

## Research Acceleration and Strategic Initiatives



# Research Funding and Support

A weekly update on funding opportunities, workshops, and other support services.

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Visit the [OVPR Grants Calendar](#) for up to date deadlines and events.  
Learn more about RASI services [online](#).

### Cross Disciplinary and Institutional Opportunities

#### MITACS Calls

MITACS is a national, not-for-profit research and training organization dedicated to advancing collaborations between industry, academia and government in Canada, and to fostering international research networks between Canadian universities and the world.

For questions about any of these programs, please contact Dr. Zsuzsa Papp at [zpapp@mitacs.ca](mailto:zpapp@mitacs.ca) for more information.

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### Indigenous Pathways - Accelerate

Mitacs is committed to working with indigenous peoples and creating equitable access to our Programs. This initiative aims to diminish the barriers of innovation, in any discipline, by reducing the cost of collaborations between partners and academia. Under the [Indigenous Pathways](#) program Mitacs [Accelerate](#) provides 75%, while the partner organization only provides 25% of the project cost.

For a project to be qualified for Indigenous Pathways offering at Mitacs, at least one of the following three conditions should apply:

- Students, graduate students, recent graduates or postdoctoral fellows on the research project self-identify as Indigenous
- The partner organization is a for-profit organization with self-identifying Indigenous persons who hold 50% or greater ownership shares.
- The partner organization is a not-for-profit organization with board membership consisting of 50% or greater self-identifying Indigenous persons
- The partner organization is a not-for-profit organization whose core mandate includes Indigenous community impact or serving Indigenous communities
- Mitacs provides 1:1 support to build proposals.

All other [Accelerate](#) rules apply.

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### Elevate Call

Mitacs [Elevate](#) is a postdoctoral fellowship with an exclusive professional development curriculum component. Fellows address complex challenges through:

- A two-year research project with a partner organization in need of high-level expertise
- A professional development curriculum that prepares Elevate fellows for success as leaders in research and industry
- Over the two-year fellowship, fellows divide their time between their partner organization's project and academic institution-based research with their academic supervisor.

Fellows gain theoretical and experiential training in areas such as project management and presentations. The knowledge transfer supported by Elevate increases research quality and overall efficiencies within a research group.

The Elevate Fall 2022 call will offer **2 award options: Standard (\$60k) and Thematic (\$80k)**. Partner organizations contribute 50% of this grant.

**Application Deadline:** 08 February 2023 at 5pm (PT) (*USask Internal deadlines must be observed*)

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### Accelerate

Build research partnerships while funding your students, graduate students, recent graduates or postdoctoral fellows through Mitacs [Accelerate](#) . Apply any time — **partner organization's financial contribution starts at \$5000.**

- Projects in any discipline or sector are supported.
- Short term (min 4 months) and long term (max 4 years) projects are eligible
- Mitacs provides 50% of the project cost. No limit on project size or number of applications (per professor)
- Undergraduate and Masters students, recent graduates (within 2 years), PhD students and postdoctoral fellows are eligible. Maximum \$22500 Mitacs contribution per person per year.
- Researchers need to be provided experiential learning opportunity with the partner organization(s)
- Several partner organizations, faculty and students can be combined in one application
- Students, postdoctoral fellows do not need to be named at time of application. Canadian or international students are eligible
- Not competitive: Mitacs provides support in the application process
- Partner organizations: municipalities, hospitals are eligible in addition to not-for-profit and for-profit corporations, companies
- Indigenous Pathway: additional support is available if the partner organization or student is indigenous. See information above.
- NSERC Alliance + Mitacs Accelerate joint application with enhanced funding support available

**Application deadline:** No deadline, continuous intake

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## MITACS Canadian Science Policy Fellowship

The [Canadian Science Policy Fellowship \(CSPF\)](#) is now accepting applications from PhD holders interested in a year-long policy position, starting in September 2023, with a Canadian government host office.

Approved fellows receive an annual salary of **\$70,000 to \$80,000** from their host offices, as well as professional development and networking opportunities facilitated by Mitacs.

Eligible applicants must:

- Be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident
- Hold a PhD in any academic discipline at the start of the fellowship
- Participate full-time in a 12-month fellowship with the host office
- Secure accommodation in the host city, and relocate to their host office as needed
- Negotiate a leave of absence from their current employer, as applicable
- Meet any additional requirements of their hosts, including (but not limited to) security clearance requirements

**Application Deadline:** 01 February 2023

For more information, please visit [our website](#) or contact [policyfellowship@mitacs.ca](mailto:policyfellowship@mitacs.ca).

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## USask JELF Special Call

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 2023 targeting the June 2023 submission. 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 2023 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.
- Units are encouraged to consider special requirements for the project. Note that renovation costs covered by the unit and required to accommodate equipment purchases may be used as matching funding. Please check with RASI for eligibility specifics.
- 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. Requests by OPR for matching funding is not an option.
- 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](mailto:cfi.support@usask.ca)) by 13 December 2022.** The CFI Advisory Committee will review all EOIs and will take into consideration the priorities of the institution. USask's CFI envelope is strategically used and for this call the targeted funds can support one EOI at a \$800K CFI ask. If needed, adjudication will be done by the Advisory Committee and OPR. Detailed timelines for the June 2023 submission process will be provided after applicants have been notified.

**Applicants will be notified of the decision by 21 December 2022.** Detailed timelines for the 15 June 2023 submission internal review process will be provided at that time.

Please contact RASI at [cfi.support@usask.ca](mailto:cfi.support@usask.ca) for an EOI form.

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## New Funding for Black Scholars

On 16 November 2022, at the Canadian Science Policy Conference, the Honourable François-Philippe Champagne, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry, announced [new funding for Black scholars](#).

As announced in [Budget 2022](#), the funds, which will be implemented from 2023–24, include \$40.9 million over five years and \$9.7 million ongoing to increase the number of awards available to Black scholars. The

funds will be offered by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada ([NSERC](#)), the Canadian Institutes of Health Research ([CIHR](#)), and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council ([SSHRC](#)).

These funds will help address the disproportionate underfunding of Black scholars at all stages of their careers; will contribute to making Canada's research culture more equitable, diverse and inclusive; and will strengthen Canada's innovation potential.

The new funding will allow the agencies to support approximately 400 additional Black scholars annually via existing scholarships and fellowships programs. These include the Undergraduate Student Research Awards (USRA), the Canada Graduate Scholarships – Master's (CGS M) program, the Canada Graduate Scholarships – Doctoral (CGS D) program and agency some specific postdoctoral fellowships programs.

For questions related to this funding, you may reach out to the agencies via email to the following inboxes:

NSERC: [schol@nserc-crsng.gc.ca](mailto:schol@nserc-crsng.gc.ca)

CIHR: [support-soutien@cihr-irsc.gc.ca](mailto:support-soutien@cihr-irsc.gc.ca)

SSHRC: [fellowships@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca](mailto:fellowships@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca)

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## Health Sciences Opportunities and Updates

### RUH Foundation Research Grant

The [2022-2023 Royal University Hospital Foundation Research Grant](#) application is now available.

The Royal University Hospital Foundation Research Fund is supported by Royal University Hospital Foundation through annual donations and investment earnings on donor endowments. The Foundation's Research Grant Program supports clinically relevant research projects that will ultimately benefit patients who are, for the most part, treated at Royal University Hospital.

The deadline to submit applications is **14 December 2022, at 4pm.**

If you have any questions, please contact Mia Cavanagh at 306-655-6521.

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### SHRF 2022-2023 Align Grant Deadline Reminder

The deadline for submissions for [Align Grant](#) applications is **06 December**. Applications should aim to develop research questions, engage interdisciplinary research teams including members outside of academia and shape research to align with the needs of Saskatchewan for success in future peer-reviewed funding competitions.

#### Opportunity Details

**Amount:** up to \$10,000

**Term:** 1-year

Objectives:

- Increase research relevance, coordination, and potential for impact by enabling development and engagement of robust interdisciplinary research teams, including stakeholders\* outside academia, and providing funding to complete activities that shape research to align with the Saskatchewan context and respond to Saskatchewan needs.
- Increase quality and success of Saskatchewan applications to peer-reviewed funding competitions at the regional (e.g.; western Canadian- minimum two provinces), national and international level, as well as to SHRF.
- Support the development of Saskatchewan research and health professional trainees through opportunities to gain experience in collaborative team building and engagement outside academia, co-development of research questions and approaches, and other research and professional skills related to proposed activities.

For more information, contact Karen Tilsley at [ktilsley@shrf.ca](mailto:ktilsley@shrf.ca).

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## SHRF-CABHI 2022 Spark Program Deadline Reminder

The deadline for teams intending to apply to CABHI's Spark Program is **02 December at 4pm (ET)**. SHRF has committed \$100k to this opportunity to co-fund applications from Saskatchewan. See details below.

### Opportunity Details:

**Amount:** \$50,000 for a 1 year term.

### Funding Available:

SHRF and CABHI will co-fund up to 4 Saskatchewan-based projects.

### Eligibility:

CABHI is looking for innovative point-of-care solutions for older adults, persons with dementia, and their care partners addressing one of the Innovation Themes:

- Caregiver support
- Aging in place
- Cognitive and mental health
- Care coordination and navigation, and/or
- Financial health and wellness

Proposed solutions must:

- Must be pre-commercial and not be owned by a third-party company unless two criteria are met:
  - The vendor/owner of the solution is not involved in the project in any way.
  - The solution is being used in a novel way and/or being adapted to an older adult population.

Projects must:

- Focus on the development/testing of an innovative solution with a real-world population.
- Include a commitment of at least 25% of CABHI's contribution in matching funds (either cash or in-kind) from the host organization and/or other partners (if applicable).
- Appears reasonable to complete in a 12-month period with \$50,000 (plus any additional funds committed from other sources).

- Spark does not fund foundational research or pharmaceutical trials; projects must advance the development and implementation of innovations.
- Spark does not provide funding for incubators or capital investments for companies

For more information, contact Karen Tilsley at [ktilsley@shrf.ca](mailto:ktilsley@shrf.ca).

**BE WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS**