream.

Phase 3

- Market-ready and beyond TRL 9
- The innovator can sell directly to any federal organization for up to 3 years

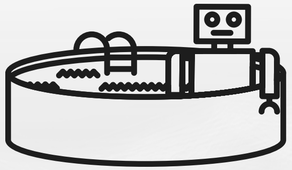
* This process is only applicable to contract based challenges

Testing
stream

Testing stream

Testing development

NRC · IRAP



Application

We will have 2-3 calls for proposals per year. Each call will have a limited intake period.

Evaluation

Industrial Research Assistance Program officers perform the evaluations.

Qualified

If you pass evaluation, your solution will be placed in our pool of eligible innovations.

Selection

Federal organizations may try your innovation in their own operational settings (provinces, cities, academia, and Indigenous organizations may also be testing partners).

Testing stream

Testing development

Partnership

Once matched up, you will work with your testing partner on defining your test plan.

Contract

Once your test plan is defined, you will work with our contracting officers to finalize a contract.

Testing

Testing starts once a contract is signed. You receive payments once testing starts.

Feedback

Once testing is completed, you receive feedback from your testing partner.

Pathway to **commercialization**

SME

Additional Testing

- Receive up to 3 additional testing contracts for same innovation up to 3 years after initial contract
- Same maximum values for any test ($550K for non-military or $1.15M military)
- Tests can be with same or a different test organization

Commercial sales

- Commercial contracts available for successfully tested and market-ready innovations
- Available for purchase for up to 3 years
- Maximum contract value up to $8M

Large businesses, academia, and not-for-profit

Additional Testing

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Contact us

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