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Visit the [OVPR Grants Calendar](#) for up to date deadlines and events.
Learn more about RASI services [online](#).
NSERC, SSHRC, and CIHR announced in November 2022 that the **2023 NSERC USRA** (Undergraduate Student Research Award) competition will include a special SSHRC USRA competition and a CIHR USRA competition. A total of 95 CIHR and 95 SSHRC USRAs will be awarded across Canada. It is anticipated that USask will have 1 CIHR USRA and 1 SSHRC USRA at our institution.

This competition is to support *undergraduate students of black heritage*.

This extraordinary pilot competition will be run alongside the NSERC USRA competition, and use the existing NSERC USRA portal infrastructure and USask guidelines. This competition will open in January 2023 and will run alongside the regular USask NSERC USRA.

Students who wish to compete for these awards will:

- Be an undergraduate student who identifies as Black;
- Have a supervisor in place who agrees to be a co-applicant on this award and has the funds to provide the supervisor portion of the award, same as the NSERC rules;
- Plan to pursue a project that falls under either CIHR or SSHRC research areas;
- Register on the [NSERC USRA portal](#), including the self-identification procedures; **NOTE: students who wish to be part of this pilot MUST self-identify as Black on the portal AND identify which Tri-Agency areas (CIHR or SSHRC) their research meets.**
- Meet all the other criteria of a USRA award (citizenship status, academic standing, enrolled in a bachelor’s program, etc.);
- Work with their supervisor to fill out and upload all of the required documents (Form 202 I, Form 202 II, transcripts to the NSERC USRA portal AND Student Statement of Interest to [undergraduate.research@usask.ca](mailto:undergraduate.research@usask.ca) by the deadline).

The University of Saskatchewan Office of the Vice President Research will organize the USask adjudication process for these applications. Students and supervisors will be notified as soon as the adjudication process is complete.

Please direct questions to [undergraduate.research@usask.ca](mailto:undergraduate.research@usask.ca).

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**Cross Disciplinary and Institutional Opportunities**

**Tri-Agency Special Response Fund for Trainees (Ukraine)**

The Government of Canada has announced special funding, in the form of supplements to existing research grants, that will provide relief and assistance to research trainees from Ukraine.

The **Special Response Fund for Trainees (Ukraine)** is administered by Canada’s three federal research funding agencies – the [Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)](https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca), the [Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC)](https://www.nserc-crsng.ca) and the [Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC)](https://wwwSSHRC.ca) – and provides support to graduate students and postdoctoral researchers directly impacted by the Russian regime’s invasion of Ukraine.
This temporary funding will help trainee(s) who were expected to return to Ukraine in 2022 but cannot because of the current crisis or trainee(s) who cannot continue their planned course of studies or research in Ukraine because of the crisis and are now in Canada.

Active and eligible grant-holders can apply for this special supplement by filling out the CIHR, NSERC, and/or SSHRC form. If there are students who this may apply to, they must see their supervisor.

Applications will be accepted using a continuous intake up to 22 December 2022.

Please contact research.services@usask.ca for more information.

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Health Sciences Opportunities and Updates

Launch: Planning Grants for Implementing Healthy Urban Policy

The Planning Grants for Implementing Healthy Urban Policy supports collaboration between city leaders and researchers and co-development of activities related to implementing and evaluating interventions in urban settings that would improve health and wellbeing. The goal of this funding opportunity is to facilitate the design of implementation research projects that could possibly be funded in the future through CIHR’s Project Grant Program, CIHR’s Healthy Cities Research Initiative, or opportunities from other funders.

This opportunity is composed of two parts: a five-day immersive workshop in a leading healthy city, and a post-workshop planning and knowledge mobilization activity/event.

To support the research planning process, teams composed of four city/community leaders and one researcher will be required to participate in a five-day workshop organized by 880 Cities. The theme for this workshop is active transportation and public space. The workshop will take place in Fall 2023 in Copenhagen, a world leader in this area. Teams will benefit from examining how this model city has designed, implemented and evaluated its active transportation and public space interventions and will draw on these learnings to develop action plans and intervention research ideas for their own Canadian cities. The required workshop will explore the connection between improved health outcomes and well-designed, maintained and programmed parks, streets, bike lanes, schoolyards, plazas and other public spaces, and will emphasize opportunities for using data and research to continually monitor and improve infrastructure to meet the needs of people of all ages, abilities and socioeconomic backgrounds. NOTE: this workshop will be conducted in English only. Following the workshop, teams will host a planning and knowledge mobilization activity/event in their own community.

Application Deadline: 05 January 2023
Anticipated Notice of Decision Date: 02 March 2023
Funding Start Date: 01 March 2023

Funds Available
The total amount available for this funding opportunity is $272,260, enough to fund approximately four (4) grants. The maximum amount per grant is $68,065 per year for up to one (1) year. Of this $68,065:

- **$43,065** is designated to cover registration and travel costs of participation in the five-day workshop
• **Up to $25,000** is for the planning and knowledge mobilization activities

For any inquiries, please contact the CIHR Contact Centre at [support-soutien@cihr-irsc.gc.ca](mailto:support-soutien@cihr-irsc.gc.ca).

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**CIHR Access Newsletter**

Please see below for highlights from the 27 October to 24 November [CIHR Access Newsletter](#):

**Funding**

- Other: Summer Program in Aging
- Team Grant: THINC Implementation Science Team Grants
- Team Grants: Intervention Trial in Inflammation for Chronic Conditions – Evidence to Impact
- Team Grant: CIHR-JDRF Type 1 Diabetes Screening Research Consortium
- National Women’s Health Research Initiative: Pan-Canadian Women’s Health Coalition - Hubs
- Evaluation of population-level interventions to reduce inappropriate antimicrobial use and prevent the spread of resistant pathogens
- 2022 Brain Star Awards
- CIHR Institute of Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis Inclusive Research Excellence Prizes
- CIHR dedicated funding for European programs in key research areas

**Pre-announcement**

- Monkeypox 2 Research Funding Opportunity
- Network of Centres of Excellence in Neurodegeneration (CoEN)
- Health System Impact (HSI) Program
- Catalyst Grant for the 2022 CPHO report: Mobilizing Public Health Action on Climate Change in Canada

**Other**

- Launch of the New CIHR “Health Research Explained” Project
- A New Frontier in Type 2 Diabetes Research and its Link to Heart Disease

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**Natural Sciences and Engineering Opportunities and Updates**

**NSERC-CNSC Small Modular Reactors Research Grant Initiative**

The call for the [NSERC-CNSC Small Modular Reactors Research Grant Initiative](#) has launched. Small modular reactors (SMRs) offer a promising pathway to support Canada’s low carbon energy transition and are expected to be less complex, easier to operate and more cost effective than current nuclear technology. For example, a 300-megawatt SMR could supply enough clean power for an estimated 300,000 homes. With approximately 76,000 Canadians employed across its supply chain, Canada's nuclear industry is well positioned to leverage its more than 60 years of science and technology innovation to become a leader in the development and deployment of SMR technology.

The Government of Canada has determined that support to develop this technology can position Canada as a clean energy leader; support the decarbonization of provincial electricity grids; facilitate the transition away
from diesel power in remote communities; and help decarbonize heavy emitting industries. It is important
that SMRs are deployed in a safe and secure manner and that regulatory decisions are based on solid science.
Through funding provided in Budget 2022, the CNSC and the NSERC are partnering to fund research to
support effective and efficient regulation and regulatory oversight of SMRs.

Objectives
The NSERC-CNSC Small Modular Reactors Research Grant Initiative is intended to support activities that will
- increase the scientific information available to support regulatory decision-making and oversight
- increase capacity to regulate SMRs
- enhance the capabilities of Canadian universities to undertake research related to SMRs
- increase training and help produce a new generation of nuclear scientists, engineers and policy-
makers

Application Deadline: 13 December 2022

Social Sciences and Humanities Opportunities

SSHRC Storytellers Challenge
On 22 November, SSHRC launched its 10th edition of the Storytellers Challenge. SSHRC is once again
challenging postsecondary students to show Canadians how social sciences and humanities research affects
our lives and our world. The Challenge has been a tremendous success, thanks in large part to the
engagement of institutions in promoting it.

The challenge is open to all students, graduate and undergraduate, enrolled at Canadian postsecondary
institutions. Their task is to tell the story, in up to three minutes or 300 words, of a SSHRC-funded research
project—their own or a professor’s. Each year, a jury selects 25 finalists to receive $3,000 and specialized
training in research communications. At the 2023 Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, the final
five winners will be revealed and will receive an additional $1,000 in recognition of their skills and
achievement.

For further details on this year’s Storytellers Challenge, please visit this website.

Please note that all questions should be addressed to Storytellers@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca.

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