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

USask Workshops and Support Services

NSERC CREATE: Call for Applications, Institutional Quota, Internal Selection Process
The NSERC 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.

NSERC has made significant changes to the CREATE program this year. These changes are as follows:

- The number of applications institutions are permitted to submit will now be six. NSERC has reversed their previous communications that the quota would be reduced to three.
- The LOI will no longer be adjudicated. Applicants who have received institutional endorsement will submit a short LOI that outlines their team, research area, and suggested reviewers on 01 May 2024.
- All proposals that receive institutional endorsement to submit an LOI and submit by the 01 May deadline will be invited to proceed to full proposal.
- All CREATE programs will be required to provide mobility experiences for trainees.

To select USask’s quota, applicants are required to submit an Expression of Interest to RASI by 05 April 2024. An EOI must be submitted to be considered to be a part of the institutional quota. A panel of CREATE recipients and NSERC scholars will select up to six proposals to go forward.

EOI requirements: available here
EOI deadline: 05 April 2024
LOI deadline: 01 May 2024

If you have any questions about your application or the internal process, please contact rasi.support@usask.ca for more information.

CFI 2025 Innovation Fund (IF): NOI Released, New Funding Stream for Social Sciences, Humanities, and Fine Arts Research
The Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) has announced the **2025 Innovation Fund (IF)** program. The Innovation Fund aims to build capacity in infrastructure and personnel, allowing researchers to remain at the forefront of exploration and knowledge generation. The CFI IF program supports the development of large-scale, unique, and cutting-edge facilities that can accelerate future research in your field of study for many years. Through this competition, CFI will invest up to ~$400 million in infrastructure and fund up to 40% of the project’s eligible costs. CFI will also provide up to ~$120 million in associated operating and maintenance costs through the Infrastructure Operating Fund (IOF).

Learn more about USask’s [2025 IF Competition Timeline](#).

CFI has announced an exciting new strategy for funding social sciences, humanities, and the arts (SSHA). To better support the research community in SSHA, the 2025 Innovation Fund will:

- Allow each institution to submit one proposal outside of the institutional envelope with the primary field of research in SSHA.
- Establish an SSHA-specific funding stream with adapted assessment criteria.
- Extend the eligibility of personnel required for the continuous development and use of databases (evergreening).

NOI documents are now available on the RASI website and are due **05 April 2024**. Should USask-led proposals be interested in RASI feedback prior to final submission, they can submit to RASI by **01 March 2024**.

- [USask Led NOI Document](#)
- [Non-USask Led NOI Document](#)

More information can be found on our [RASI-CFI website](#). Immediate questions can be directed to [rasi.support@usask.ca](mailto:rasi.support@usask.ca).

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**DARE Undergrad Training and Mentorship Awards (Social Sciences, Humanities & Fine Arts) – Deadline Extended**

The **2024 DARE Undergrad Training and Mentorship Awards program** will support USask faculty **within the first five years** of their academic appointment to hire, train and mentor an undergraduate summer student to support their research, scholarly, or artistic works (RSAW) program. New faculty members within 5 years of their hire date (as of 01 July 2024) are eligible to apply.

The deadline to apply has been extended to **11 March 2024**.

**Grants Available:** 10 Awards  
**Individual grant amount:** $6,000 DARE Award (recipients will be required to match $2,410.68 - $5,644.50, see below for details)  
**Eligibility:** Social science, humanities and fine arts faculty within 5 years of their hire date at USask (preference given to Early Career Researchers, Scholars, and Artists).  
**Deadline to apply:** 11 March 2024 (all applications will be submitted directly into UnivRS)
Award duration: 14-16 weeks from May to August (2024)

Competition details: Online
Application form: Online

Please contact dare.rasi@usask.ca if you want to learn more about this opportunity.

Health Sciences Opportunities and Updates

Cystinosis Research Foundation Research Grants and Fellowships

The Cystinosis Research Foundation (CRF) is pleased to announce that it has $2.0 Million available for new research grants and fellowships. CRF is the largest private fund provider of cystinosis research in the world. We have awarded 235 multi-year research and fellowship grants in 13 countries. CRF supported researchers have published 108 articles in prestigious scientific and medical journals.

We are accepting applications for research studies and for the Post-Doctoral Cystinosis Research Fellowship Program. Our goal is to fund the best and most promising research in the world in an effort to find better treatments and a cure for cystinosis.

We are committed to prioritizing research that has the potential to result in new treatments and to significantly improve the quality of life for patients with cystinosis. CRF supports laboratory research, clinical and translational research aimed at understanding the pathogenesis of cystinosis as well as specific areas of cystinosis research that remain under-studied (e.g., neurological complications, endocrine complications, myopathy, hypogonadism, bone disease). We are interested in supporting new investigators and encourage them to apply either as research fellows or co-PIs.

Proposals are evaluated by the Cystinosis Research Foundation Scientific Review Board (SRB), which is comprised of leading experts on cystinosis who determine the scientific validity and merit of the proposed research based on the NIH scale of standards. The SRB then advises the Cystinosis Research Foundation on the scientific merit of each proposal. The chair of the CRF Scientific Review Board is Stephanie Cherqui, PhD. The SRB members are listed in the guidelines.

The deadline for the Spring 2024 applications is Friday, 15 March 2024. All applicants will be notified about the status of their application in May 2024.

If you have any questions, please email Nancy Stack, Founder and President, at nstack@cystinosisresearch.org.

CIHR Access Newsletter

Please see below for highlights from the 29 February 2024 CIHR Access Newsletter:

- Upcoming Funding Opportunity: Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Sub-Saharan Africa
- Congratulations to the Recipients of the First-ever Research Excellent, Diversity, and Independence Early Career Transition Award
- Register and Discuss Clinical Trial Results for CIHR Funding for a Clinic Trial Granted in 2022 or 2023
- Call for Nominations: Institute of Circulatory and Respiratory Health Lecturer Awards
- Check Out These Learning Opportunities for Peer Reviewers
- What We Heard: A Report on Indigenous Citizenship and Membership
- Taking Action to Inform Vital Standards for Black Youth Mental Health Care in Canada
- Introducing the CIHR Institute of Cancer Research’s Research Priority Plan 2024-2029

Funding Opportunities:
- Human Frontier Science Program – Fellowship Program
- Human Frontier Science Program – Research Grants

View these and other opportunities in the CIHR Funding Opportunity Database.

Internationalization Award Opportunities for Faculty, Staff and Students
The International Office is pleased to announce the 2024 Internationalization award opportunities to recognize the achievements of faculty, staff and students who provide outstanding contributions to the internationalization of USask. Please visit our website for award details and nomination forms.

J.W. George Ivany Internationalization Award for Faculty
As part of the University of Saskatchewan Blueprint for Action 2025, the International Office announces the J.W. George Ivany Internationalization Award to recognize the achievements of a USask faculty member who provides outstanding contributions to the internationalization of the University of Saskatchewan. Nominate our amazing and deserving USask faculty for a J.W. George Ivany Internationalization Award. Nomination forms and two supporting letters must be included with submissions. Visit here for details. Questions can be directed to international.office@usask.ca.

Global Research Leadership Award for Faculty
As part of the University of Saskatchewan Blueprint for Action 2025, the International Office announces the Global Research Leadership Award to recognize exceptional contributions of a USask faculty member toward strengthening the global profile of the University of Saskatchewan. Nominate our amazing and deserving USask faculty for a Global Research Leadership Award. Nomination forms and two supporting letters must be included with submissions. Visit here for details. Questions can be directed to international.office@usask.ca.

International Engagement Service Award for Staff
As part of the University of Saskatchewan Blueprint for Action 2025, the International Office announces the International Engagement Service Award to recognize the achievements of a USask administrative staff member who provides outstanding contributions to the internationalization of the University of Saskatchewan. Nominate our amazing and deserving USask staff for an International Engagement Service Award. Nomination forms and two supporting letters must be included with submissions. Visit here for details. Questions can be directed to international.office@usask.ca.

Global Research Leadership Award for Students
As part of the University of Saskatchewan Blueprint for Action 2025, the International Office announces the Global Research Leadership Award to recognize exceptional contributions of a USask student or student-led team who provides outstanding global research leadership. Nominate our amazing and deserving USask students for a Global Research Leadership Award. Nomination forms and two supporting letters must be included with submissions. Visit [here](http://usask.ca) for details. Questions can be directed to [international.office@usask.ca](mailto:international.office@usask.ca).

**Nomination deadline for each four awards:** 29 March 2024 at 4 pm CST/SK time

**Value of each award:** $1500

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**IDRC: Call for Expressions of Interest: Regional Hubs for Climate Change and Health**

IDRC and other funding partners are investing up to CAD4 million to fund up to five institutions to establish regional hubs in the Global South. These hubs will initiate and manage research sub-grants on climate change and health in West and Central Africa, East and Southern Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Middle East and North Africa.

Each hub will be managed by a regionally based organization or consortium of organizations. The selected regional hubs will be tasked with establishing, managing and supporting a cohort of research sub-grants in their respective region. The selected hubs will be expected to run one or more open competitive calls to identify and select research projects in their corresponding region.

This funding opportunity will be open to individual organizations or consortia headquartered in eligible countries in the respective regions (West and Central Africa, East and Southern Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Middle East and North Africa). The funding opportunity will not be open to individuals or government ministries, and agencies or branches, offices and chapters of international organizations, but it is open to public research institutes, think tanks and universities. Lead Applicant Organization must demonstrate it has a history of securing two or more research or program grants valued at $2 million CAD or higher within the past five years. USask can apply as part of a consortium. [Read more](http://usask.ca).

**Budget:** up to CAD$4,000,000 (to fund 5 institutions)

**Internal Deadline:** Ten business days before external deadline

**External Deadline:** 05 April 2024

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**Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation Reach Grant**

Significant barriers exist that impede the translation of innovative and important ideas to the clinic. The Reach Grant seeks to remove one of these barriers by providing support for important pre-clinical hypothesis-driven research projects that are necessary to move a study from the pre-clinical arena into a clinical trial. Thus, the goal of this award is to support translational studies that will result in a phase 1 and/or 2 clinical trial, two to three years from the project end date. Examples of appropriate research projects include but aren’t limited to, completing IND-enabling studies, providing requisite pre-clinical data for clinical trial development, or perhaps through the validation of biomarkers that will enable selection of the correct patients for entry into new clinical trials. Proposals must fall within the scope of Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation’s mission, focused on childhood cancers. Proposals with a sole/primary focus on patients >19 years of age will not be considered. More can be found [here](http://usask.ca).
Eligibility:
- Applicant institutions must be based in the United States or Canada. Applicants need not be United States citizens. Funds must be granted to nonprofit institutions or organizations.
- Applicants must have an MD, PhD, or MD/PhD or equivalent and be appointed as faculty (or equivalent) at an academic institution.
- Applicants must have a demonstrated track record of pediatric cancer research with experience in translational research.

Budget: up to USD $250,000 USD of direct costs over 2 years
Internal Deadline: Ten business days before external deadline
External Deadline: 25 March 2024 by 8pm (Eastern)

Canada-Italy Innovation Award 2024 - Call for proposals
The Embassy of Canada to Italy is pleased to accept applications for the 12th edition of the Canada-Italy Innovation Award. This Award provides funding to members of the Italian innovation ecosystem including start-ups, innovation experts, researchers, scientists, or creative industry professionals to develop collaborative projects with Canadian partners in areas that will drive innovative, inclusive, and sustainable socio-economic development. Over the last decade, the award has resulted in transformational discoveries, research, and applications showcasing the significant impact of Canada-Italy cooperation. Through this Award, the Embassy of Canada to Italy aims to support the development of strong, targeted relationships between leading individuals, researchers and institutions in Italy and their counterparts in Canada.

Projects must address one or more of the thematic priorities detailed below, which are aligned with Government of Canada policy priorities:
- Research on critical minerals
- Governance in the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its ethics
- Quantum technology
- Preventing Gender Based Violence
- Life and health science

Note: Funding through the Canada-Italy Innovation Award is to support expenses incurred by the Italian awardee only for travel to Canada. Successful applicants will be required to complete a report immediately following the completion of the travel or project and must commit to providing brief updates on follow-up activities and outcomes 6 and 12 months after the completion of the project. Read more.

Budget: maximum of €4,000 (EUR)
Application Deadline: 02 April 2024 at 11:59pm (Rome time)

Mitacs Globalink Research Award (GRA)
Below are the most recent updates to the Mitacs Globalink Research Award (GRA) program. These updates pertain to the two calls for proposals with Mitacs partners British High Commission in Ottawa in the UK and National Research Foundation (NRF) in Korea.
British High Commission in Ottawa (United Kingdom—travel from Canada and travel to Canada)

- **Deadline:** 26 March 2024
- **Level:** PhD students or postdoctoral fellows
- **Themes:** AI Safety: The understanding, prevention, and mitigation of harms from AI. These harms could be deliberate or accidental; caused to individuals, groups, organisations, nations or globally; and of many types, including but not limited to physical, psychological, social, or economic harms.
- **Other requirements:** Participants must be Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada
- **Eligible institutions:** All universities in the UK
- **Co-funding:** No financial contribution is required from the Canadian institution
- **Award amount:** $6,000 CAD
- **Application process and submission:** Submit to Mitacs through the local Mitacs Advisor

National Research Foundation (NRF) Korea (Korea—travel to Canada)

- **Deadline:** 26 March 2024
- **Level:** Full time master’s and PhD students, or postdoctoral fellows
- **Themes:** All fields of Science and Technology, Interdisciplinary studies involving S&T and Humanities or Social Sciences
- **Other requirements:** Participants applying to Canada must be Korean citizens or permanent residents of Korea. Participants applying from Canada must be Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada
- **Eligible institutions:** All universities in Korea
- **Co-funding:** No financial contribution is required from the Canadian institution
- **Award amount:** $9,000 to $15,000 (approximately)
- **Application process and submission:** Submit to NRF directly (see document attached) and submit to Mitacs through the local Mitacs Advisor
- **Call website:** National Research Foundation of Korea

Internal Deadline: Ten business days before external deadline
External Deadline: 26 March 2024

US National Institutes of Health (NIH): Multi-Scale Models Bridging Levels of Analysis in Aging and Alzheimer's Disease (AD) and AD-Related Dementias (ADRD) (R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

This notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) invites applications proposing to establish multi-scale computational models recapitulating dynamic changes associated with aging and Alzheimer’s disease (AD) and AD-related dementias (ADRD). This broad scope encompasses a variety of computational approaches—such as mathematical and computational modeling, image analysis, artificial intelligence, and machine learning—to better understand aging processes and AD/ADRD across molecules, cells and networks, and cognition and behavior. With the growing availability of public datasets, we are poised to leverage computational approaches to understand age-related vulnerability and resilience to AD/ADRD in a way that was previously not possible. Multi-scale modeling has the potential to uncover the role of aging trajectories in AD/ADRD. Read more.
The goal of this NOFO is to establish a computational multi-scale model recapitulating dynamic changes associated with aging across scales. Therefore, the proposed framework must:

- Bridge at least two levels of analysis on the spatial scale (e.g., molecules, cells, tissues, organisms, behavior), or
- Bridge at least two levels of analysis on the temporal scale (spanning from milliseconds to generations).

**Budget:** limited to USD $500,000 in direct costs per year

**Project duration:** The maximum project period is five years

**Internal Deadline:** Ten business days before external deadline

**Letter of Intent Deadline:** 13 May 2024

**Full Application Deadline:** 13 June 2024

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**European Union (EU): Call for Proposals: Associated Regions to participate in the OLAMUR Project**

The OLAMUR project consortium will support 5 Associated Regions, each receiving **EUR 100,000** in financial support to showcase the feasibility, replicability and scale up of the solutions developed within the project in associated regions. We will provide the selected Associated Regions with technical assistance to develop roadmaps and plans for low-impact marine aquaculture and multi-purpose use of marine space addressing possible barriers and showing the feasibility of implementing innovative solutions in the region.

The call targets local and/or regional authorities from associated regions other than those that are already part of the OLAMUR consortium. Applicants from Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Estonia, Lithuania, Germany, Belgium, Italy are therefore not eligible for funding. The eligible applicants for this opportunity should be from local and/or regional organizations (public bodies) from EU Member States or Horizon Europe Associated Countries; UK entities are eligible to receive cascade funding as of **1 January 2024** under FSTP calls. In other words: UK can apply for funding in our call. **The grant each associated region can apply for is up to €100,000.** The activities should focus on bringing sustainable solutions locally within each region, which demonstrate concrete actions. [Read more.]

**Budget:** up to €100,000

**Internal Deadline:** Ten business days before external deadline

**Proposal Deadline:** 31 March 2024

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**IDRC: Pre-announcement: upcoming funding opportunity on addressing neglected areas of sexual and reproductive health and rights in sub-Saharan Africa (ANSRHRA)**

IDRC is providing preliminary information on this anticipatory funding opportunity to allow applicants time to prepare their applications. The funding opportunity is anticipated to be launched on **18 March 2024.** Through the anticipatory call, up to 15 successful teams will be invited to submit full proposals in October 2024.
Sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) are foundational to people living full healthy lives in ways that enable them to contribute to prosperous, equitable and sustainable societies. Across the life course, when people can access quality SRHR information and services, and have decision-making power to exercise their rights, they can effectively contribute to their wellbeing and that of their families and communities. Respect for SRHR and improved access to sexual and reproductive services have immediate and longer-term benefits for health, particularly for reducing inequitable impacts of sexually transmitted infections, but also for other spheres of life — from education, employment, livelihoods and access to resources such as land, credit and social capital. Targeted investments in SRHR can be an important catalyst to strengthen the existing momentum building across many communities, states and countries. Moreover, such investments can help improve the preparedness of health systems to build resilience to future emergencies and/or disruptions. This initiative will build on the capacity of researchers and research organizations, civil society organizations, as well as policymakers, decision-makers and communities, to integrate gender-transformative approaches within implementation research.

This anticipatory funding opportunity will involve a two-stage process. In the first stage, interested applicants will be required to submit a Letter of Intent (LOI). This stage requires applicants to complete an eligibility checklist and upload supporting documents. Only applicants who are successful at the LOI stage will be invited to submit a full technical proposal. Read more.

Budget: CAD $29.9 million to fund up to 16 implementation research
Internal Deadline: Ten business days before external deadline
LOI Deadline: Monday, 13 May 2024 at 11:59 (Eastern)
Proposal Deadline: October 2024

Harrington Discovery Institute: Accelerating Treatments for Rare Diseases Award
The Oxford-Harrington Rare Disease Scholar Award advances promising discoveries from academic labs to move them into clinical practice. The award combines funding and expert therapeutics development support to help researchers in the UK, US, or Canada to accelerate preclinical projects towards treatments for patients. The grant is administered by the Oxford-Harrington Rare Disease Centre (OHC), a partnership between the University of Oxford and Harrington Discovery Institute at University Hospitals in Cleveland, Ohio. Harrington Discovery Institute’s UK granting organization is Fund for Cures UK, Ltd. Read more.

Specifically, the award includes:
- US and Canada: USD$100,000 guaranteed grant award; UK: £100,000 guaranteed grant award
- Drug and business development support from Harrington’s Therapeutics Development Center*
- One year of Therapeutics Development support and project management guaranteed, with potential to renew for a second year based on milestones met
- Access to Oxford facilities and infrastructure including oligonucleotide synthesis and screening, small molecule and protein platforms, cell and gene therapy facilities as well as genomics capabilities, and links to Genomics England
- Invitation to present at the bi-annual Oxford-Harrington Rare Disease Centre Symposium (UK-based scholars) or the annual Harrington Discovery Institute Symposium (US- and Canada-based scholars)
- Opportunity to compete for acceleration funds up to USD$300,000 / £250,000
- Opportunity to qualify for investment funds at a higher level according to project requirements
Eligibility Criteria:
- MD or PhD (or equivalent) researchers in the UK, US, and Canada operating their own independent lab
- Faculty position at an accredited academic medical center, university or research institution in the UK, US, or Canada, and conduct the majority of their research at that institution
- A project must have a single Principal Investigator (PI), who is responsible for project oversight and financial management. The PI may engage collaborators, core labs, or commercial Contract Research Organizations (CROs) to execute any portion of the project.

Budget: USD$100,000
Internal Deadline: Ten business days before external deadline
Proposal Deadline: 26 March at 11:59pm (Eastern)