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Visit the OVPR Grants Calendar for up-to-date deadlines and events.
Learn more about RASI services online.

USask JELF Special Call

This is a reminder about the upcoming deadline for the Expression of Interest (EOI). With the intake date of January 15th (Saturday), RASI is now requesting all EOs be submitted by the end of the day, Friday 14 January 2022. If you or someone you are working with is intending on applying, RASI kindly asks that you inform us (cfi.support@usask.ca) this week so we can watch for your EOI.

The John R. Evans Leaders Fund (JELF) enables a select number of an institution’s excellent researchers to undertake leading-edge research by providing them with the foundational research infrastructure required to be or become leaders in their field. In turn, this enables institutions to remain internationally competitive in areas of research and technology development, aligned with their strategic priorities.
USask’s JELF envelope has given us the opportunity to do a larger-scale internal special call in 2022. The selected proposal will clearly demonstrate benefit to the USask research community, contribute to either an existing or emerging core facility, and have secured the full amount of matching funding.

**USask Special Internal Call 2022 Guidelines**
- Proposed infrastructure will support cutting-edge research at an existing or emerging core facility with clear benefit to USask as a whole.
- Proposals can request **up to $800,000 from the CFI, with a maximum total eligible cost of $2 million**; preference will be given to those proposals with total eligible costs over $1 million.
- Core team (upto 3 applicants) must have continuing, full-time academic appointments.
- Requests by OVPR to Innovation Saskatchewan will not be part of this special call process. Rather, proposals have to demonstrate that all matching funding has been received by the university and/or provide letters of commitment from funding sources upon EOI submission.
- Unless otherwise specified in the special call guidelines, standard CFI JELF guidelines apply.

**Expressions of Interest (EOI) are required and must be submitted to RASI (cfi.support@usask.ca) by 14 January 2022.** The CFI Advisory Committee will review all EOIs and will take into consideration the priorities of the institution. Due to the targeted funds the USask envelope, only one EOI will be selected by the Advisory Committee and VP, OVPR, to submit a full application.

**Applicants will be notified of the decision by 20 January 2022. The successful applicant will be allowed to submit to CFI either 15 June 2022 or 15 October 2022.** Detailed timelines will follow, depending on which month is chosen to submit.

Please contact RASI at cfi.support@usask.ca for a form.

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**Mitacs Accelerate and Business Strategy Internship Programs**

Mitacs is accepting applications for funding to cover 75% of the cost of collaborative projects in all disciplines, through the **Accelerate** and **Business Strategy Internship** (for more information about **BSI**, please see below) programs. Eligible partner organizations contribute 25% of the cost.

Mitacs is now supporting non-research projects (**BSI**) in addition to research projects (**Accelerate**) with partner organizations. Mitacs will pay 75% of the cost of knowledge translation, product development, process improvement, etc., projects in all disciplines involving students, recent graduates, Masters and PhD students and postdoctoral fellows if **applications are received by 25 Feb 2022**. Continuous intake, not competitive, suitable for all disciplines.

**Summary of the opportunity:**
- Research and non-research projects are supported
- No limit on funding support and on number of applications by professors, companies, and not-for-profit organizations
- Undergraduate and Masters students, recent graduates (within 2 years), PhD students and postdoctoral fellows are eligible as HQP
- Short term (min 4 months) and long term (max 4 years) projects are eligible
• Up to 10 HQP per application
• Several budget options: $20,000 - $60,000/year per HQP
• HQP project participants need to be provided experiential learning opportunity with the partner organization(s)

Timeline:
05 Feb 2022: Deadline to confirm eligibility of proposed project participants. Contact zpapp@mitacs.ca
11 Feb 2022: Deadline to submit draft applications to zpapp@mitacs.ca for pre-review
25 Feb 2022: Deadline to submit applications (complete with university signatures) to Mitacs through zpapp@mitacs.ca

For information regarding Accelerate, contact Zsuzsa Papp at zpapp@mitacs.ca. For information about Business Strategy Internship, contact Zsuzsa Papp at zpapp@mitacs.ca or Jaime Speed at jaime.speed@usask.ca by 31 January 2022.

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Natural Sciences and Engineering Opportunities and Updates

NSERC CREATE 2023: Timeline for Participation

The NSERC Collaborative Research and Training Experience (CREATE) program supports the training and mentoring of teams of highly qualified students and postdoctoral fellows from Canada and abroad. The aim of the program is to develop innovative training programs that foster professional skills and improve job readiness for careers in industry, government, non-governmental organizations, or the academy.

Timeline for the 2023 Competition

Statement of Interest submission (submit form) – 24 January 2022
Optional Test Your Concept event – Mid February
Mandatory Internal Review – 23 March 2022
LOI deadline – 2 May 2022

New participants to the CREATE grant can take the opportunity to participate in a “Test your Concept” panel in mid-February, where they can present their ideas in front of an expert panel of past CREATE recipients. NSERC has imposed a quota on USask for the number of LOIs that will be considered; because we have had more interested applicants than our quota allows, all new applications will require a mandatory internal review before submission.

Interested applicants should submit a statement of interest by 24 January 2022 to rasi.support@usask.ca. Please use this same address for any questions you may have about the program or application process.

Data Champions Pilot Project Call

The Alliance is pleased to announce its Data Champions Pilot Project Call, which aims to promote a shift in data culture within the Canadian DRI ecosystem by promoting sound research data management (RDM) practices. The role of the Data Champion is to develop activities at the local, regional and/or national
level that advance awareness, understanding, development, and adoption of RDM tools, best practices, and resources in Canada. The full description of the call is available here.

The funding will provide up to $50,000 CAD per applicant to a diverse cohort of researchers who will take on the role of ‘Data Champions’. An Expert Merit Review Committee will review applications.

The call is open and the deadline to submit applications is Thursday, 3 February 2022, at 5 pm EST. Information sessions will be held in both official languages on 13 January 2022, at 11 am EST (English) and 12 pm EST (French) and will be recorded for those unable to attend.

If you have any questions about the Alliance’s Data Champions Pilot Project call, please contact funding-subventions@alliancecan.ca.