UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

Research Security Performance Indicators

2026-27 planned project performance objectives, indicators and target outcomes

Field	Information
Program	Research Security funding under the Research Support Fund
Administering organization	University of Saskatchewan
Fiscal year	2026-27
Funding reported	$585,533
Public RSF website	https://vpresearch.usask.ca/initiatives/research-support-fund.php

About the 2026-27 Research Security allocation

USask's 2026-27 research security strategy is to strengthen due diligence capabilities, protection methods for research data and methodologies, research security advice, targeted training and professional development. The allocation supports research security personnel, research security software, a Research Data Management Coordinator and a Research Technology Security Analyst. These investments help ensure research is conducted securely and that protective measures are in place to safeguard USask research outputs.

2026-27 planned Research Security allocation by project

Project	Research Security amount	Timeline	Purpose
Research Security software	$78,000	2023-09 to 2027-4	Support automated due diligence and timely vetting of funding proposals, partners and affiliations.
Research Security personnel	$247,533	2023-07 to 2027-4	Support personnel who provide research security advice, compliance review, outreach and guidance.
RDM Coordinator position	$130,000	2023-07 to 2027-4	Support campus-wide research data management services and secure data management practices.
Research Technology Security Analyst	$130,000	2023-07 to 2027-4	Support secure technology-enabled research, research IT security and cybersecurity.
Total	**$585,533**		

Project performance indicators and target outcomes for 2026-27

Project	Investment	Performance objective	Performance indicators	Target outcomes	Expected institutional impact
Research Security software	$78,000	Sustain and strengthen USask's capacity to vet funding proposals and assess research security compliance efficiently.	Number of Tri-Agency grant applications reviewed for research security requirements; use of due diligence tools to assess lower risk and higher risk partnerships; ability to identify higher risk relationships and sanctioned entities; workflow tracking and response timeliness, where implemented.	The research security team can efficiently assess lower risk partnerships, focus attention on higher risk or complex partnerships, and support timely grant proposal review during high-volume periods.	Improved institutional capacity to identify, assess and mitigate research security risk without creating unnecessary delay for researchers.
Research Security personnel	$247,533	Ensure research security guidelines and requirements developed by the Government of Canada and applied by the Tri-Agencies are met, while helping researchers reduce risk and strengthen grant application success.	Advice and guidance provided on international research security requirements, export controls, sanctions, travel security awareness, malign foreign talent recruitment programs and classified or Secret-level research projects; outreach and training activity; use of the research security hub.	The research security team functions as a central interface for the research community, government and industry stakeholders, and continues to provide guidance, tools and training through the virtual research security hub.	Stronger research security culture, improved readiness for classified and sensitive research projects, and enhanced support for secure proposal development.
RDM Coordinator position	$130,000	Operationalize the USask RDM Strategy and Roadmap and embed secure, risk-aware data management across the research lifecycle.	Uptake of RDM training and supports; engagement from the research community; inclusion of robust, security-aware data management plans in grant proposals; uptake of training on data classification, secure storage and handling of sensitive or restricted data; compliance with Tri-Agency RDM policy and secure data deposit expectations.	A cohesive, researcher-centric RDM service model supports students, faculty and staff from proposal development through data stewardship and dissemination, with proportionate protections for sensitive data, processes and outputs.	Improved compliance with funder data requirements and stronger protection of research data within the broader research security framework.
Research Technology Security Analyst	$130,000	Accelerate technology-enabled research while protecting research infrastructure, data and intellectual property from theft, espionage, cyberattack, accidental loss or malicious loss.	Number of research security plans with cybersecurity considerations addressed; new frameworks, technologies, procedures and processes for IT security and data storage; research outcomes facilitated or protected by improved research IT security.	Researchers have clearer, well-worn paths for secure technology and data storage; specialized IT solutions support sensitive research areas such as health, vaccine development and quantum computing; cybersecurity requirements are addressed in research security plans.	Improved ability to enable diverse and advanced research technology needs while protecting data, methods, infrastructure and intellectual property.