



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN
Research Acceleration
and Strategic Initiatives
OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT RESEARCH
RESEARCH.USASK.CA

**A quarterly update with tailored
resources, events, and funding
opportunities for new
faculty at USask**

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DARE is an initiative out of the Research Acceleration and Strategic Initiatives office that provides support for new faculty within 5 years of their hire date, including targeted programming for Early Career Researchers. Reach out to dare.rasi@usask.ca with any questions related to starting your research program.

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DARE Events

DARE Table Talks

Welcome to DARE's Fall 2025 Table Talks. The purpose of our Table Talks is to inform and inspire. We will be tackling topics important for fostering research success. Come join us!



Navigating Your Academic Career

As a new faculty member, you will be balancing many different obligations, and it is not always clear where you should invest your energy and time. Creating a plan for your academic career will help you stay focused on your goals. Dr. Jeffrey McDonnell, recently appointed as an officer to the Order of Canada, is a USask researcher who has helped many researchers survive (and thrive) in academia. This Table Talk will explore branding and other soft skills, tips for effective time management and writing high-impact research papers, and insights into developing leadership skills and mentoring others.

When: October 1, 2025, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Where: CGPS Boardroom, Room 118, Thorvaldson Building

Register

How to Write a Strong Grant Application

Writing a compelling grant is a core skill for early career researchers, but grant writing can be tough and often takes more time than expected. This Table Talk session covers the basics you need to know, including tips on how to structure your grant, focus your message, and write an impactful summary.

When: December 11, 2025, 12:00 – 1:00 PM

Where: Online, via Zoom

Register

Campus Events

2025 NSERC Discovery & RTI Grants Fall Workshop

If you are applying for a 2025 [NSERC Discovery Grant](#) and [NSERC Research Tools and Instruments Grant](#) don't miss this workshop hosted by the Office of the vice President Research (OVPR). Panelists will offer top tips and advice related to Merit Indicators, training Highly Qualified Personnel (HQP), Canadian Common CV, incorporating Equity, Diversity & Inclusion and more.

Date: Thursday, September 25, 2025

Location: HLTH 1130 (E-Wing)

Time: 1:00 – 2.30 PM

Registration deadline: September 22, 2025

Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/2025-nserc-dg-rti-fall-workshop-tickets-1623219074949?aff=oddtcreator>



2025 People Around the World International Congress

PAW 2025 is taking place on the USask Saskatoon campus from October 22-24, 2025. Over three days, keynotes, panels, and posters sessions will explore the theme of *Healthy people, healthy planet: Driving innovation with data*.

Participants can learn from Timothy Caulfield—best-selling author and professor of health law and policy—as the opening keynote speaker and from André Picard—award-winning national health writer and author—as the closing keynote speaker.

Registration for the [People Around the World \(PAW\) 2025 International Congress](#) is open until Friday, October 10, 2025 at 6:00 PM CST.

Pre-PAW Congress Workshops

As part of the 2025 Pre-Paw Congress programming, [International Office](#) is offering three exciting workshops designed to connect faculty, students, and staff to global opportunities for research and education. These workshops are free and open to all, but please register in advance to secure your place.

[Unlocking research collaboration with the Czech Republic: Strengths, priorities, and funding](#)

Date: Monday, October 20, 2025

Time: 1:30 – 3:00 PM

Eva Libs Bartoňová, Head of Trade and Investment Section at the Consulate General of the Czech Republic in Toronto will share insights on how to explore international funding and research collaborations in the Czech Republic.

[Funding Research in Germany](#)

Date: Tuesday, October 21, 2025

Time: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

The session will explore avenues for research and academic collaboration with Germany, and feature representatives from Germany's two leading funding organizations: the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the German Research Foundation (DFG).

Choose France for Research

Date: Tuesday, 21 October, 2025

Time: 1:30 PM – 4:00 PM

This workshop will feature a keynote presentation by Dr. Géraldine Dantelle, Attaché for Science and Higher Education at the French Embassy in Canada, who will offer insights into the French research landscape and pathways for collaboration.

Researcher Resources



USask Safety Resources: Supporting Successful Research with Early Engagement to Prevent Setbacks

USask's Safety Resources has a dedicated Research Safety team that helps all USask researchers, including new faculty and early career researchers, effectively navigate safety, licensing, and research permit requirements from the outset of their research journey.

The Research Safety team includes professionals in lab safety, biosafety, radiation safety, cannabis research safety, chemical safety, and hazardous waste management. The team issues and administers research permits required for working with cannabis, biological materials, and radioisotopes, provides guidance on legislation and best practices, develops tailored safety programs, and collaborates on the design of compliant labs.

With online and in-person support, training, and accessible resources, Safety Resources' Research Safety Team helps researchers meet all regulatory obligations, streamlines administrative processes, and prioritizes research by avoiding costly setbacks.

Connect early. Start strong.

Learn more: [USask Research Safety](#)

Managing Your Research Finances



Early career researchers at the USask are encouraged to take the **Tri-Agency Financial Compliance training**, which provides a comprehensive overview of Tri-Agency compliance expectations. The four modules cover a range of topics including a detailed exploration of eligible and ineligible expenses and strategies for safeguarding financial compliance.



Navigating Ethics at USask

Do you have questions about ethics at the USask? You can book a 1:1 consultation with the University of Saskatchewan Human Research Ethics Office that will help you navigate the research ethics application. You can find this service and a link to book an appointment under the [Need help with your application?](#) section of their website.

If you want to create a strong application that will be approved in a shorter period of time, you can also explore the key principles of research involving humans through the [TCPS2Core training](#) course.

Discover New Awards and Opportunities

Signing up for a [listserv](#) is easy, fast and will help you find the right opportunities to develop your research program at the USask. To get weekly updates about USask funding and support, news, information, workshops and more, [sign up to the RASI Newsletter](#). You can also find out about discipline-specific opportunities and Tri-Council funding opportunities through the following listservs:

- [Health Sciences/CIHR/SHRE](#)
- [Natural Sciences and Engineering/NSERC](#)
- [Social Sciences and Humanities/SSHRC](#)
- [Agriculture](#)



Featured Funding and Award Opportunities



Here is a list of select funding opportunities that target ECRs. A full list of upcoming funding opportunities can be found on the [OVPR Grant Calendar](#).

To receive regular funding opportunity updates, please [subscribe to the RASI Funding Newsletter](#)



CIHR's ECRs in Human Development, Child and Youth Health

The goal of the [ECRs in Human Development, Child and Youth Health](#) funding opportunity is to build research capacity, generate new knowledge, and support knowledge mobilization in human development, child and youth health by funding operating grants to early career researchers.

The program will fund research across the four CIHR pillars (biomedical; clinical; health services; and social, cultural, environmental, and population health) that has the potential to have a significant impact on human development, child and youth health. Ultimately, the program aims to strengthen Canada's capacity and knowledge to respond to challenges and needs by providing important early career development support to researchers in these fields.

Funding Amount: Up to \$50,000 per year for up to 3 years

Registration Deadline: November 18, 2025

Application Deadline: December 16, 2025 ([RASI internal deadline](#): December 9, 2025)

CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars

Additional DARE support is available for this award opportunity. Contact dare.rasi@usask.ca for further details

The [CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars Program – CIFAR](#) program is a two-year collaboration and mentorship opportunity designed to develop highly talented junior faculty into influential research leaders who shape the direction of boundary-pushing research. In addition to unrestricted research support, recipients will receive comprehensive research leadership training and are able to apply for additional CIFAR-seed funds that reward high-risk, high-reward and interdisciplinary collaborations with CIFAR Fellows, Advisors, and Global Scholars. Open to applicants within the first five years of starting a full-time position (no earlier than July 1, 2021 and no later than December 31, 2025).

This round will focus on the following research programs: 1) [Child & Brain Development](#) 2) [CIFAR MacMillan Multiscale Human](#) 3) [Future Flourishing](#) 4) [Humanity's Urban Future](#) 5) [Learning in Machines & Brains](#) 6) [Quantum Materials](#)

Funding Amount: \$100,000 CAD, unrestricted

Duration: 2 years

Application Deadline: November 5, 2025, 12 PM EST ([RASI internal deadline](#): October 29, 2025)

MS Canada-Catalyst Research Grant

Early career researchers (ECRs), who are seeking needed preliminary data, **are encouraged to apply** to this competition as a stepping-stone for success in larger grant funding competitions. The [Catalyst Research Grant](#) program awards seed funding that allows researchers to develop and test new and innovative research questions and pursue pioneering approaches that have high potential to advance the MS field.

Funding Amount: \$50,000 CAD. Non-renewable.

Duration: 2 Years

Application Deadline: October 2, 2025, 4 PM ET ([RASI internal deadline](#): September 24, 2025)

Banting Research Foundation Discovery Award

The [Banting Discovery Award](#) helps early career scientists establish their independence and launch their research programs. These funds support the day-to-day realities of running a research program—from hiring trainees to acquiring essential equipment—empowering researchers to pursue bold ideas that push the boundaries of health and biomedical science. These are for researchers in the first three years of a faculty position and within 8 years of completing a PhD. Please contact your department before moving forward with this application.

Funding: \$30,000

Duration: 1 Year

Step 1: NOI due November 3, 2025.

Step 2: Full Application (by invitation only) due January 26, 2026 ([RASI internal deadline](#): January 19, 2026)

IASP: Early Career Research Grants

Multiple grants are awarded on an annual basis for projects lasting one year. Grants are available internationally and are not related to any particular discipline. Applicants must be [IASP \(International Association for the Study of Pain\)](#) members within 6 years of having received their final degree or completing professional and specialty training.

Funding Amount: \$20,000 USD

Duration: 1 year

Internal Deadline: October 3, 2025 ([ten business days prior to the external](#))

External Deadline: October 16, 2025, 11:59 PM EDT

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