

## The call and research objectives

The AFIR-ERM Section of the International Actuarial Association (IAA) has as its primary objective the promotion of actuarial research in enterprise risk management and particularly financial risk fields, to push forward the boundaries of actuarial knowledge and to promote and facilitate an international exchange of views, advice, research and practical information among actuaries and other experts involved in these fields. The AFIR-ERM Section is thus pleased to announce research grants to fund new original research leading to a research paper on innovations in this field in general and particularly on digital innovation in actuarial science. The research questions and objectives can comprise, but are not limited to the following topics:

- Climate change and its impact on pricing and underwriting decisions
- Environmental, Social and Corporate Governance (ESG) investing in pension funds and insurance reserves
- Actuarial data science in enterprise risk management: Models and applications of techniques such as artificial intelligence or machine learning in risk management
- Cyber and technology risk: Managing exposures, possibilities, and pricing of new cyber risk insurance products
- Sustainability: Approaches for sustainable value creation and finance
- Modeling the economic consequences of pandemics

Note again that the above list is not meant to be exhaustive, but represents examples of possible topics that might be of interest in the AFIR-ERM field. Proposals that fall under the listed topics will be considered more favorably by reviewers, however.

## The research output

Research output is expected to be in the form of a scientific paper that complies with the rules and is suitable for the publication in a leading scientific journal in the field of AFIR-ERM research. The paper should have at most 40 pages.

All research papers are expected, but not required, to either be accompanied by tools or code that allows the techniques discussed to be implemented, or include links to open source software and code for this purpose. All papers should be submitted with a plagiarism check using recognized plagiarism software, e.g. Turnitin.

Funding acknowledgement of the AFIR-ERM Section is expected in a final publication.

## Submission and guidelines

The AFIR-ERM Section of the International Actuarial Association (IAA) is pleased to award research grants of CAD \$5,000 each for up to two selected research grant proposals. The AFIR-ERM Board may not award any research grant in case the proposals do not satisfy high academic standards.

Proposal submissions are due by June 1, 2021 and must be submitted in the English language. Authors should submit proposals, including the title, a short description of the topic(s) to be addressed, the approach that will be taken (e.g. literature search, model, etc.), emphasizing issues that require special consideration and a statement that the research has not been published and is not being considered for publication at the moment of submission. At least one of the authors has to be a member of the AFIR-ERM Section prior to the date of the submission. Details should be given regarding the techniques to be used, collateral material to be consulted, and possible limitations of the analysis. Each proposal should be accompanied by the resumes of the author(s), indicating how their background, education, and experience bear on their qualifications to undertake the project. A list of the authors' publications, along with authors' contact information, should be included with the proposal. Furthermore, a schedule for completion of the research should be provided, identifying key dates or time frames for research completion and report submissions. The maximal length of the project is 12 months and the report from the project together with the paper should be submitted within 15 months. Acceptance of proposals: By August 1, 2021, the Board will make a decision on all proposals and will contact authors accordingly.

Submissions should be sent via e-mail to the AFIR-ERM Section of the IAA: [AFIR.research@actuaries.org](mailto:AFIR.research@actuaries.org)

Sincerely,  
AFIR-ERM Board