

Spring 2026 CIHR Project Grant Workshop and Panel Q&A

January 22, 2026; 1:45 – 3:15 pm
HLTH 1130, Health Sciences Building

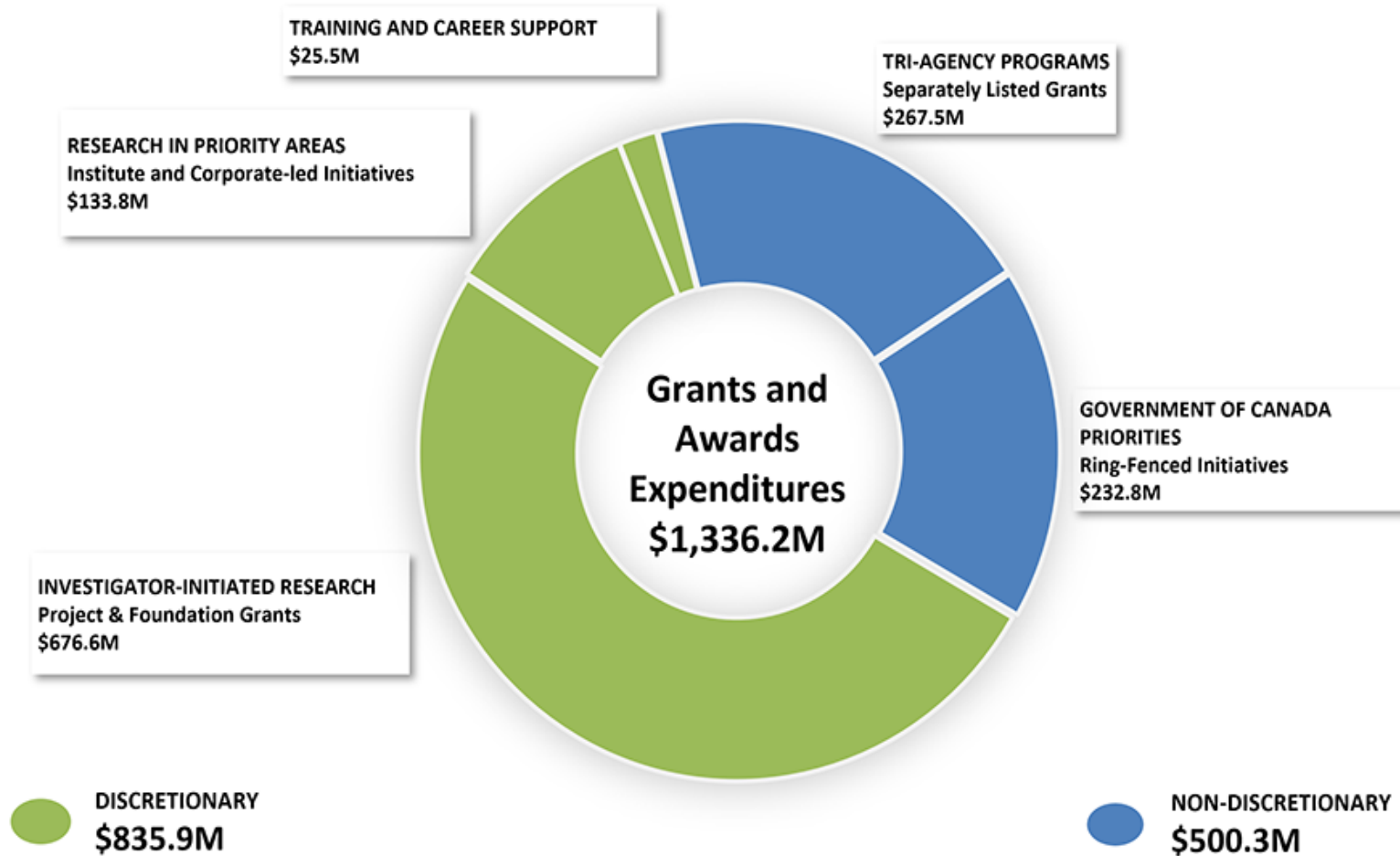
Darcy D. Marciniuk; Associate Vice-President Research and CIHR Delegate
Manisha Jalla; Research Development Specialist, Office of Vice President Research

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 2020	Fall 2020	Spring 2021	Fall 2021	Spring 2022	Fall 2022	Spring 2023	Fall 2023	Spring 2024	Fall 2024	Spring 2025
Overall CIHR Award (\$)	254,719,262	283,743,584	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
USask CIHR Award (\$)	3,262,296	1,875,781	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
USask of National (%)	1.3	0.7	1.4	1.3	1.3	0.6	2.2	1.5	1.1	0.5	0.8
Rank - U15	14	14	13	15	12	15	3	1	3	15	
# USask Application	30	39	30	31	33	32	36	31	31	30	42
USask of National (%)	1.4	1.7	1.3	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.5
National Success (%)	16.9	19.1	20.4	25.9	22.0	35.0	21.5	24.3	18.1	21.2	17.4
USask Success (%)	20.0	7.7	20.0	19.3	21.0	18.8	25.0	41.9	22.7	9.7	9.5
Underwent IR (%)	50	62	70	48	51	59	53	51	64	63	48
Awarded IR (%)	83 (5/6)	67 (2/3)	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)

CIHR Project Grant Competition

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

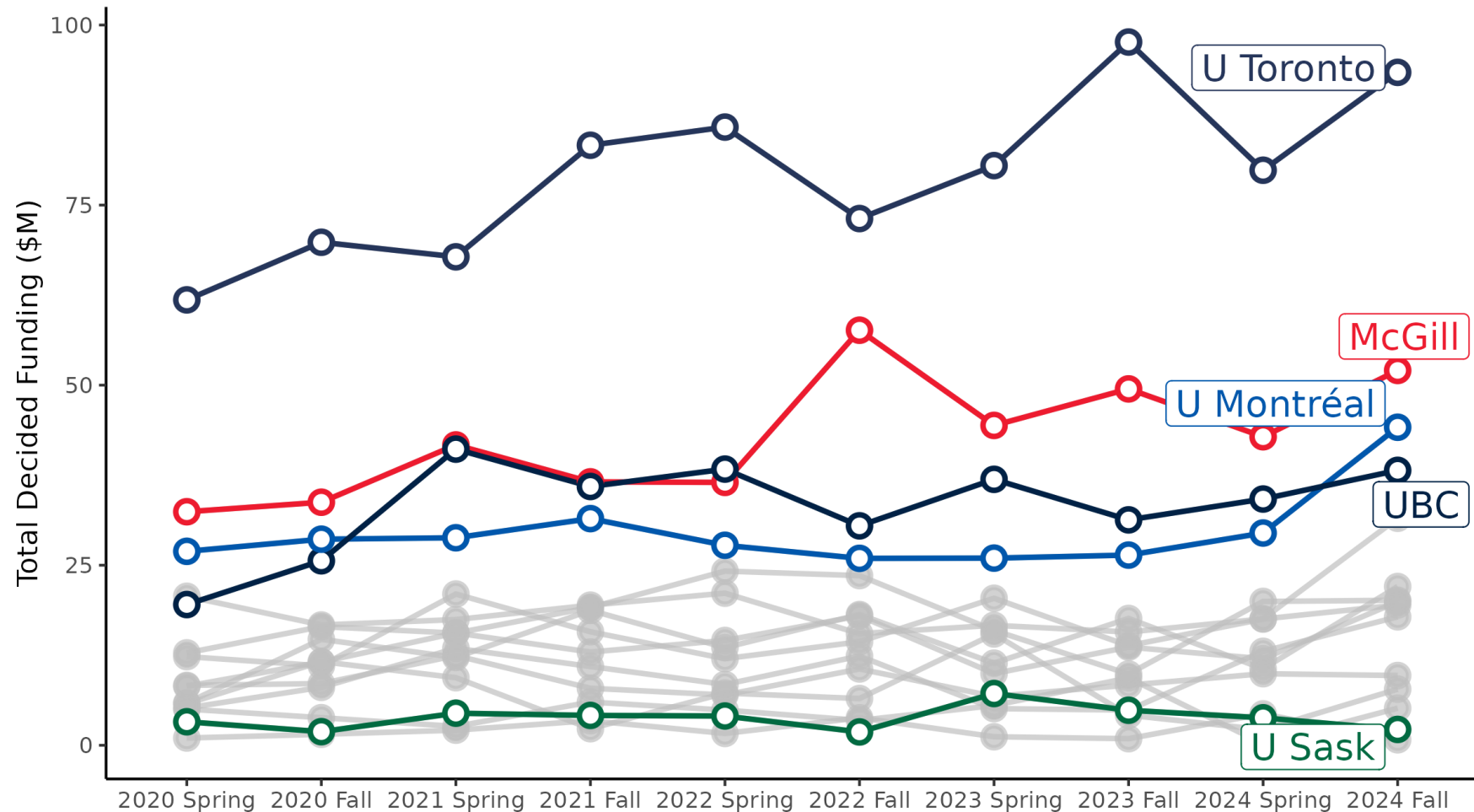
- 2010 to 2015 (6 years): USask had **26 applications/competition with a funding success rate of 10% (compared to 17% nationally)**
- 2016 to 2021 (6 years): USask had **33/competition with a funding success rate of 15% (compared to 17% nationally)**
- 2022 to 2023 (2 years): USask had **33/competition 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: # of applications from USask are increasing progressively
 - Spring 2025 **42 /competition (9.5% compared to 17.4% nationally)** we had 9 unsuccessful applications with scores ≥ 4.0
 -and for most recent Fall 2025, **51/competition** (awaiting results on January 29, 2026)

USask was ranked #3 [funding success] amongst U15 for Spring 2023, Spring 2024 and #1 in Fall 2023 competitions respectively (... although Fall 2024 rank was #15)

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

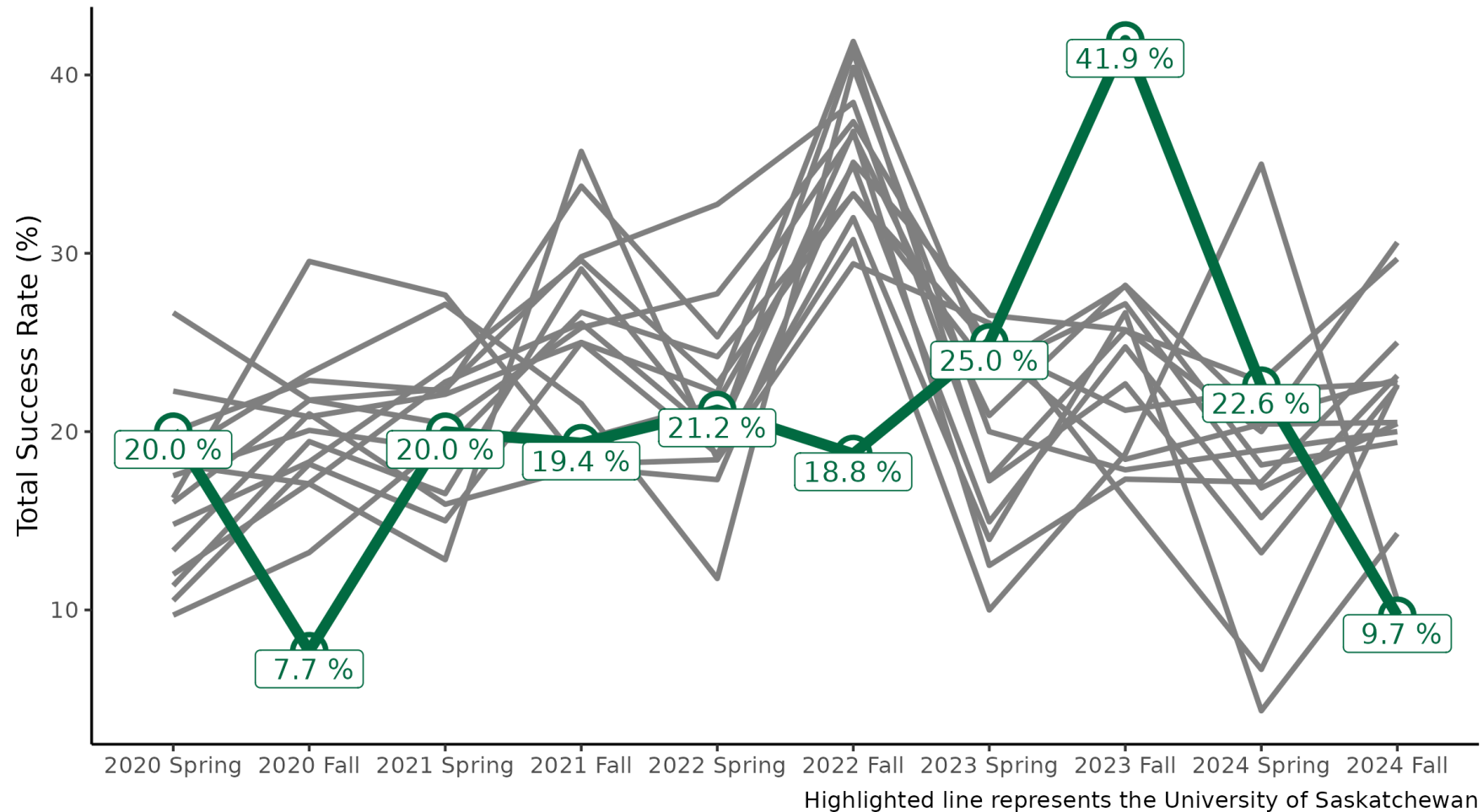
Project Grant Funding Awarded – U15

Total funding decided by institution in the last 10 Project competitions



Project Grant Application Success – U15

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



USask CIHR Funding - last 5 years

Fiscal Year	Project Funding	Other Funding	Total Funding
2019-20	\$ 3,825,629	\$ 14,114,980	\$ 17,940,609
2020-21	\$ 5,698,959	\$ 16,037,556	\$ 21,736,515
2021-22	\$ 6,509,394	\$ 8,404,068	\$ 14,913,462
2022-23	\$ 7,529,944	\$ 9,688,294	\$ 17,218,238
2023-24	\$ 7,647,391	\$ 7,664,558	\$ 15,311,949
Total	\$ 31,211,317	\$ 55,909,456	\$ 87,120,773

Fall 2024 and Spring 2025 Results: Highlights

- 72 (30+42) applications were submitted and 7 were funded
- **Total funds awarded were \$5.81M**
- **18 received scores of 4.0 and above**
- Out of 7 funded, 2 were ECRs; one successful (bridge grant) with in 1st attempt and other with 2nd attempt
- Other successful applications:
 - 1: 2nd attempt
 - 1: 4th attempt (Priority announcement Fall 2024 and then Project Grant Spring 2025)
 - 1: 6th attempt and 1: 7th attempt

Patience/Persistence and Refining/Re-application are key.....

CIHR Bridge Funding Program

- Supports faculty who receive a **high PG score/ranking**, but were not funded, in **re-applying** (must undergo Internal Review to be eligible)
- 21 applicants funded to date – year 7 of operation
- ‘A Priori’ evaluation outcomes:
 - **Did they re-apply? 19/21 (90%)** recipients reapplied
 - **Did score/ranking increase? 16/19 (84.2%)** increased
 - **Was application funded by CIHR? 14/19 (73.7%)** reapplied and were awarded Project Grant by CIHR
- \$160k/year for the spring & fall PG competitions
 - **OVPR (\$80k/yr) and Medicine, WCVI, Pharmacy & Nutrition, Nursing, Kinesiology, Dentistry, Engineering, Arts & Science and VIDO**

Spring 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 Fall2025 competition)
NOI Due	December 12, 2025	February 4, 2026
Draft Application Due	January 26, 2026	February 10, 2026
Internal Reviews returned to applicants	February 19, 2026	February 24, 2026
CIHR Registration Deadline	February 4, 2026	
Compliance Review Deadline (UnivRS)	February 25, 2026	
CIHR Application Deadline	March 4, 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](#)).

Amplified Internal Review for Project Grant

New and Amplified Process launched Fall 2023

- More rigour and depth, and support for applicants
- Applicants will have an early opportunity to obtain research support, longitudinal guidance/advice, and feedback on their proposal
- Some targeted supports for high-ranking project grant applications

USask Council of Strategic Grant Advisors (SGA)

- Newly constituted as part of the amplified process
- Currently council has 60 SGAs
- Key CIHR researchers from across USask spanning a breadth of health research, leading research programs and with extensive peer review experience, nationally

Faculty Availing Support: Program Participants

- 17 faculty have registered for the amplified program
- ECR: 9 Mid Career: 5 Senior: 3
- Paired with SGAs who have relevant background and expertise
- **One participant was awarded Project Grant for most recent Spring 2025 competition** *(it was the 6th attempt but only 1 resubmission after faculty participated in amplified program.. Targeted and focused supports are benefitting)*

Amplified Internal Review for Project Grant contd..

- Currently NOIs for the amplified review program are being accepted for Fall 2026(or onwards competition)
 - ❖ If you'd like to work with a Strategic Grant Advisor and avail supports offered through this program
- NOI form and more details are available on USask Tri agency website

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 Fall Project Grant 2025 competition

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

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

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

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 grants in the repository
- 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)

CIHR Transition Plan for Project Grant

- CIHR will introduce the new tri-agency CV to the Project Grant program, **no sooner than for the Spring 2027 competition.**
- 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
- **Update on CIHR's transition to the tri-agency CV for the Project Grant competition**

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 Template and Instructions

- Start with Tri-agency CV template

Name:

1. Personal statement
2. Most significant contributions and experiences
3. Supervisory and mentorship activities

- ✓ *Describe what were your contributions?*
- ✓ *Why do they matter?*
- ✓ *Who benefitted from these contributions?*

- 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

Resources and Supports

- Tri Agency Resources
- Canadian Resources
- International Resources



Resources and Supports – Tri Agency Resources

- Guidance for writing a narrative CV
 - Self-learning tool kit has been developed by Tri Agency to guide you through the writing process
 - Tips/tricks, guiding principles and content from Tri Agency webinar and tool kit have been summarized and integrated into a word document for easy access
 - ❖ Narrative CV Writing Guide

- Review the FAQs for TCV: these may support you in using the new template effectively

Resources and Supports – 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)

1. Readings
2. Videos
3. Examples of Narrative CV



1. Suggested Readings

- Science Foundation Ireland: [Guidance on their Narrative CVs](#)
- University Of Leeds:
 - [Creating your Resume for Researchers or Narrative CV](#)
 - [A guide to reviewing narrative CVs](#)
 - [Sharing Your Achievements with “CAR” Stories](#)
 - ❖ This article will help you with writing about your achievements. It highlights how using the Challenge, Action and Result approach will help you recognize your invaluable contributions
- Imperial College London: [Narrative CVs | Research](#)
- University of Dundee: [Narrative CV Workbook](#)
 - This workbook guides you through reflective questions to help you with a narrative CV
- University of Sheffield: [Narrative CVs | Research | The University of Sheffield](#)
 - Provides Information, guidance, and examples of best practice to support both researchers prepare their narrative CVs and reviewers evaluating them

2. Videos

- University Of Dundee : [Narrative CV's - Tips for getting started](#)
- University of Glasglow: [Narrative CV webinar August 2021](#)
- Oxford University webinar: [How to write a narrative CV for funding applications](#)
- [Narrative CV format Across UK funders](#)

3. Narrative CV Examples

- University of Surrey: [R4R-like-CV-annotated-for-guidance-purposes.pdf](#)
- University of Sheffield
 - For STEM Researchers: [Examples of best practice in narrative CVs for STEM researchers](#)
- Templates of Narrative CV used by international agencies
 - [Résumé for Researchers template tool](#)
 - [Applicant-and-Co-Applicant-Narrative-CV-Template.docx](#)

Recap of Key Resources

- [Narrative CV Writing Guide](#): the document provides tips, tricks, guiding principles and description of sections of the TCV.
- [TCV Learning Tool](#)
- **Narrative CV Examples for CIHR**
 - ✓ [Narrative CV template for ECR](#)
 - ✓ [Narrative CV template for Established Researcher](#)

Thank-you!

Questions...?