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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).

The Notice-Of-Intent (NOI) Intake is now closed. NOI documents were due on 05 April 2024. No further intake will be offered.

Update: CFI IF 2025 Draft Call Released
CFI has released its draft 2025 IF Call and requests institutions’ feedback. If you would like to submit feedback on the draft call, please have your comments and suggestions submitted to RASI by 08 May 2024 at 4:30pm. Feedback and comments can be sent by email to cfi.support@usask.ca.
More information can be found on our [RASI-CFI website](https://rasicfi.ca). Immediate questions can be directed to [rasi.support@usask.ca](mailto:rasi.support@usask.ca).

### 2024 NSERC Discovery & RTI Grants Workshop

We cordially invite you to attend the 2024 [NSERC Discovery Grant](https://nserc-creation.gc.ca) and [NSERC Research Tools and Instrument Grant](https://www.nserc-cimr.gc.ca) workshop hosted by the [Tri-Agency Research Support Team - OVPR](https://www.usask.ca/ovpr).

This two-hour session will cover a wide range of topics including:

- Specific strategies relevant to the merit indicators.
- Top tips and advice on:
  - Completing your Canadian Common CV (CCV)
  - Capturing your contributions to the training of Highly Qualified Personnel (HQP)
  - Incorporating Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) into your grant application
  - Utilising the Internal Review service offered by OVPR
- Guidance from experienced NSERC Evaluation Group members on submitting a successful application.
- Dedicated session on applying for a RTI grant.
- Two Q&A sessions.

#### Presenters

- Ron Borowsky, University NSERC Leader: College of Arts & Science
- Danielle Baron: College of Agriculture and Bioresources
- Tera Ebach: Western College of Veterinary Medicine
- Graham Fairhurst: School of Environment & Sustainability
- Michaela Lynds: Office of the Vice President Research

#### Panellists

- Robert Scott: DG EG 1504 Chemistry
- Cherie Westbrook: DG EG 1506: Geosciences
- Raymond Spiteri: DG EG 1508 Math & Statistics
- Ildiko Badea: DG EG 1511 Materials & Chemical Engineering
- Daniel Chen: DG EG 1512 Mechanical Engineering

#### RTI Session

- Suresh Tikoo: RTI EG Genes, Cells & Molecules

**Date:** 8 May 2024  
**Location:** HLTH 1130 E-Wing (Health Sciences Building)  
**Time:** 10am-12pm  
**Registration deadline:** 26 April 2024

*Light refreshments will be served.*

**Register:** [2024 Discovery & RTI grants workshop](https://www.usask.ca/ovpr)
Questions can be sent to Michaela Lynds, Research Development Specialist (NSERC) at michaela.lynds@usask.ca.

Cross Disciplinary and Institutional Opportunities

Royal Society of Canada
Call for potential candidates for the Royal Society of Canada (RSC) Fellowship and College of New Scholars, Artists, and Scientists membership. RSC recognizes Canada’s leading intellectuals, scholars, researchers and artists. To help potential candidates develop exceptional nomination packages, we will be holding an internal process to ensure alignment with the criteria of the calls.

External Deadline: 15 December 2024
USask Notice of Intention (NOI) INTERNAL Deadline: 13 May 2024
Deadline to submit nominee NOI and CV for internal consideration. The USask RSC advisory group, which includes USask Fellows and College Members, will review the submissions and recommend whether candidates are encouraged to move forward with a 2025 cohort RSC submission. Those recommended to move forward will receive comprehensive guidance, support and an internal review of their nomination dossiers.

Please contact Institutional Awards Officer Brittany Walch (brittany.walch@usask.ca) for a copy of the NOI form and submit your completed NOI and up-to-date CV to brittany.walch@usask.ca by 13 May 2024.

New Frontiers in Research Fund 2024 Exploration Competition Now Open
The New Frontiers in Research Fund (NFRF) 2024 Exploration Competition is now open. The objective of the Exploration Stream is to support high-risk, high-reward and interdisciplinary research. It seeks to inspire projects that bring disciplines together beyond traditional disciplinary or common interdisciplinary approaches by research teams with the capacity to explore something new that might fail but has the potential for significant impact.

Funding amount: $100,000/yr for up to two years
Notice of intent deadline: 27 August 2024
Full application deadline: 05 November 2024

Upcoming Support from RASI:
RASI will organize internal reviews for the broader USask community. Please watch for further details or contact rasi.support@usask.ca if you wish to be notified with further details.

In addition, RASI’s DARE Program will offer a NFRF Exploration Grant Development Program for Early Career Researchers. Please stay tuned for a call for participants in the coming weeks.
Call for Applications for the 2024-2025 Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships Program

The College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies would like to draw your attention to the 2024-2025 Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships (PDF) competition. Launched by the Vanier-Banting Secretariat, this program offers funding for individuals with PhD, PhD-equivalent or health professional degree completion between September 15, 2021 and September 30, 2025 (inclusively) and is open to both Canadian and international researchers.

The Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships program is designed to support world-class postdoctoral researchers who aspire to develop their leadership potential and position themselves for success as the research leaders of tomorrow.

The Banting PDF competition is highly competitive and includes a rigorous review and selection process. While applicants currently affiliated with the University of Saskatchewan are eligible to apply for a Banting PDF with a supervisor who is also affiliated with the University of Saskatchewan, the Banting Secretariat strongly discourages applicants who seek to remain at their current institution from applying to the Banting program. Only the most exceptional candidates seeking to remain at the University of Saskatchewan should consider applying.

Please click here to access the launch memo from Banting.

Value & Duration:
- $70,000 per year (taxable)
- 2 years (non-renewable)

Process to apply:
Nominations must be endorsed by the University of Saskatchewan and will be reviewed internally throughout the application development process to determine suitability for final submission to the Vanier-Banting Secretariat.

- **Deadline for submission of the USask Notification of Intent (NOI) package:** 10 June 2024 at 4:30pm (CST)

Nominees will be notified by June 28th if they have been selected to proceed to the full application stage. The NOI form as well as the full competition timeline can accessed in this link.

- **Full Draft Application (Deadline for submission of full application for internal review and recommendation):** 22 July 2024 4:30pm (CST)

Nominees will be notified by August 1st if their application is suitable for submission to the national competition.

- **Final submission to Banting (Deadline for submission to the Vanier-Banting Secretariat):** 17 September 2024 at 8pm (EDT)

Competition results are expected in mid-February 2025.

If you have any questions regarding the USask 2024-2025 Banting timelines and/or review process, please email Luis G. Corredor Duarte at postdoctoral.studies@usask.ca.
CIHR Access Newsletter
Please see below for highlights from the 30 April 2024 CIHR Access Newsletter:

- **New Funding Opportunity:** CIHR’s Institute of Human Development, Child and Youth Health to Invest $4M in the Current and Next Generation of Implementation Science Researchers
- **Message from the Acting President of the CIHR on the Government of Canada’s Budget 2024**
- **Protecting Canadian Research: New Guidance on Research Security**
- **Applications Open on 01 May for CIHR’s Institute pf Human Development, Child and Youth Health Advisory Council**

**Funding Opportunities**
- **Catalyst Grant: Community Based Research in Climate Change Priority Areas**
- **Team Grant: Biomedical Research for HIV/AIDS and STBBI**
- **Structural Determinants of Health Catalyst Grant**
- **Avian Influenza Interdisciplinary Research**

**SHRF 2024-25 Mobilize Grant Now Accepting Applications**
The **Mobilize Grant** supports knowledge mobilization activities used to bring awareness to research and findings in a way that can be used in practice, for any area of health research.

This includes but is not limited to:
- knowledge synthesis (ie. compiling and interpreting information from multiple sources)
- dissemination (ie. distributing information to others)
- transfer (ie. sharing skills experience and ideas)
- exchange (ie. consulting and collaborating learning environments)
- co-creation (ie. collaborating with other stakeholders to guide the design process)

Knowledge mobilization should encourage exchanges between researchers and knowledge-users (any individual who could receive and use new knowledge to implement improvements in health at any level).

Mobilize Grants can be held by Principal Applicants at non-profit organizations as well as researchers at post-secondary institutions that have a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with SHRF, provided the Principal Applicant holds a position that supports them to carry out activities that promote evidence-based health knowledge and practices on behalf of their organization for public benefit. See the [Application Package](#) for further eligibility details.

The Mobilize Grant does not support academic knowledge sharing activities. For SHRF sponsorship of health research academic events (e.g. conferences, poster days, etc.), please see [here](#) to submit a request. Questions about event sponsorships should be directed to [info@shrf.ca](mailto:info@shrf.ca).

**Information Webinar:** 04 June 2024 at noon, virtually via Zoom
Register: here

Amount: up to $10,000
Term: 1 year
Application Deadline: 11 July 2024 at 4:30pm CST
Funding Start: 01 August 2023

Program Contact: Chelsea Cunningham (ccunningham@shrf.ca)

NSERC NOIs – Discovery, Subatomic Physics Discovery, Major Resources Support, and Category 2 of 3 Research Tools and Instruments
This message signals the start of another competition cycle. Researchers who intend to apply for a Discovery Grant (DG), Subatomic Physics Discovery (SAP-DG), Major Resources Support (SAP-MRS), or Category 2 or 3 Research Tools and Instruments (SAP-RTI) in the 2025 competition must submit a Notification of Intent to Apply (NOI) by the deadline date of 01 August 2024 at 8pm (ET).

- Discovery Grant NOI now available on Research Portal.
- Subatomic Physics NOI now available on Research Portal.

The Early Career Researcher (ECR) option for Discovery Grant extension with funds process will commence in May.

Please send questions and comments to RESGRANT@NSERC-CRSNG.GC.CA.

NSERC Discovery Horizons
We would like to inform you of the Discovery Horizons call for proposals. The Discovery Horizons program provides NSERC’s entry-point to the tri-agency interdisciplinary peer-review mechanism.

Discovery Horizons grants support investigator-initiated individual and team projects that broadly integrate or transcend disciplines to advance knowledge in the natural sciences and engineering (NSE).

In the context of this funding opportunity, the term “interdisciplinary” should be understood to fully encompass all research that connects, crosses or falls in between the traditional disciplines of the three agencies, including transdisciplinary, multidisciplinary, convergence research and other approaches at the interface.

Deadline: 14 June 2024
Amount: $50 000 – $100 000/year
PIMS Opportunities
The Pacific Institute for the Mathematical Sciences (PIMS) supports the broad mathematical sciences community by funding events and collaborations. PIMS provides significant sponsorship for events in all areas of mathematical science research.

The University of Saskatchewan is an ongoing member of PIMS and USask researchers are encouraged to apply for/participate in PIMS sponsored opportunities/activities.

Announcements/Deadlines of Upcoming PIMS sponsored activities/opportunities:

- **Call for Proposals for PIMS Network-Wide Colloquium Speakers: 2024-2025**
  **Deadline:** 10 May 2024
  PIMS invites proposals for Network-Wide Colloquium Speakers. PIMS is continuing to sponsor a network-wide colloquium to take place in the Academic Year 2024-2025. High quality colloquia by distinguished speakers will be given on a monthly basis (likely delivered virtually) for an audience spread across the 10 PIMS member universities. Suggestions for speakers will be considered by the PIMS Colloquium Committee, and should be sent to Anthony Quas (aquas@uvic.ca) by 10 May 2024. These will be evaluated based on: distinction of speaker; equity, diversity and inclusivity considerations; breadth of topics in the series; and suitability for a colloquium-style lecture. Information about the speaker series can be found [here](#).

- **Apply to 2024 Math to Power Industry Workshop (4-25 June) for graduate students and postdoctoral fellows.**
  **Deadline:** 15 May 2024
  This workshop is geared for highly qualified trainees in the mathematical and statistical sciences, helping them to gain the industry skills needed for success in their careers.
  To apply, please complete our brief [application via this portal](#). Applications will close on **15 May 2024 at 11:59pm MT**.
  For more information, click [here](#).

- **Register: Math2PowerQuantum: Quantum Computing Summer School**
  The Math2Power Quantum summer school on quantum computing will be held across 2 days **(29&30 May 2024)** at the University of Saskatchewan
  Register [here](#).

  The CMS is organizing two mini-courses (Applied Topology and Persistent Homology) to add more value to meetings and make them attractive for students and researchers to attend. The mini-courses will be held on **Friday, 31 May 2024** at the University of Saskatchewan and will include topics suitable for graduate students, postdocs, and other interested parties. Partial funding may be available for students, postdocs, and early-career researchers to attend the Applied Topology mini-courses. For more information about funding and registration use this form. See more details in upcoming events [here](#).

Please contact Chris Soteros, PIMS Site Director, USask, soteros@math.usask.ca for more information about PIMS and available opportunities.
USask Agriculture Signature Area of Research Email List

Are you a student, staff or faculty member involved in agricultural research at USask? Would you like to learn about opportunities for research and student funding through the Agriculture Signature Area and be notified of opportunities for networking and collaboration across campus?

You are invited to subscribe to the new Agriculture Signature Area of Research email distribution list. Please click here to subscribe.

Mitacs Globalink Research Internship Program

Faculty in any discipline can now apply to receive an international undergraduate student to conduct research for 12-weeks during the summer of 2025, funded by Mitacs through the Mitacs Globalink Research Internship (GRI) program. For faculty information, click here.

A Globalink Research Internship (GRI) Information Session will be provided by Mitacs representative Dr. Zsuzsa Papp on Wednesday, 15 May 2024 from 1:30-2:00pm CST. USask International Student and Study Abroad Centre (ISSAC) International Education Officer will speak about the services and support provided to Globalink Research Interns.

About the program in brief:

Mitacs Globalink Research Internship (GRI) is now accepting faculty project submissions for Summer 2025. GRI pairs faculty members in Canada with international undergraduate students for a 12-week research stay at USask to conduct projects from May to October 2025. The Globalink program builds international networks and experiences, and positions Canada as a top destination for innovation and research among international students.

- All disciplines are eligible
- Top-ranked senior undergraduate students from the following countries and regions are eligible: Australia, Brazil, Chile, mainland China, Colombia, France, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Mexico, Pakistan, South Korea, Taiwan, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Kingdom, and United States.
- Faculty can submit multiple projects and re-submit projects from previous years.
Please let us know if you have any questions about the program by 31 May 2024.

Deadline for faculty members to apply is 2 pm CST, 04 June 2024.

Questions? Visit the GRA Website or contact helpdesk@mitacs.ca. You may also contact the local Business Development Director, Dr. Zsuzsa Papp at zpapp@mitacs.ca and the USask International Office team at international.office@usask.ca.

USAID: Development Innovation Ventures (DIV) Program

Development Innovation Ventures (DIV) is USAID’s (U.S. Agency for International Development) open innovation program that tests and scales creative solutions to any global development challenge. By investing in breakthrough innovations driven by rigorous evidence, USAID impacts millions of lives at a fraction of the usual cost.

Open innovation inspires new solutions to the critical challenges affecting millions around the world. In the spirit of open innovation, Development Innovation Ventures (DIV) supports groundbreaking ideas to transform lives by providing flexible, tiered grant funding to test new ideas and models, take strategic risks, build evidence of what works, and advance the best solutions. More information can be found here.

DIV funds innovations that demonstrate the three guiding principles of: a) rigorous evidence of impact, b) cost-effectiveness, and c) potential for scale and sustainability. DIV accepts proposals year-round from any type of organization, sector, and country in which USAID works at the following stages:

- **Stage 1:** Pilot (up to USD $200,000)
- **Stage 2:** Testing and Positioning for Scale (up to USD $1,500,000)
- **Stage 3:** Transitioning to Scale (up to USD $15,000,000)
- **Evidence Generation:** (up to USD $1,500,000)

**Funding Amount:** depends on the stage
**Funding Period:** depends on the project
**Internal Deadline:** Ten business days prior to submission to agency
**External Deadline:** Ongoing

The Stockholm Water Prize

The Stockholm Water Prize recognizes people and organizations who have made outstanding contributions to the sustainable use and protection of the world’s water resources. The Prize welcomes nominations from all parts of the world and strongly encourage the nomination of women candidates. The Stockholm Water Prize awards excellence in both science and practice. As the water world is rapidly evolving, the Prize actively seeks to broaden their networks and include many different specialties. Anyone can submit a nomination and the procedure is simple.

The initial nomination begins by submitting the name of the nominee along with a brief (500 words max.) statement of accomplishment. Anyone can submit a nomination for the Stockholm Water Prize, however,
self-nominations or nominations by persons with direct professional or family ties to the candidate are not permitted.

The Committee works in two steps:
- After the first screening of all nominations, the Committee develops a shortlist. Nominators of shortlisted candidates will be contacted and asked to submit a full nomination (a comprehensive compilation of the candidate’s accomplishments, CV, list of publications, evaluation reports etc and at least two letters of recommendation).
- Shortlisted nominations are thereafter further reviewed so that the Nominating Committee can arrive at a shortlist of only three candidates in ranked order.

Nominations are confidential and this also applies to all award nomination materials. More information can be found here.

Nominations are open from 25 March to 30 September 2024.

NIH: Interaction between ARVs and Hormones in HIV and Coinfections (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)
This program will support projects to identify and characterize factors associated with gender-affirming hormone therapy (GAHT) that may impact/contribute significantly to the prevention and treatment of HIV and/or co-infections with other sexually transmitted infections (STIs) in transgender individuals. For this funding opportunity GAHT is defined as a medical intervention, including but not limited to estrogen and/or testosterone treatment, that results in acquisition of secondary sex characteristics that align with an individual's gender identity. A growing body of data indicates that GAHT may impact the effectiveness and implementation of biomedical HIV prevention or treatment strategies and/or co-infections with other STIs. A number of factors in transgender populations present research challenges including variability in GAHT regimens, use of auxiliary drugs during GAHT care, access to participants, and access to existing cohorts, datasets, and samples. Consideration of appropriate controls, including cis-gender men and women is also a barrier. Recent studies demonstrating recruitment and retention of participants undergoing GAHT provide the opportunity to build on those studies and provide confidence that these critical studies are feasible.

Research to understand needs and tailoring of programs to transgender people is critical for comprehensive HIV and other STI prevention in this population. Involvement of community representation in the team is needed to provide an accurate understanding of the community specific priorities and biomedical and psychosocial needs for HIV prevention and treatment. Applicants are encouraged to use existing cohorts, datasets, and samples when possible. Realistic milestones, timelines, and consideration of alternative approaches are critical to the success of the program. Documentation of hormone regimens including self-administered medications will support a comprehensive understanding of effectiveness of HIV prevention and treatment in these populations. Read more here.

Funding Amount estimated total of USD $4.8 M to fund 4-7 awards per 2025
Funding Period: up to 5 years
Internal Deadline: Ten business days prior to external deadlines
LOI Deadline: 30 days prior to the application due date
Alzheimer’s Drug Discovery Foundation and Harrington Discovery Institute Center for Brain Health Medicines: 2024 ADDF-Harrington Scholar Award

Harrington Discovery Institute Center for Brain Health Medicines at University Hospitals and the Alzheimer’s Drug Discovery Foundation (ADDF) announce a joint request for proposals for the 2024 ADDF-Harrington Scholar Award. The ADDF-Harrington Scholar Award is designed to accelerate the translation of innovative research that could treat, prevent, slow, or reverse Alzheimer’s disease or related dementias.

The Request for Proposals (RFP) is open to academic investigators at accredited medical centers, research institutions, and universities in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom. Researchers working on drug development programs that are relevant to, but not presently focused on, the Alzheimer’s field are strongly encouraged to apply.

This award provides a combination of financial support and expert drug development guidance. Award recipients will receive financial support up to $600,000 over two years, dedicated drug development and project management support, and an opportunity to qualify for investment funds.

The 2024 ADDF-Harrington Scholar RFP places high priority on targets related to emerging therapeutic areas for dementia, particularly:

- **Proteostasis** (including autophagy, lysosomal biogenesis, proteasomal degradation, post-translational modification associated with proteostasis, protein folding/misfolding, ER stress, extracellular clearance)
- **Senescence** (including cells that have halted division, shifted towards a secretory phenotype, altered morphology and epigenetics, and decreased apoptosis)

**Other novel targets are encouraged.** These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Epigenetics
- Vascular pathology
- Neuroprotection
- Synaptic activity and neurotransmitters
- Inflammation
- Mitochondrial health
- Antioxidant defense
- Metabolic function and brain energy
- Brain insulin resistance
- APOE
- Glymphatic clearance
- Postnatal neurogenesis
- Other aging targets

Letters of Intent (LOI) must be submitted online here and will be accepted through 03 June 2024 at 5pm EDT. The funder encourage an interactive application process in efforts to solicit the best applications.
The Spencer Foundation: Racial Equity Research Grants

The Racial Equity Research Grants program supports education research projects that will contribute to understanding and ameliorating racial inequality in education. The Foundation is interested in funding studies that aim to understand and disrupt the reproduction and deepening of inequality in education, and which seek to (re)imagine and make new forms of equitable education. Thus, the Foundation is interested in research projects that seek to envision educational opportunities in a multiplicity of education systems, levels, settings, and developmental ranges and that reach beyond documenting conditions and paradigms that contribute to persistent racial inequalities.

The Foundation’s goal for this program is to support rigorous, intellectually ambitious, and technically sound research that is relevant to the most pressing questions and compelling opportunities in relation to racial equity in education. In this cycle of funding, the Foundation will continue to fund scholarship focused on a range of communities and issues with respect to equity. The Foundation encourages proposals from across the methodological spectrum, including qualitative methods, mixed-methods, and quantitative methods. The Foundation wants to especially encourage Racial Equity proposals that focus on the following areas: (1) innovative forms of measurement and assessment, (2) artificial intelligence (AI), and (3) current political challenges in k-12 and higher education around diversity, equity, and inclusion.

As with other Spencer grant programs, this program is “field-initiated” in that proposal submissions are not required to be developed around a particular research topic, discipline, design, method, or geographic location. The Foundation will be accepting applications for projects ranging from one to five years with budgets up to $75,000. Read more.

The Spencer Foundation: Research Grants on Education: Large

The Large Research Grants on Education Program supports education research projects that will contribute to the improvement of education, broadly conceived, with budgets ranging from $125,000 to $500,000 for projects ranging from one to five years. The Foundation anticipates awarding grants with budgets across each of the following funding tiers -- $125,000 to 250,000; $250,001 to $375,000; and $375,001 to $500,000. Within each of their funding tiers, the Foundation evaluate projects within tier and strongly encourage applicants to submit for funding that best fits their project rather than applying for the highest amount. The Foundation accepts Intent to Apply forms twice a year.
This program is “field-initiated” in that proposal submissions are not in response to a specific request for a particular research topic, discipline, design, method, or location. The Foundation’s goal for this program is to support rigorous, intellectually ambitious and technically sound research that is relevant to the most pressing questions and compelling opportunities in education. Read more.

Funding Amount up to USD$ 500,000, depending on the funding tier
Funding Period: up to 5 years
Intent to Apply Deadline: Applications are accepted twice a year; nearest – 22 May 2024 at noon (Central/USA Time)
Internal Deadline: 04 June 2024
External Deadline: Applications are accepted twice a year; nearest – 18 June 2024 at noon (Central/USA Time)