1. Can applicants who currently hold or are applying for a Discovery Grant submit an LOI to Discovery Horizons?
Yes, researchers holding or applying for a Discovery grant are eligible to apply to the Discovery Horizons program.

2. Can co-applicants be from non-NSE disciplines?
Co-applicants can be from any discipline, so long as they meet all eligibility requirements. Note, however, that their participation in the proposed project must work towards advancing knowledge within the Natural Sciences and Engineering.

3. Is the proposed work under Discovery Horizons expected to be drastically different from the work proposed for Discovery Grants? Is conceptual overlap allowed as long as there is no budgetary overlap?
Discovery Horizons proposals should be different from Discovery Grants, either applied for or held. Because Discovery Horizons applications require a broad level of interdisciplinarity with the social sciences or health research, they are not suitable for the Discovery Grants program. At the full application stage, applications must indicate that the funds requested from the Discovery Horizons program will be for expenses that are distinct from those covered by other sources. If you are applying for both Discovery Grant and Discovery Horizons funding, you must indicate that there will be no duplication of funding for the same expense(s) and explain how all funds will be used if both applications are successful.

4. Does the application need to have all three components: (1) social sciences and humanities, (2) natural sciences and engineering, and (3) health and wellness?
No. Discovery Horizons applications must be rooted in NSE and integrate elements from the social sciences and humanities and/or health and wellness.

5. How does the Discovery Horizons Program and the Tri-Agency Interdisciplinary Peer Review process differ from the interdisciplinary research funded under the New Frontiers in Research Fund?
Although the New Frontiers in Research Fund (NFRF) was also created to fund interdisciplinary research in response to the Fundamental Science Review’s recommendations, it is focused on high-risk / high-reward, fast-breaking research projects with novel interdisciplinary approaches that bring together traditionally
non-collaborative disciplines. Discovery Horizons and all other funding opportunities reviewed by the Tri-Agency Interdisciplinary Peer Review Committee will complement the NFRF by focusing instead on investigator-initiated interdisciplinary research projects that are aligned with the core funding programs at each of the three major funding councils, including research projects that use existing interdisciplinary approaches. Please see the NFRF website for more details.

6. Can I submit the same application to more than one of the funding opportunities participating in the Tri-Agency Interdisciplinary Peer Review Committee?

No, applicants may not submit identical or essentially identical applications to more than one of the following funding opportunities participating in the Tri-Agency Interdisciplinary Peer Review Committee pilot: the NSERC’s Discovery Horizons, the SSHRC’s Insight Grants, or the CIHR’s Project Grants. Additionally, all applications must meet the eligibility requirements and guidelines of the funding opportunity to which they apply, including those related to multiple applications. As a result, it is important to consult the funding opportunity’s webpage before you apply.

7. How do I determine which funding opportunity to apply for in order to have my application reviewed by the Tri-Agency Interdisciplinary Peer Review Committee?

Applicants should apply to the agency funding opportunity that supports the dominant research area of their proposal.

8. Will interdisciplinary applications that fall entirely within the research areas of one agency be considered by the Tri-Agency Interdisciplinary Peer Review Committee?

No, applications that fall entirely within the research areas of one agency will not be considered by the Tri-Agency Interdisciplinary Peer Review Committee, and should instead be directed towards other existing programs within that agency. For example, interdisciplinary research solely within the natural sciences and engineering with no social science, humanities, health, and/or wellness components should be directed towards another NSERC program, such as the Discovery Grants Program.