

Fall 2026 CIHR Project Grant Workshop and Panel Q&A

August 17, 2026; 10:00 – 11:30 am
HLTH 1130, Health Sciences Building

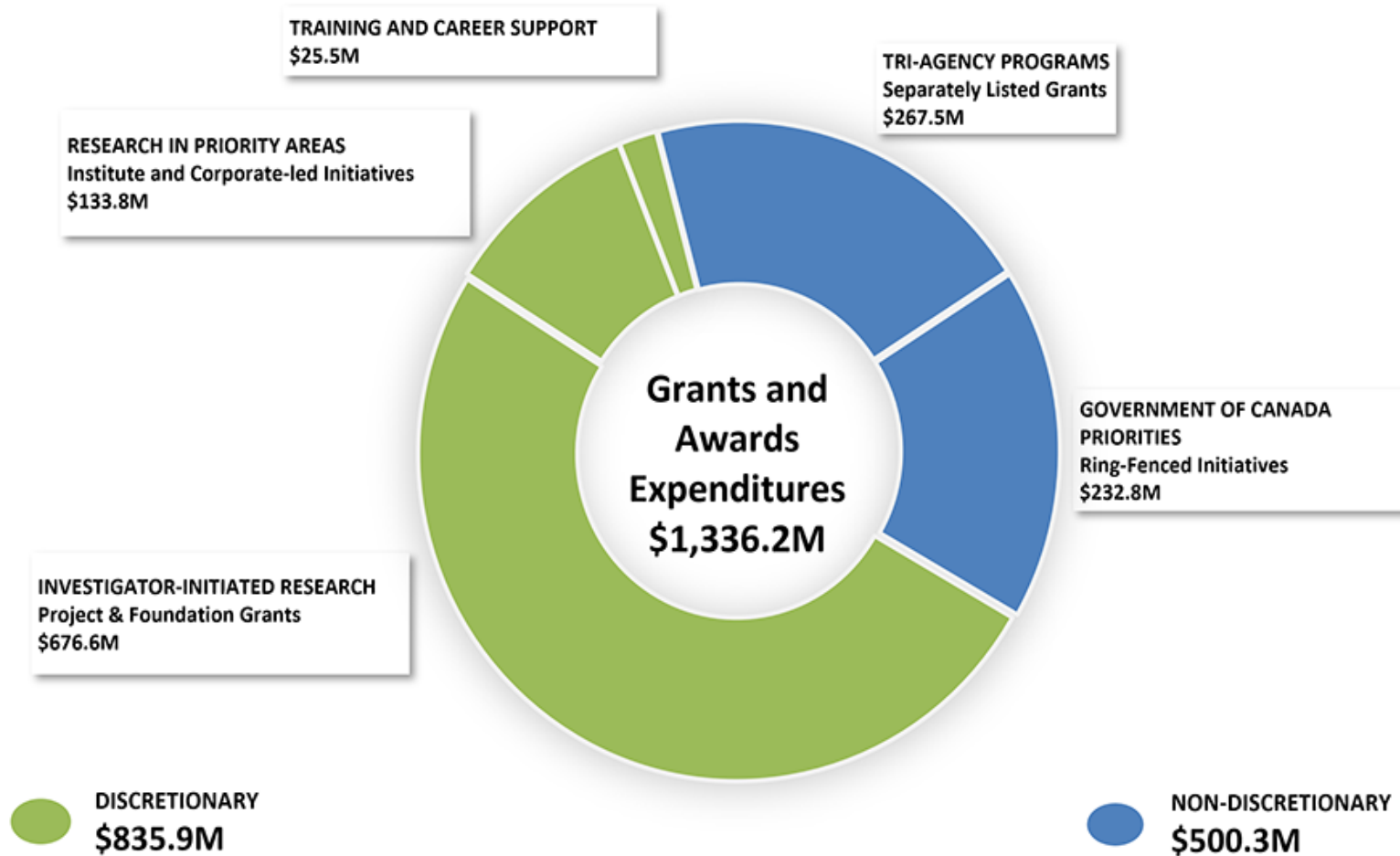
Linda Chelico: Interim CIHR Lead; Vice Dean Research, Biomedical, College of Medicine
Manisha Jalla: Research Development Specialist, Office of Vice President Research

Land Acknowledgement

*As we gather here today, we acknowledge we are on
Treaty 6 Territory and the Homeland of the Métis.*

*We pay our respect to the First Nations and
Métis ancestors of this place and reaffirm our
relationship with one another.*

CIHR Budget Overview 2024-2025



USask CIHR Results 2002 - 2016

		USask Results			National Results		
Competition		Submitted	Awarded	Success Rate (%)	Submitted	Awarded	Success Rate (%)
2016	Fall	27	4	15%	2884	596	21%
	Spring	34	3	9%	3813	618	16%
2015	Spring	29	2	7%	2682	383	14%
2014	Spring	25	3	12%	2862	400	14%
2013	Fall	20	4	20%	2527	397	16%
	Spring	27	4	15%	2253	400	18%
2012	Fall	25	2	8%	2333	401	17%
	Spring	22	3	14%	2284	400	18%
2011	Fall	27	1	4%	2294	401	18%
	Spring	30	1	3%	2298	400	17%
2010	Fall	35	2	6%	2338	402	17%
	Spring	24	2	8%	2230	405	18%
2009	Fall	30	0	0%	2186	401	18%
	Spring	24	2	8%	1856	403	22%
2008	Fall	25	2	8%	1824	394	22%
	Spring	27	5	19%	1841	401	22%
2007	Fall	22	5	23%	1784	415	23%
	Spring	36	4	11%	1877	498	27%
2006	Fall	32	1	3%	2017	348	17%
	Spring	30	5	17%	1839	462	25%
2005	Fall	35	5	14%	1833	454	25%
	Spring	31	4	13%	1678	478	29%
2004	Fall	34	7	21%	1687	406	24%
	Spring	26	6	23%	1429	445	31%
2003	Fall	38	7	18%	1493	437	29%
	Spring	35	2	6%	1518	42	3%
2002	Fall	33	7	21%	1561	382	25%
	Spring	31	5	16%	1384	431	31%
MEAN				12%	20%		

≥ 0% higher
 0.1 - 3.9% difference
 ≥ 4% lower

USask Project Grant Results 2020 - 2025

	Spring 2021	Fall 2021	Spring 2022	Fall 2022	Spring 2023	Fall 2023	Spring 2024	Fall 2024	Spring 2025	Fall 2025	Spring 2026
Overall CIHR Award (\$)	325,000,000	325,000,000	325,000,000	325,000,000	325,000,000	325,000,000	325,000,000	411,000,000	411,000,000	413,000,000	412,000,000
USask CIHR Award (\$)	4,453,402	4,145,226	4,061,076	1,852,140	7,184,452	4,862,701	3,811,352	2,199,925	\$3,611,628	\$6,024,926	\$5,598,972
Rank - U15	13	15	12	15	3	1	3	15	14	10	
# USask Application	30	31	33	32	36	31	31	30	42	51	50
National Success (%)	20.4	25.9	22.0	35.0	21.5	24.3	18.1	21.2	17.4	16.24	13.96
USask Success (%)	20.0	19.3	21.0	18.8	25.0	41.9	22.7	9.7	9.5	13.72	12
Underwent IR (%)	70	48	51	59	53	51	64	63	48	47	40
Awarded IR (%)	100(6/6)	17(1/6)	71(5/7)	33(2/6)	56(5/9)	46(6/13)	80(4/5)	33(1/3)	75(3/4)	57(4/7)	83(5/6)

CIHR Project Grant Competition

We've made **gains in CIHR Project Grant funding success**

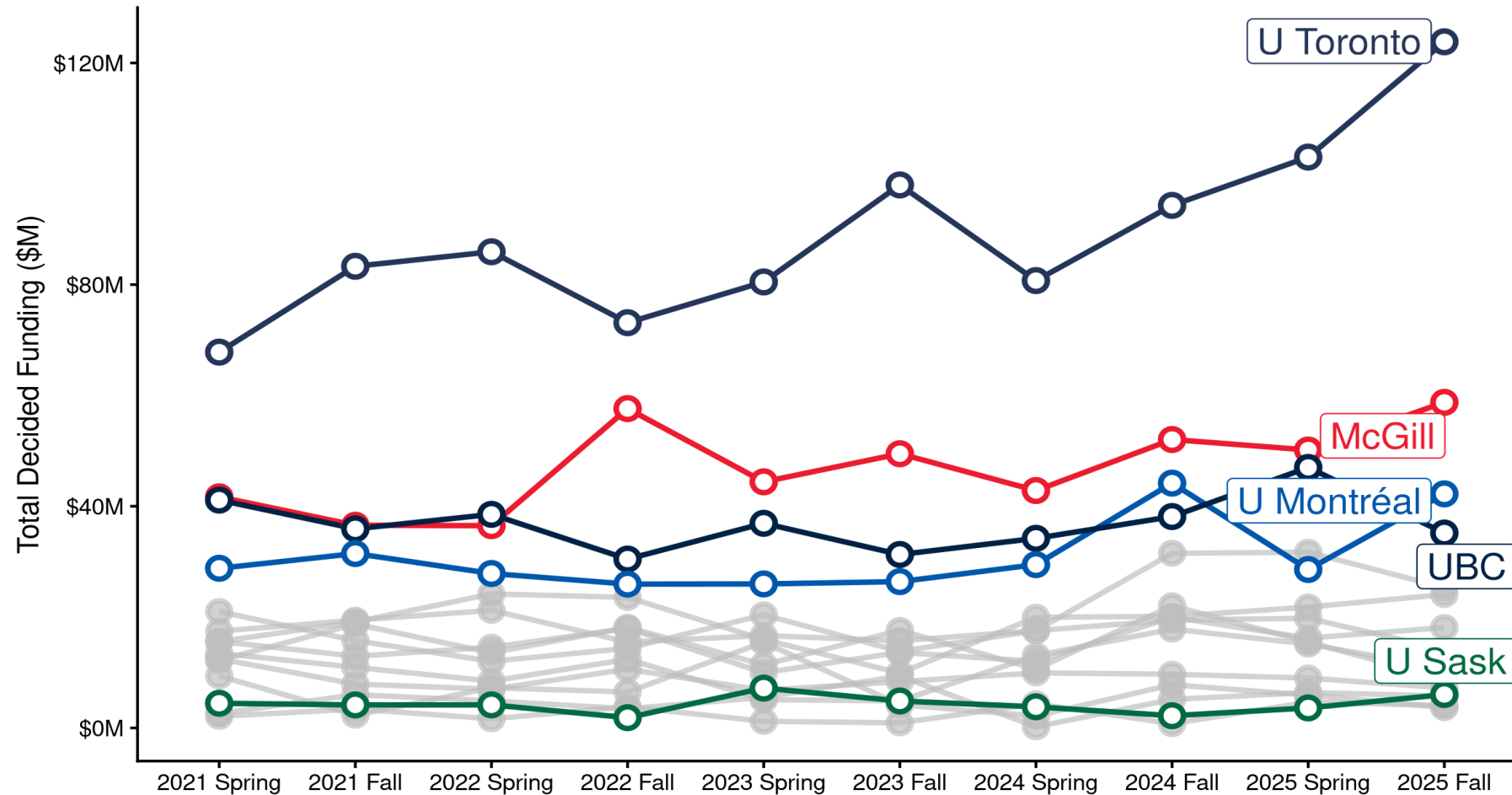
- 2010 to 2015 (6 years): USask had **26 applications/competition with a funding success rate of 10% (compared to 17% nationally)**
- 2016 to 2021 (6 years): USask had **33/competition with a funding success rate of 15% (compared to 17% nationally)**
- 2022 to 2023 (2 years): USask had **33/competition with a funding success rate of 27% (compared to 26% nationally)**
- 2024: USask had **31/competition. Funding success rate for Spring was 22.6% compared to 18.15% nationally**, but dropped to 10% for Fall (compared to 21.4% nationally)
- 2025 onwards: # of applications from USask are increasing progressively
 - Fall 2025 **51/competition**and for most recent **Spring 2026: 50/competition** we had 17 unsuccessful applications with scores ≥ 4.0

USask was ranked #3 [funding success] amongst U15 for Spring 2023, Spring 2024 and #1 in Fall 2023 competitions respectively

Continue concerted efforts to elevate success (to match/exceed the national average)

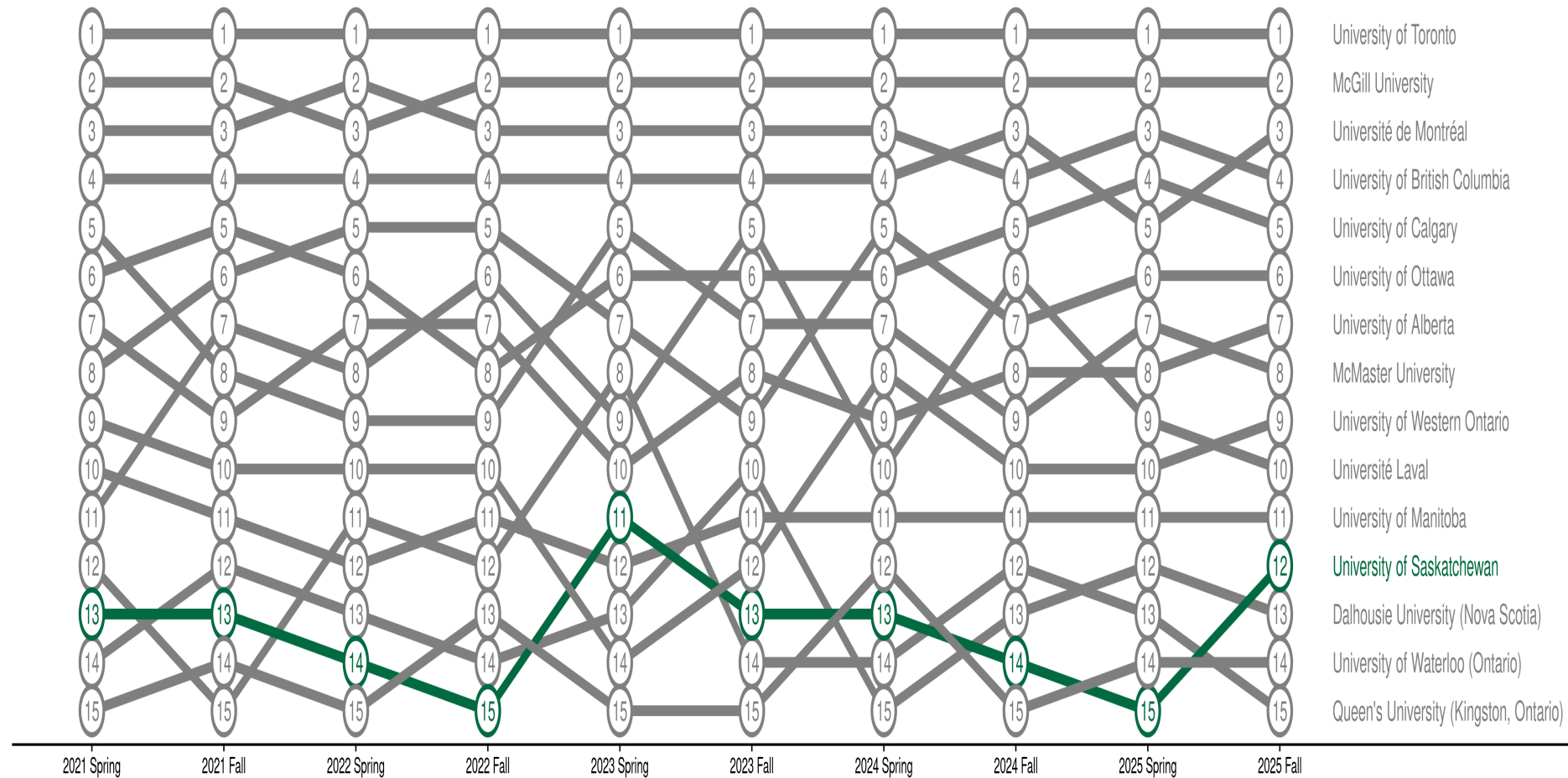
Project Grant Funding Awarded (\$M) – U15

Total funding decided by institution in the last 10 Project competitions



Project Grant Funding – U15 Ranking

Ranking total decided funding of the U15 universities in the last 10 Project Competitions



Project Grant Application Success (%) – U15

Total success rate of U15 universities in the last 10 Project Competitions



Highlighted line represents the University of Saskatchewan

USask CIHR Project Grant Results - Summary

	Applications/ Competition	USask Success (%)	National Success (%)	\$ Funding/ Competition
2002-2009	31	13.8	-9.5% 23.3	---
2010-2015	26	9.7	-7.0% 16.7	---
2016-2020	33	12.7	-5.0% 17.7	\$2,687,808
2021-2025	35	20.2	-2.0% 22.2	\$4,220,683
2023-2025	37	20.4	+0.6% 19.8	\$4,615,831

USask ECR CIHR Project Grant Results

	USask ECR Success (%)		National ECR Success (%)	National ECR Success (%)
2019	33	+ 12%	21	3 rd
2020	27	+ 8%	19	4 th
2021	29	+ 4%	25	5 th
2022	28	- 4%	32	10 th
2023	50	+ 27%	23	1 st
2024	24	+ 14%	20	8 th
2025	10	- 7%	17	10 th

CIHR Bridge Funding Program

- Supports faculty who receive a **high PG score/ranking but were not funded**, in re-applying (must undergo IR to be eligible)
- 24 applicants funded to date – year 8 of operation
- ‘A Priori’ evaluation outcomes:
 - **Did they re-apply? 19/21*** (90%) recipients reapplied
 - **Did score/ranking increase? 16/19** (84%) increased
 - **Was application funded by CIHR? 14/19 (74%)** awarded Project Grant by CIHR
- \$160k/year for the spring & fall PG competitions
 - **OVPR (\$80k/yr) and Medicine, WCVN, Pharmacy & Nutrition, Nursing, Kinesiology, Dentistry, Engineering, Arts & Science, and VIDO**

**Denominator is 21 because 3 (out of 24) were awarded in the most recent bridge funding competition in March and are awaiting to reapply in Fall 2026 or Spring 2027*

Fall 2026 Dates and Internal Review

- Goal is to provide high quality feedback to researchers during the final stages of grant development.
- [NOI](#) and [timelines](#) are available on [USask Tri Agency website](#)

IMPORTANT DATES/DEADLINES	NEW APPLICATION	RESUBMISSION (applications that were submitted to the Spring 2026 competition)
NOI Due	July 2, 2026	July 27, 2026
Draft Application Due	July 30, 2026	August 11, 2026
Internal Reviews returned to applicants	August 21, 2026	August 31, 2026
CIHR Registration Deadline	August 12, 2026	
Compliance Review Deadline (UnivRS)	September 2, 2026	
CIHR Application Deadline	September 9, 2026	

Reminder about Formatting and Appendices:

CIHR is paying special attention to its formatting requirements. It will continue to follow up with applicants who do not respect the formatting requirements by manipulating font type and size, line spacing, or margin sizes. **Repeated formatting issues could lead to a grant application being withdrawn.** Additional information on requirements related to application formatting, page limits, and allowable attachments can be found on: ([Acceptable Application Formats and PDF Attachments](#) and [Project Grant: Application Instructions](#)).

USask CIHR Bridge Funding

CIHR Project Grant Bridge Funding Program supports USask faculty who received a high score/ranking in the Project Grant competition, but were not funded, in re-applying for CIHR funding.

Up to four (4) bridge funding awards of \$20k or two (2) awards of \$40K will be available for the Spring Project Grant 2026 competition

[Guidelines](#) and [Application form](#) are available on the [website](#) (*see under CIHR Internal Funding tab*)

Deadline for Spring 2026 applicants is August 20, 2026

NOTE: Applications must have undergone **formal USask CIHR Internal Review**

Contact: cihr.bridgefunding@usask.ca / Manisha.jalla@usask.ca

Recent changes and updates to the Project Grant program

• Making Project Grant Results More Transparent

- CIHR has introduced a new “not approved rank” in Notices of Decision for the Project Grant competition.
 - If an application is not funded, applicants can see how it ranked relative to the funding cutoff in their committee.
 - For example, a “first not approved” rank indicates the highest-ranked application that did not receive funding.

Percent Rank Zone	Rating	Number reviewed in the committee	Number approved in the committee	Not approved rank
89.99%-75%	4.02	54	9	5th not approved
24.99%-0%	3.15	61	7	56th not approved

- All unsuccessful applicants will receive a not approved rank, ranging from “first not approved” to the lowest-ranked application in the committee.

Recent changes and updates to Project Grant program contd..

- **Successful applicants expected to serve on peer review committees**
 - Conditions of Funding for Project Grants now specify that NPA who are successful in the competition are expected to participate in peer review when invited.
 - While it may not be possible for a researcher to accept every peer review invitation, participation should be the norm whenever feasible.
- **[Read More](#)**

Recent changes and updates to Project Grant program contd..

- **Strengthening the long-term sustainability of the Project Grant program**

- CIHR has been engaging the health research community on pressures facing the Project Grant program and ways to keep it strong, fair and sustainable
- Published a message outlining key themes that emerged in the engagements and what comes next.
- CIHR will publish a position paper later this summer setting out the challenges facing the Project Grant program and describing potential options for change.
- Paper will identify key risks and trade-offs and will be the basis for the next phase of engagements.
- **USask visit on September 15, 2026:** CIHR Deputy Director, Program Design and Delivery Branch
 - Consultation session with USask health research community
 - Meeting with SOs and Chairs from USask
 - Details about the consultation session will be shared through the health sciences research listserv using triagency.leaders@usask.ca

Recent changes and updates to Project Grant program contd..

- **CIHR's Transition to TCV for Project Grant**

- Tri Agency CV will not be used for the Project Grant competition until Fall 2027 at the earliest
- To ensure applicants and reviewers have sufficient time to adapt to the new format, they will provide at least a year's notice before implementation
- CIHR will host several webinars for applicants and reviewers
 - walk you through the new template
 - provide time to answer your questions
- Meanwhile TCV [template](#), [instructions](#), [answers to frequently asked questions](#), and other support materials are [available](#) for applicants and reviewers to familiarize themselves with the new format.
- [**Update on CIHR's transition to the tri-agency CV for the Project Grant competition**](#)
- Tri agency Research Support team at OVPR will also be conducting TCV workshops

CIHR Project Grant Resources Available

- Slides from previous workshops
 - [Tri-Agency Research Support - Office of the Vice President Research - Research | University of Saskatchewan \(usask.ca\)](#)
- Successful CIHR grant examples on the [USask Grants repository](#)
 - There are currently **36** examples of successful Project Grants in the repository
 - **Upcoming & New*:** Examples of new narrative style TCV submitted to Tri agency competitions will also be uploaded
- Grant deadlines, internal review and workshop information is distributed through triagency.leaders@usask.ca (dedicated for TriAgency communication) via the CIHR Research Listserv [Health Sciences/CIHR/SHRF](#)

For more information, please contact:

Manisha Jalla, Research Development Specialist

Manisha.jalla@usask.ca

Internal Review

grant.review@usask.ca

CIHR Bridge Funding

cihr.bridgefunding@usask.ca

Tri Agency CV (TCV)

The narrative style Tri Agency CV allows you to **tell your story!**

Highlights a
wide range
of research
outputs

Allows
description
of career
trajectories

Values
broader
research
contribution
and impacts

TCV Instructions

Familiarize yourself with [TCV instructions](#) and ensure you follow the correct instructions from the agency you are applying to

Maximum 5 pages in English/6 pages in French.

Follow agency formatting guidelines
[Formatting guidelines for attachments](#)

No section-specific volume limit (as long as total page limit is not exceeded). There can be overlaps between sections of TCV

Information must be self-contained. CV (along with application) must stand alone and provide all relevant details



Sections of TCV

Start with [Tri-agency CV template](#)

Personal Statement

What's your story?

- Who you are as a researcher?
- Why are you well suited for the proposed work?

Most Significant Contribution

What were your contributions?

- Why do they matter?
- What was your role?
- Who benefitted from these contributions?

Supervisory and Mentorship Activities

How do you mentor and train others?

- What have you done to develop the future generation (HQP)?
- What leadership activities and skills are you bringing in relation to the application?

Sections of TCV #1: Personal Statement

- Describe 'Who' you are and 'What' are you aspiring to achieve?
- 'Why' are you well suited for this proposed work?
 - Skills/**Expertise**
 - **Collaborations** you can use for this proposal
 - **Recognitions** that enrich this proposal
 - ❖ Awards/prizes/community letters
 - **Lived/Living experience** that contribute to this proposal
- What is the **IMPACT** of your research and achievements

Sections of TCV #2: Most Significant Contribution

- Describe (not List) up to 10 important contributions and/or experiences that relate to your application
- Outline the Context of your contribution and explain the Impact
- Highlight academic and non-academic impacts of your contributions/experiences
- Provide a curated selection: those that highlight your excellence

Sections of TCV (#3): Supervisory and Mentorship Activities

- Describe how you've helped mentor or train future generation of researchers
 - Showcase your commitment to DEVELOPING people not just supervising them
-
- Mentorship Activities (formal/informal)
 - Training workshops (can be outside of research)
 - Developing HQP careers within/outside of academia
 - Creation of safe and inclusive research environment
 - Engagement/team building exercises that you have organised
 - Provide evidence of your **Leadership** (project management; supervision)

Resources: List of some Example Statements you can use for your TCV

- I am (identity and purpose)
- My work focus on(domain/area)
- My findings informed (outcome/impact)
- I received ...award for(recognition).
- I pursue this work because ... my research has influenced(motivation) or My interest in this field has been driven by(personal motivations)
- I am known for Ormethods (professional hallmarks)

You can even connect the sentences:

- I am (your role/identity) and my research focuses on(your domain/area)
- I am dedicated towards(your work's central theme) in order to create an impact on(research vision...big picture impacts)
- Till now I have accomplished(your recognitions/awards) , and now I am ready to(research direction)

- I have a strong track record of interdisciplinary working...
- I have developed tools/approaches/methodologies that will ensure successful project delivery...
- I hold extensive experience engaging with policy makers to shape public policy...
- I have a track record of successful leadership of relevant large/complex projects...
- My body of research demonstrates research excellence in areas the proposal addresses...
- I take a collaborative approach to mentorship...
- I demonstrate our commitment to academic service through funder peer review contributions...
- I hold influential advisory roles at geographic scales relevant for our proposed activity...
- I have a track record of co-development with non-academic stakeholders...
- My commitment to service is shown through my editorial roles on journals directly relevant to the call...

TCV Resources: Narrative CV Examples

- **CIHR**

- ✓ [Narrative CV template for ECR](#)
- ✓ [Narrative CV template for Established Researcher](#)

- **NSERC**

- ✓ [Narrative CV template for ECR](#)
- ✓ [Narrative CV template for Established Researcher](#)

- **SSHRC**

- ✓ [Narrative CV template for ECR](#)
- ✓ [Narrative CV template for Established Researcher](#)

❖ **For STEM Researchers:** [Examples of best practice in narrative CVs for STEM researchers](#)

❖ **For Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Researchers:** [Examples of best practice in narrative CVs for Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences researchers](#)

TCV Resources

➤ USask Resources

- TCV Workshop Recording- December 9, 2025
 - [GMT20251209-193054_Recording_1920x1080.mp4](#)
- USask TCV Workshop Slides - December 9, 2025
 - [slides-for-tcv-workshop-dec-9.pptx](#)
- [Tri-Agency Research Support - Office of the Vice President Research - Research | University of Saskatchewan](#)

➤ Tri agency Resources

- [Tri-agency CV template](#)
- [TCV instructions](#)
 - ✓ [Tri-Agency CV instructions for CIHR](#)
 - ✓ [Tri-Agency CV instructions for SSHRC](#)
 - ✓ [Tri-Agency CV instructions for NSERC Discovery Horizons \(Pilot\)](#)

TCV Resources

➤ Canadian Resources

- Concordia University: [Crafting a Compelling Narrative CV](#)
- University of Calgary
 - ✓ [Guide to Writing A 'Most Significant Contributions' Statement](#)
 - ✓ [Webinar on Telling Your Research Story: Drafting Your TCV](#) (Slides)
- University of Alberta: [Baseline Competencies of Writing a Compelling Narrative CV](#) (Slides)
- Simon Fraser University Library: [Narrative CVs: prioritizing impact and influence](#)
- University of Winnipeg: [Guidance for Narrative CVs for Canada Research Chair Applications](#)
- University Affairs:
 - ✓ [How to write a narrative CV](#)
 - ✓ [Writing a successful narrative CV](#)
- Research Impact Canada: [Navigating Narrative CVs in Canada: Preparing for the Transition](#) (Slides)

Thank-you!

Questions...?