

The University of British Columbia - Okanagan Campus
Faculty of Applied Science
School of Engineering

Canada Research Chair (Tier 2) in Engineering (Internal call)

Date posted: December 16, 2024

Closing date: January 31, 2025

Situated on the traditional, ancestral, unceded territory of the Syilx Okanagan Nation, the Faculty of Applied Science's School of Engineering at the University of British Columbia – Okanagan (UBC-O) campus invites applications from internal UBC-O faculty members for a Tier 2 Canada Research Chair (CRC) in the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) stream. **Applications in a field of research aligned with the school's research mission and values are encouraged.** Areas of interest include but are not limited to: electrical, computer, mechanical, manufacturing, and civil engineering. As this is an internal search, applicants must already hold a full-time, tenure-stream faculty appointment at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor in the UBC-O School of Engineering.

Tier 2 CRCs are five-year positions, renewable once and are intended for exceptional emerging scholars acknowledged by their peers as having the potential to lead in their field. Nominees for a Tier 2 CRC must (a) be excellent emerging world-class researchers who have demonstrated particular research creativity; (b) have demonstrated the potential to achieve international recognition in their fields in the next five to ten years; (c) have the potential to attract, develop and retain excellent trainees, students and future researchers; and (d) be proposing an original, innovative research program of high quality.

Normally, applicants for Tier 2 Chairs should be no more than 10 years from having earned their highest degree at the time of Chair nomination. Applicants who are more than 10 years from having earned their highest degree and who have experienced legitimate career interruptions (maternity, parental, or extended sick leave, clinical training, COVID-19 impacts, or family care), may have their eligibility to hold a Tier II CRC assessed through the program's [Tier 2 justification process](https://www.chairs-chaire.gc.ca/program-programme/nomination-mise_en_candidature-eng.aspx#s3) (https://www.chairs-chaire.gc.ca/program-programme/nomination-mise_en_candidature-eng.aspx#s3). All CRC nominations are subject to review and final approval by the CRC Secretariat, and appointment as a CRC is conditional upon their approval. Please consult the [Canada Research Chairs website](https://www.chairs-chaire.gc.ca/) (https://www.chairs-chaire.gc.ca/) for full program information, including further details on eligibility.

The successful candidate must hold a PhD degree and will ideally bring a breadth of expertise. They are expected to establish an innovative research program with the ability to attract substantial external funding and industrial partnerships as well as excellence in undergraduate teaching and learning, and dedication to graduate student teaching, supervision, and mentoring. In addition to research and teaching, they will continue to provide service to the University and the broader academic and professional community.

This research program will build upon UBC-O School of Engineering's expertise in topical areas of existing strength, including but not limited to: energy, biotechnology, communications, sensors, materials, the built environment, control and automation, artificial intelligence, water resources, photonics, transportation, manufacturing, decision-making, or other topics of expertise.

Application Process

In accordance with UBC's CRC [Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Action Plan](https://research.ubc.ca/federal-research-chair-programs/canada-research-chairs/ubcs-commitment-equity-diversity-and) (<https://research.ubc.ca/federal-research-chair-programs/canada-research-chairs/ubcs-commitment-equity-diversity-and>) and pursuant to Section 42 of the BC Human Rights code, the selection will be restricted to members of the following federally designated groups: Indigenous Peoples, racialized individuals, persons with disabilities, and/or women and gender equity-seeking groups.

Applicants to CRC positions are asked to complete this equity survey: [https://ubc.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6WJHol7SfPxRMu9] as part of the application, and candidates from these groups must self-identify as belonging to one or more of the federally designated equity groups to be considered for the position. Because the search is limited to those self-identifying as members of designated equity groups, candidates must also provide their name in the survey to be considered.

Personal information is collected under the authority of sections 26(a), 26(c) and 26(e) of the BC Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. The information you provide will be used to determine whether you qualify for participation in this restricted process, and to advance accessibility, equity, and fair adjudication in this process. Data will be collected by the Equity & Inclusion Office and only the names of those eligible for the search process will be shared confidentially with the search committee. All responses will be stored in a secure database.

Interested candidates are invited to submit an application package as a single PDF file to Jana Sanetrik at jana.sanetrik@ubc.ca and include:

- cover letter (up to 2 pages) addressing the applicant's interest in, and suitability for, the Tier II CRC
- Curriculum vitae (UBC CV format)
- Quality of the nominee i.e., research/leadership excellence (up to 1 page)
- Proposed research program (up to 4 pages)
- HQP training plan (up to 1 page)
- Statement addressing how they will contribute to an equitable and inclusive academic environment at UBC (up to 1 page)
- Copies of two major publications
- Name and contact information for four potential referees who meet the Canada Research Chairs Program's conflict of interest requirements, with at least one arm's length referee. (Please note reference letters will not be solicited at this time).

Complete application packages are required by 11:59 pm PST, January 31, 2025. As indicated above, applicants must also complete this equity survey as part of the application. [https://ubc.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6WJHol7SfPxRMu9]. The successful applicant will be required to prepare a CRC package by August 15, 2025, UBC's internal deadline for the October 2025 CRC deadline. The earliest anticipated start date for this position is April 1st, 2026, or upon a date to be mutually agreed and is contingent on CRC approval. Questions regarding this position and the CRC nomination process should be directed to Jana Sanetrik at jana.sanetrik@ubc.ca. Academic enquiries can be directed to Will Hughes, School of Engineering Director at william.hughes@ubc.ca.

UBC acknowledges that certain circumstances including COVID-related research interruptions and eligible leaves (e.g., maternity, parental, medical, bereavement) may cause career interruptions that legitimately affect an applicant's record of research achievement. These interruptions will be taken into careful consideration during the assessment process. We encourage applicants to highlight in their application how interruptions have impacted their career in order to allow for a fair assessment of their research productivity.

The University is committed to creating and maintaining an inclusive, non-discriminatory and accessible work environment for all members of its workforce, and in particular, for its employees with disabilities. Additionally, an inclusive work environment for employees with disabilities presumes an environment where differences are accepted, recognized, and integrated into current structures, planning, and decision-making modes. We welcome colleagues with the experiences and skills to contribute to our principles of inclusion, equity, and diversity throughout campus life. UBC is also committed to ensuring that the application and interview process is accessible to all applicants. If you require accommodations or have questions about UBC benefits, services or accommodations policies, please contact Jacky Ivans, Relocation and Benefits Associate at jacky.ivans@ubc.ca. If you have any questions regarding accommodations or accessibility during the recruitment and hiring process or for more information and support, please visit UBC's [Centre for Workplace Accessibility](#) via email at workplace.accessibility@ubc.ca. To learn more about how the University is working to create a more inclusive working and learning environment, please see the UBC Inclusion Action Plan's goals related to recruitment and retention at [this link](https://equity.ubc.ca/stear-framework-and-roadmap-for-change/) (<https://equity.ubc.ca/stear-framework-and-roadmap-for-change/>).

Equity, diversity, and inclusion are essential to academic excellence. An open and diverse community fosters the inclusion of voices that have been underrepresented or discouraged. We encourage applications from members of groups that have been marginalized on any grounds enumerated under the B.C. Human Rights Code, including sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, racialization, disability, political belief, religion, marital or family status, age, and/or status as a First Nation, Metis, Inuit, or Indigenous person. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply.

UBC is consistently ranked among the top 20 public universities in the world and is a renowned global institution for teaching, learning and research. Since 1915, UBC has been opening doors of opportunity for people with the curiosity, drive and vision to shape a better world. Today, our students, faculty and staff come from around the world and our international research partnerships and publications enable us to collaborate on a global scale. UBC is proud to nurture and transform the lives of more than 65,000 students from Canada and 140+ countries around the world.

With 10,000 undergraduates and over 1,000 graduate students, UBC's Okanagan campus has grown to be a diverse and vibrant part of the Okanagan community. Kelowna is connected by direct flights to major Canadian and some USA cities and the region is considered one of the most desirable to live in Canada. For more information about the Okanagan Campus, see <https://ok.ubc.ca>.

UBC's Faculty of Applied Science comprises a unique constellation of disciplines across both campuses. Our core purpose is to discover, design, innovate, provide unwavering top-tier education, and champion a community of responsible professionals. UBC Okanagan's School of Engineering is an integral part of the Faculty of Applied Science and is based in our Kelowna campus, on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

School of Engineering

territory of the Syilx Okanagan People. Founded in 2005, the School of Engineering is among the fastest growing post-secondary engineering programs in Canada and a premier destination for exceptional engineering education and research. Today, the School offers undergraduate programs in civil, electrical, manufacturing, and mechanical engineering and three graduate degrees (MEng, MAsc, PhD) that continue to respond to the demands of local, national, and global communities.