

The background features a dark blue gradient with a subtle pattern of white dots. Overlaid on this are several semi-transparent, light blue circular elements. These include concentric circles, dashed lines, and curved arrows, suggesting a technical or scientific theme. A prominent feature is a large circular scale on the left side, with numerical markings ranging from 140 to 260 in increments of 10. The scale is partially obscured by the text.

# SEX AND GENDER BASED ANALYSIS (SGBA): CONSIDERATIONS IN HEALTH-RELATED RESEARCH

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# TERMINOLOGY

## Gender

- Psychosocial and sociocultural attributes: Describes the socially constructed ways a person identifies and is identified
  - Gender Identity: How a person labels their own gender
  - Gender Expression: How a person outwardly expresses their gender
  - Gender Attribution: How others perceive a person's gender
  - Gender Roles: Imposed expectations and norms
- Terms: men, women, girls, boys, non-binary, gender non-conforming, gender diverse people

Resources:

[What is gender? What is sex? - CIHR \(cihr-irsc.gc.ca\)](https://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/en/what-is-gender-what-is-sex)

[Queer Terms - OUTSaskatoon](https://www.outsaskatoon.ca/queer-terms)

## Sex

- Biological attributes of cells, tissues, humans, and animals: include DNA, hormones, reproductive organs, and secondary sex characteristics (i.e., vocal pitch, facial hair, distribution of fat tissue, etc.)
- Terms: male, female, intersex

## Two-Spirit

- Describes how Indigenous people who are gender and/or sexually diverse identify.
- Encompasses the interconnectedness of cultural identity, gender, and sexual identity.

# CIHR PEER REVIEW: POLICY

- Spring 2018: Review of SGBA within health-related research was embedded into peer review for the Project grant competition
- Now: CIHR expects all applicants integrate SGBA into their research design when appropriate
  - Purpose of SGBA: to promote rigorous science that is sensitive to sex and gender, thereby expanding our understanding of health determinants for all peoples.

## Resources:

[Progress Update: SGBA in Action at CIHR – CIHR \(cihr-irsc.gc.ca\)](https://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/en/progress-update-sgba-in-action-at-cihr)

[Peer review: Policies and procedures - CIHR \(cihr-irsc.gc.ca\)](https://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/en/peer-review-policies-and-procedures)

[Science is better with sex and gender - CIHR \(cihr-irsc.gc.ca\)](https://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/en/science-is-better-with-sex-and-gender)

# CIHR PEER REVIEW: PROCEDURES

- Reviewers are asked to:
  - explicitly assess whether the integration of sex (as a biological variable) and/or gender (as a socio-cultural factor) is a strength, a weakness or not applicable to the proposal
  - comment on their assessment and to provide recommendations to the applicants on how they might improve the strength of their applications with respect to the integration of sex and/or gender

## Resources:

[Assessing Sex and Gender Integration in Peer Review – YouTube](#)  
[Peer review - CIHR \(cihr-irsc.gc.ca\)](http://cihr-irsc.gc.ca)



# WHAT IS CONSIDERED A STRENGTH?

Strong proposals will:

Integration of Sex:	Integration of Gender:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Include, report and analyse cells, tissues, animals, or humans by sex</li><li>✓ Build on what we know about sex differences in the field of study</li><li>✓ Design experiments that will disaggregate results by sex</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Report what is known about gender in the field of study</li><li>✓ Describe how gender will be investigated</li><li>✓ Use methods that address and mitigate bias (Consider recruitment strategies, data collection methods, KT plan)</li><li>✓ Design experiments that will disaggregate and analyse results by gender</li></ul>

# WHAT IS CONSIDERED A WEAKNESS?

Proposals that do not integrate sex and/or gender:

- ✘ Do not provide a strong justification for a single-sex study
  - ✘ Fail to report that gender is relevant to the topic
  - ✘ Ignore sex and/or gender differences reported in the scientific literature, or fails to build on published data
  - ✘ Do not report sex of cells, tissues, animals, or humans
  - ✘ Fail to disaggregate results by sex and/or gender where possible/relevant
  - ✘ Conflate terms for sex and gender
- ☐ If sex and/or gender considerations are not applicable to your research proposal/design, applicants must include compelling justification
- ✓ [Key considerations for the appropriate integration of sex and gender in research – CIHR \(cihr-irsc.gc.ca\)](https://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/en/key-considerations-appropriate-integration-sex-gender-research)
  - ✓ [Sex and Gender Equity in Research: rationale for the SAGER guidelines and recommended use \(biomedcentral.com\)](https://www.biomedcentral.com/sex-gender-equity-research)

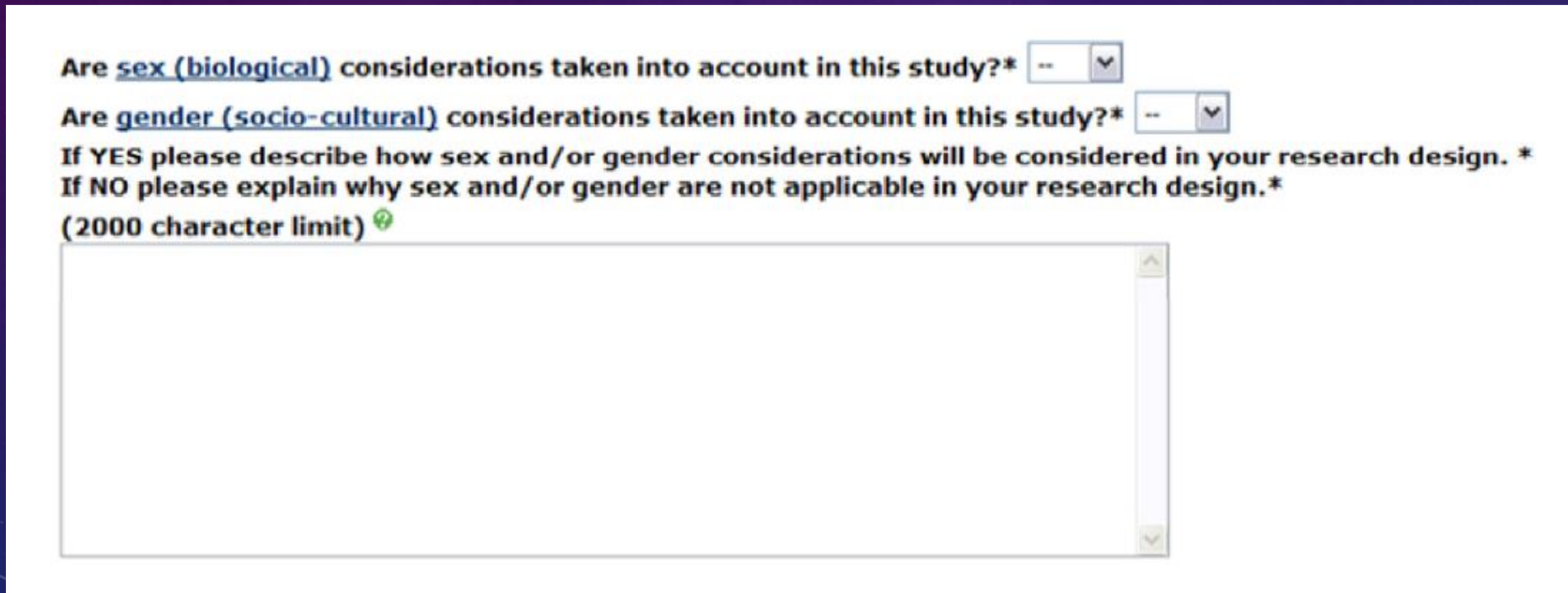
# APPLICATION DETAILS

- Task 2: Enter Proposal Information (Sub-task: Details)
  - Within the online portion of the grant application within ResearchNet you will be required to answer two “Yes/No” regarding integration of sex and/or gender considerations.
  - A text box is provided to provide justification to your responses must then be completed.

Are sex (biological) considerations taken into account in this study?\* -- ▾

Are gender (socio-cultural) considerations taken into account in this study?\* -- ▾

If YES please describe how sex and/or gender considerations will be considered in your research design. \*  
If NO please explain why sex and/or gender are not applicable in your research design.\*  
(2000 character limit) ⓘ

A screenshot of a web-based form. It contains two questions, each followed by a dropdown menu with a downward arrow. The first question is "Are sex (biological) considerations taken into account in this study?\*" and the second is "Are gender (socio-cultural) considerations taken into account in this study?\*". Below these are instructions: "If YES please describe how sex and/or gender considerations will be considered in your research design. \*" and "If NO please explain why sex and/or gender are not applicable in your research design.\*". A note "(2000 character limit) ⓘ" is positioned above a large, empty text input box with a vertical scrollbar on the right side.

Resources:

[Project Grant: Application Instructions - CIHR \(cihr-irsc.gc.ca\)](https://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/en/project-grants-application-instructions)

# TIPS FOR INTEGRATING SGBA INTO YOUR PROPOSAL

- Consider the text box as a summary of the SGBA described within your proposal: This section should not be the only area of your application where this information appears!
  - Literature review/Background: Know the “real world” representation of sex and/or gender in your field of study
  - Methods: Clearly justify sample sizes and describe a data collection and analysis strategy that will show reviewers you can disaggregate, and report results by sex and/or gender.
  - Knowledge translation: Ensure methods will reach diverse peoples and audiences
  - Consider the strength of your team



# RESOURCES

- Access training resources available through CIHR and locally
  - CIHR [Training Modules](#)
  - Checklists ([Biomedical](#) & [Research with Human Participants](#))
  - Sex and Gender in Health Research [Factsheets](#)
  - SCPOR: [Sex and Gender in Health Research](#)
    - Resource: [Checklist for Integrating Sex and Gender Considerations](#)
  - Work with your Research Facilitator (click on this [link](#) and search by discipline)
  - Usask [Grants Repository](#)
  - USask [EDI](#) resources