**NSERC CREATE LEAP: Training tomorrow’s LEAders in Permafrost thaw and northern research**

**Program Overview**

Funded through the [NSERC CREATE program](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/professors-professeurs/grants-subs/create-foncer_eng.asp) and additional program partners, [NSERC CREATE LEAP](https://leap.permafrostnet.ca/) 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**

**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.

**Training Elements**

**Trainee Funding**

 Graduate student trainees accepted into the NSERC CREATE LEAP program will receive a CREATE stipend of $18,000.00 per program year for up to 2 years for master's and up to 4 years for PhD students. These stipends will be provided directly to the trainees’ faculty supervisors.

Though there could be some flexibility considering circumstances, as a rule of thumb, trainees’ combined LEAP and other scholarships may not exceed $50K per year.

While this program is focused on graduate students, undergraduates with relevant 4th-year projects may also be included without a CREATE stipend. All graduate 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.