



## NSERC CREATE LEAP: Training tomorrow's LEAders in Permafrost thaw and northern research

### Program Overview

Funded through the [NSERC CREATE program](#) and additional program partners, [NSERC CREATE LEAP](#) is a six-year training program led by Carleton University and partnering research institutions that will run from September 2023 to 2029. By increasing access to training, understanding, and collaboration across fields in the northern context, NSERC CREATE LEAP aims to address challenges related to permafrost thaw across multiple scales alongside a diverse range of knowledge holders.

### Program Objectives

1. To equip trainees with the skills, knowledge, and northern experience required to facilitate their transition to permafrost-related careers in, or closely connected to the North.

2. To develop a sustainable training program that contributes to building a more climate-resilient Canada.

### Training Objectives

1. Developing foundational knowledge across key disciplines in natural science and engineering as required for understanding and adapting to permafrost thaw.
2. Building the professional skills, relevant experience, and personal relationships required for northern research, as well as more general professional skills.
3. Applying foundational knowledge and professional skills to identify and solve complex real-world problems collaboratively and with Indigenous communities.

Questions regarding NSERC CREATE LEAP can be directed to: [createleap@carleton.ca](mailto:createleap@carleton.ca)  
More information can be found on the program website: [www.permafrost-leap.ca](http://www.permafrost-leap.ca)



## Training Elements

1. Foundational knowledge course

2. Professional skills seminars

3. Northern field school

- ~10-day event in northern location alongside program partners (trainee travel funding provided)

4. Mentoring, internships, and research co-development

## Trainee Funding

Graduate student trainees accepted into the NSERC CREATE LEAP program will receive a CREATE stipend that reflects their level of graduate degree program. The stipend amount will be \$12,000 per program year for Master's-level graduate students and \$13,700 per program year for doctoral-level graduate students. These stipends will be provided directly to the trainees' faculty supervisors.

While this program is focused on graduate students, undergraduates with relevant 4th-year projects may also be included without a CREATE stipend. All trainees will also receive CREATE travel support to attend the northern field school component of this program.

This program will also welcome ten additional participants per year, which may include students from northern universities and colleges, northern professionals, experts without academic training, and academic trainees working with collaborators. Additional participants will receive funding through resources other than NSERC CREATE to support their involvement in the program.

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