

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: \$10,000 SEED GRANTS**  
**FOR PROJECTS RELATED TO THE AI4SOCIETY AND ENERGY SYSTEMS SIGNATURE AREAS**

AI4Society and Energy Systems Signature Areas encourage and facilitate innovative new directions at the intersection of artificial intelligence and energy. We are offering up to four joint seed grants, valued at \$10,000 each, to teams that have a viable project that would lead to grant proposals to NSERC, SSHRC, or other funding body, that can combine research from our two signature areas into creative projects that can obtain external funding. The seed grant funds can only be used to develop grant proposals, specifically for writing of the proposals.

What might these projects look like?

- A researcher in social sciences, interested in energy discourse, teams up with researchers investigating machine learning on real-time social media data. They develop a proposal for a prototype project mining, learning and visualizing debates about energy in Alberta that they can develop into a request for SSHRC and NSERC for further funding.
- A social scientist, interested in developing games for energy futures modelling, teams up with a computer scientist developing AIs for games. They develop a proposal for a serious game that can be used in public consultations around energy solutions that could get funding from different levels of government or a foundation.
- An engineer and natural scientist team up to develop a proposal for control protocols for storing energy from renewable sources, recommending the timing of appliance usage, and selecting the most cost-efficient energy source to meet the demands of individual households and groups of household on the same smart grid.

**Eligibility:** Tenure track researchers working in the fields of energy and artificial intelligence.

**Funding Term:** 01 January 2021 to 31 March 2021

**Deadline for applications:** 18 November 2020

**How to apply:** Submit an application document that provides the following:

1. A description of your team.
2. A brief description of your project.
3. Specify the importance and relevance to AI4Society and Energy Systems Signature Areas.
4. Indicate how the funds will be used (note funds can only be used for proposal development).
5. Specify future proposal plans, including funding agency, amount of funding to be requested and application deadline.
6. Indicate how equity, diversity, and inclusivity (EDI) will be supported in the use of grant funds.

**Submit applications and questions to:**

Lisa Trottier, Program Coordinator  
Energy Systems Signature Area  
Email: [energy.systems@ualberta.ca](mailto:energy.systems@ualberta.ca)

**See further information regarding the Signature Areas:**

AI4Society <https://ai4society.ca/>

Energy Systems <https://www.ualberta.ca/energy-systems/index.html>