

Office of the Vice-President Research



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](#).

CFI-JELF Information Session

The Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) [John R. Evans Leaders Fund \(JELF\)](#) program provides institutions the opportunity to acquire infrastructure for leading research faculty to undertake cutting-edge research. USask has been provided a JELF institutional envelope from which **project leaders can request up to 40% of the eligible project costs.**

This information session to be held on **Wednesday, 27 March 2024 (2pm -3pm)** has been targeted for those interested in the **October 2024** CFI submission group. Institutional CFI ask guidelines will be discussed and a timeline for the submission will be provided. Potential applicants and co-applicants are strongly encouraged to attend. Research facilitators and technical staff are welcome. We anticipate that USask will also submit JELFs to CFI in **October 2025.**

October 2024 JELF Guidelines

- Proposed infrastructure will support cutting-edge research at USask. It is appropriate to include in an existing or emerging core facility.
- Proposals can request up to \$800,000 from the CFI, with a maximum total eligible cost of \$2 million. The Institutional envelope is limited; the information session will provide **guidance regarding CFI asks** for this submission group.
- Core team (upto 3 applicants) must have continuing, full-time academic appointments.
- Requests by OVPR to Innovation Saskatchewan will not be part of this call. Rather, proposals must demonstrate that **all matching funding** has been received by the university and/or provide letters of commitment from funding sources upon Expression of Interest submission.

Expressions of Interest intake will be **03 June 2024** and will be assessed for impact to the USask research community, need for the infrastructure, feasibility and sustainability of the project and availability of institutional JELF envelope.

To register for this in-person information session, please RSVP to cfi.support@usask.ca.

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 rasupport@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 rasupport@usask.ca.

Health Sciences Opportunities and Updates

CAAIF's Call for Applications

Please see below for the current calls from CAAIF:

CAAIF Research Fellowship in Immunodeficiency supported by Takeda Canada

Application Deadline: 01 May 2024

The objective *CAAIF Research Fellowship in Immunodeficiency* is to increase Canadian research capacity in the area of Immunodeficiency, support the research career of promising researchers, and produce high-quality research in Immunodeficiency.

There is one Award available for **\$50,000**.

Graduate Student Awards in Asthma

Application Deadline: May 6, 2024

The objective of the *Graduate Student Awards in Asthma* is to create value-added opportunities for the training, education and professional development of graduate students, to ensure continued understanding of causes, mechanisms, improvement of asthma treatments and progress towards finding a cure for asthma.

- Minimum of **two (2)** awards for PhD students valued at **\$30,000** each.
- Minimum of **two (2)** award for MSc students valued at **\$15,000** each.

This award is supported by Asthma Canada, CAAIF and CIRH-IRCH.

CASP-CAAIF Research Grant in Hereditary Angioedema (HAE)

Application Deadline: 15 May 2024

The objective of the *CASP-CAAIF Research Grant in Hereditary Angioedema (HAE)* is to fund a research grant focused on the area of Hereditary Angioedema (HAE).

There is one Award available for **\$50,000**.

This Award is supported by CAAIF, the Canadian Angioedema Scholarship Program (CASP) and Biocryst Canada

Biocodex Microbiota Foundation National Research Grant

[Biocodex Canada](#) is excited to announce a unique opportunity for researchers at the University of Saskatchewan to apply for the [Biocodex Microbiota Foundation National Grant](#).

The [Biocodex Microbiota Foundation](#) promotes research on microbiota and their interactions with various human pathologies and runs national and international calls for non-profit research projects awarding selected projects.

For 2024, the Canadian grant of **25,000€ (approximately \$36,000 CAD)** will be awarded to an investigator studying a 1 to 2-year long research project within the topic of “**The microbiome in human health and diseases**”.

Application Deadline: 31 August 2024

The jury will make their decision by 30 September 2024.

We believe that the University of Saskatchewan has a strong research community, and we are eager to support innovative projects that align with our mission to promote research on microbiota.

If you have any questions or require additional information, you can visit the [Canadian Grant page](#), or feel free to reach out to Victoria Evin at v.evin-ext@biocodex.ca.

Agriculture Opportunities and Updates

Egg

Research in Ontario Open Call for LOIs

There is currently a call open for LOI's for Egg Research in Ontario. LOI's are due **18 April at 11:59pm**.

For application and priority details log onto the [Livestock Research Innovation Corporation's Research Management System](#).

Project Requirements

- **\$20,000** per year individual project cap
- 5-year maximum timeline per project with a formal review after 3 years. This review will be designed to ensure the project is on track and meeting both milestone and budget targets. In some cases where warranted, it will provide an opportunity to incorporate any revision to the project design.
- Research projects should be targeting outcomes that benefit Ontario Egg Farmers.
- Disclosure of all funding partners supporting total project costs is required.

Social Sciences and Humanities Opportunities

SSHRC PEG and Connection Grants Deadline Changes

The upcoming application deadlines for SSHRC's 2024-25 [Partnership Engage Grants](#) and [Connection Grants](#) have been rescheduled to earlier dates. Please note the new deadlines:

- Partnership Engage Grants has been moved to **22 May 2024**.
- Connection Grants has been moved to **20 June 2024**.

These changes are due to necessary IT work taking place this summer that will impact SSHRC's online application systems. We recognize that this may cause inconvenience; however, it is the only feasible way to ensure researchers have an opportunity to apply for a grant if they plan to begin work in fall 2024.

Please note that deadlines for other annual competitions for these two funding opportunities remain unchanged, so researchers may also choose to submit their grant application to a later competition, based on normal future cycles. The following application deadlines are **15 September 2024** for Partnership Engage Grants, and **01 November 2024** for Connection Grants.

For any questions, please contact partnershipengagegrants@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca or connection@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca.

International Opportunities and Updates

IDRC Pre-announcement: Upcoming Funding Opportunity on Addressing Neglected Areas of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Sub-Saharan Africa (ANSRHRA)

The International Development Research Centre (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**.

Focused on investments to transform service design and delivery and to strengthen the development and implementation of equitable and sustainable movements, ANSRHRA is a new initiative to support gender-transformative implementation research in sub-Saharan Africa. It will contribute to improved sexual and reproductive health and realization of rights while also building systems and structures that enable and support under-served populations, including women and girls, to demand and benefit from the full spectrum of SRHR. The initiative's overall aim is to support greater realization of neglected SRHR by under-served populations, including women and girls, in sub-Saharan Africa.

Application process

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.

Full proposals will solicit submissions for a first cohort of research projects that integrate implementation and gender-transformative research and that lays the foundation for sustainable and systems-level changes.

The ANSRHRA initiative will prioritize projects that address the following five priority areas of SRHR:

- improving access to family planning and contraceptive services
- expanding access to safe abortion where legally permitted and post-abortion care
- upholding SRHR rights and ensuring access to services for adolescents
- preventing and improving services for people experiencing sexual and gender-based violence
- strengthening advocacy for SRHR

Successful projects will address at least one of these priority areas of SRHR.

Project teams must include a researcher at an African-based institution in an eligible country as the principal investigator, a senior member of a civil-society organization led by and/or prioritizing under-served

populations, who has been active in supporting priority areas of SRHR as a coprincipal investigator, an [independent researcher](#) based at a Canadian institution as a coprincipal investigator, and at least one relevant local, district or national level decision-maker as a co-investigator from the same country as the principal investigator's institution.

Anticipated timelines

LOIs will be due on **13 May 2024**, with up to 15 successful teams being invited to submit full proposals in **October 2024**. The launch of the ANSRHRA initiative is anticipated to be in January 2025.

Availability of funds

Supported by Canada's IDRC and other funding partners, the total anticipated amount available for the ANSRHRA initiative is CAD29.9 million, enough to fund up to 16 implementation research projects in total over two rounds of funding and two Health Policy Research Organizations (HPROs). One HPRO will be based in West and Central Africa, and another will be based in East and Southern Africa.

For more information, please visit [here](#).

Internal deadline for LOIs: 29 April 2024

External deadline for LOIs: 13 May 2024

US NIH: Aging, Alzheimer's Disease and Brain Research

There are multiple funding opportunities from NIH that foreign universities are eligible to apply:

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

Funding amount: up to US\$500,000 in direct costs per year

Duration: up to 5 years

Deadline for Letter of Intent: 13 May 2024

Deadline for application: 13 June 2024

Internal deadlines: 10 business days prior to external deadline

Open Measurement Coordinating Network for Non-Pharmacological Alzheimer's Disease (AD) and AD-Related Dementias (ADRD) Primary Prevention Trials (U24 Clinical Trail Not Allowed)

Funding amount: National Institute of Aging intends to commit US\$8,000,000 in FY 2025 to fund one award.

Duration: up to 5 years

Deadline for Letter of Intent: 14 May 2024

Deadline for application: 15 June 2024

Internal deadlines: 10 business days prior to external deadlines

BRAIN Initiative: Research on the Ethical Implications of Advancements in Neurotechnology and Brain Science (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)

Funding amount: up to US \$300,000 in direct costs per year

Duration: up to 4 years

Deadline for Letter of Intent: 11 September 2024

Deadline for application: 11 October 2024

Internal deadlines: 10 business days prior to external deadlines

BRAIN Initiative: Research on the Ethical Implications of Advancements in Neurotechnology and Brain Science (R21 Clinical Trial Optional)

Funding amount: The combined budget for direct costs for the two-year project period may not exceed US\$275,000. No more than US\$200,000 may be requested in any single year

Duration: 2 years

Deadline for Letter of Intent: 11 September 2024

Deadline for application: 11 October 2024

Internal deadlines: 10 business days prior to external deadlines

US Department of Defense: Pre-announcements on Melanoma, Prostate Cancer, Spinal Cord Injury, Traumatic Brain Injury and Psychological Health, and Orthopaedic Research Programs

Below are recently released Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24) pre-announcements for Department of Defense (DOD) programs managed by the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP).

The FY24 Defense Appropriations Bill has not been signed into law. Although FY24 funds have not been appropriated, CDMRP is providing the information in the following pre-announcements to allow investigators time to plan and develop ideas for submission to anticipated FY24 funding opportunities. These pre-announcements should not be construed as an obligation by the government.

The **Melanoma Research Program (MRP)** released a pre-announcement for the following anticipated funding opportunities:

- *Survivorship and Patient Wellness Research Award *New for FY24**
- Focused Program Award – Rare Melanomas
- Idea Award
- Melanoma Academy Scholar Award
- Team Science Award

To view the MRP pre-announcement visit [here](#).

The **Prostate Cancer Research Program (PCRP)** released a pre-announcement for the following anticipated funding opportunities:

- *Implementation Science Award *New for FY24**
- Data Science Award
- Early Investigator Research Award
- Exploration-Hypothesis Development Award
- Idea Development Award
- Physician Research Award

To view the PCRP pre-announcement visit [here](#).

The **Traumatic Brain Injury and Psychological Health Research Program** has released a pre-announcement for the following funding opportunities:

- Clinical Trial Award
- Emerging Research Award **New for FY24**
- Focused Program Award
- Health Services Research Award
- Translational Research Award

To view the pre-announcement visit [here](#).

The **FY24 Peer Reviewed Orthopaedic Research Program (PRORP)** released a pre-announcement for the following funding opportunities:

- Applied Research Award
- Clinical Translational Research Award
- Clinical Trial Award
- Women's Health Research Award **New for FY24**

To view the pre-announcement visit [here](#).

2024 NordForsk-Led International Joint Initiative on Sustainable Development in the Arctic

This international joint initiative represents a collaboration among research funders from Canada, Denmark, the Faroe Islands, Finland, Greenland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and the United States. The Arctic region has seen and continues to see rapid and drastic changes, mostly due to climate change, which has a bigger impact in the Arctic than in the rest of the world. Declining sea ice has also opened possibilities of new transport routes, new opportunities for resource extraction, and led to increased international interest in the region. The direct effects of climate change, as well as these indirect ones, have a significant impact on ecosystems, Arctic communities and traditional ways of living. Through interdisciplinary research projects that include Indigenous perspectives, this call will leverage expertise across Arctic countries to explore approaches to sustainable development in the Arctic, considering aspects such as security, natural resources and societal changes. More information can be found [here](#).

Registration deadline for Canadian Research teams: 30 May 2024

Internal deadline: 10 business days prior to the internal deadline

Application deadline: Will be confirmed for Fall 2024

Funding maximum: \$800,000/year over 4 years

ASPIRE 2024 Call for Japan Based Researchers

In ASPIRE, while supporting international joint research, ASPIRE will promote the participation of Japan based researchers in top research circles and their efforts to play an active role on the world stage. Applicants for the call should take the lead in planning not only research activities, but also researcher exchange and human resource development activities that contribute to the objectives of the ASPIRE program.

Principal investigators who are eligible to apply for "ASPIRE for Top Scientists"

Researchers who already have an outstanding research record both domestically and internationally as top researchers in their field, who have received ample research funds from other contract research funds, etc., and who will lead international collaborative research that meets the objectives of the program.

Principal investigators who are eligible to apply for "ASPIRE for Rising Scientists"

Researchers who already have obtained the necessary funding and independent research environment for their research, and who are expected to become top researchers in the future.

In order to apply USask researchers partners' in Japan will need to lead the application, however, USask can partner in the application to facilitate a joint partnership and mobility between Japan and Canada. Early career researchers from Japan must travel to the partner country to conduct research for about one year, the partner research team must also be invited to Japan to participate in research activities. More information can be found [here](#).

Internal deadline: 25 April 2024

Deadline to apply: 09 May 2024, 12 noon (Japanese time)

Funding amount: Varies

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