

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](#).

Cross Disciplinary and Institutional Opportunities

Guidance on the Use of Artificial Intelligence in the Development and Review of Research Proposals

The Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), and the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) ('the agencies') are pleased to unveil the [Guidance on the Use of Artificial Intelligence in the Development and Review of Research Proposals](#).

In November 2023, the agencies established a [panel of external experts](#) to provide [advice](#) on the use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) in the development and review of research proposals submitted for grant applications.

Intended for researchers in Canada and Canadian post-secondary institutions, the guidance, developed by the agencies, draws heavily on the advice from the panel and on feedback from the research community received during a public consultation period that closed in June 2024.

The agencies wish to thank the members of the panel of external experts and the research community for their valuable contributions.

Health Sciences Opportunities and Updates

SHRF partners on 2025 Mental Health Research Canada-Mitacs Indigenous Mental Health Studentships

SHRF has partnered with [Mental Health Research Canada \(MHRC\) and Mitacs](#) to co-fund Indigenous university, college or postgraduate students in Saskatchewan conducting mental health research partnered with a local service provider or Indigenous community organization.

Preliminary Application to MHRC (Stage 1) Deadline: 21 November 2024 – 11:59 EDT

Successful applications to Stage 1 will be invited to submit a proposal for the Mitacs Accelerate program. Projects must start by 31 May 2025.

Applications are submitted through [MHRC's portal](#), and inquiries regarding the funding opportunities should be directed to Barani Ganapathi, grants@mhrc.ca

Questions about eligible project partners can be directed to Sarah Fairlie sfairlie@mitacs.ca

Applications that are to be conducted at institutions located in Saskatchewan will be automatically considered for funding for an MHRC-Mitacs-SHRF partnership.

Questions about SHRF Partnership Program can be directed to Karen Tilsley (ktilsley@shrf.ca)

Social Science and Humanities Opportunities and Updates

SSHRC 2025 Storytellers Challenge

SSHRC has announced the launch of the 2025 [Storytellers Challenge](#), which invites postsecondary students to demonstrate to Canadians how social sciences and humanities research affects our lives and our world.

The Challenge is open to all students, graduate and undergraduate, enrolled at a Canadian postsecondary institution. Their task is to tell the story in up to three minutes, or 300 words, of a SSHRC-funded research project, in either official language—their own or that of a researcher at their institution. A jury will then select 20 finalists. These Top 20 submissions will each be awarded \$3,000 and additional training in research communications will be offered to the Storytellers in these top spots. In June 2025, SSHRC will host the Storytellers Showcase, where the Top 20 Storytellers will compete for a chance to place among the Final Five winners and receive an additional \$1,000.

For further details on this year's Storytellers Challenge, please visit their [website](#), and remember to also follow SSHRC on social media for updates!

Submission Deadline: 21 January 2025

Awarded Amount: The Top 20 finalists receive \$3,000, and the subsequent Final 5 winners each receive an additional \$1,000

SSHRC Insight Development Grants 2025 Competition

[Insight Development Grants](#) support research in its initial stages. The grants enable the development of new research questions, as well as experimentation with new methods, theoretical approaches and/or ideas. Funding is provided for short-term research development projects of up to two years that are proposed by individuals or teams.

Funding Amount: \$7,000 to \$75,000 over one to two years

Application Deadline: 02 February 2025, 8:00 PM Eastern (Since this deadline falls on a weekend, the online application will stay open until 8:00 PM Eastern on Monday, 03 February 2025.

SSHRC will be holding two webinars on the Insight Development Grants (IDG) 2025 competition. The webinars will provide an overview of the funding opportunity. They will outline what is new this year and will include a question period. Advance registration is not required. The webinars will be held via MS Teams on the following dates:

- **French:** 27 November 2024, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM (ET) | via [MS Teams](#)
- **English:** 27 November 2024, 1:00 – 3:00 PM (ET) | via [MS Teams](#)

SSHRC Dialogue Newsletter

Please see below for highlights from the November 2024 [SSHRC Dialogue Newsletter](#):

- [SSHRC launches 2025 Storytellers Challenge](#)
- [ORA 8 results announced](#)
- [Call for new Indigenous Leadership Circle in Research members](#)
- [From therapy robots to a one-of-a-kind research lab](#)
- [New research puts involuntary hospital admissions under scrutiny](#)
- [Connecting with dementia patients through grassroots solutions](#)

Funding Focus:

- [Funding tip of the month: Agencies transitioning to new, narrative-style CV](#)

Upcoming Deadlines:

- [Partnership Development Grants](#) (15 November 2024)

- [Canada Graduate Scholarships—Master's program](#) (01 December 2024)
- [SSHRC Institutional Grants](#) (01 December 2024)
- [New Frontiers in Research Fund—2024 Nordforsk-led International Joint Initiative on Sustainable Development of the Arctic](#) (03 December 2024)
- [Knowledge Synthesis Grants: Envisioning Governance Systems that Work](#) (12 December 2024)
- [Partnership Engage Grants](#) (15 December 2024)
- [SSHRC's Storytellers Challenge](#) (21 January 2025)
- [Connection Grants](#) (01 February 2025)
- [Insight Development Grants](#) (02 February 2025)
- [Partnership Grants—Stage 1](#) (10 February 2025)
- [Research on Research Joint Initiative](#) (20 February 2025)

International Opportunities and Updates

International Office OVPR: Internal UnivRS Deadline for International Funding Applications

Funding applications are considered 'international' if they:

- Include project activities located outside of Canada
- Are funded by an international agency
- Have an international partner

The internal deadline to submit an international research grant application to UnivRS and obtain all academic approvals for institutional review and approval is **ten (10) business days prior to the external agency's deadline.**

Applications submitted 5 – 10 business days before the external deadline:

An International Research Specialist (IRS) may be able to conduct a preliminary compliance review of the submission, case-by-case, if time and other priorities allow. If this review is not possible an IRS will approve the application with the understanding that it has obtained academic approvals and the PI is responsible for adhering to agency and funding program guidelines, [research security guidelines](#) and the [deybwewin | taapwaywin | tapwewin: Indigenous Truth policy](#). If a grant is awarded, we will complete the compliance review at this stage and if it is not possible to ensure compliance based on USask policies, negotiate grant provisions with the funding agency or adjust the proposed budget of the grant at this stage, USask may not be able to accept the grant.

Applications submitted less than 5 business days before the external deadline:

In situations where the application is received less than five business days of the competition deadline, we may facilitate institutional approval without review with the understanding that the applicant, facilitators, and other units on campus who have contributed to the development of the application have ensured that all required elements are complete per the agency guidelines. In the case of submissions submitted without review, the applicant assumes responsibility for application rejection or compliance issues. Please note that if institutional instances of non-compliance are found after submission, the application may be withdrawn if the issues cannot be remedied, or the acceptance of a research funding may require the removal or modification of any troublesome clauses(s) and /or satisfactory resolution of deviations from university or agency policies.

You can find more information [here](#).

International Travel and Project Grants: Internal Call for Proposals

As part of the [University of Saskatchewan International Blueprint for Action 2025](#), the International Office is thrilled to announce the 2024-25 International Travel and Project Grants: Internal Call for Proposals. Each year,

through the International Blueprint, USask invests funding to engage, advance and scale international initiatives with partners around the world.

International Travel Grants

Application deadline: 02 December 2024

- **Global Ambassador Program (Incoming)** – supports incoming international experts and faculty to the USask aligned with USask’s existing or emerging areas of strength - valued up to \$5,000
- **Global Ambassador Program (Outgoing)** – supports faculty and staff to travel to international universities and/or facilities aligned with USask’s existing or emerging areas of strength - valued up to \$5,000
- **Internationalization Fund** – supports faculty and staff to increase the ability and confidence to initiate, build and support international and intercultural engagement and activities - valued up to \$2,500
- **International Travel Fund** – supports faculty and staff to participate in international partnership and capacity building toward the university’s collective global citizenship and international community service engagement – valued up to \$2,500

International Project Grants

Application deadline: 16 December 2024

- **International Research Partnership Fund** – to strengthen research collaborations with existing international partners – valued up to \$20,000
- **Global Innovation Fund** – to initiate the development of new international research collaborations – valued up to \$25,000
- **Global Community Service Fund – New Partnership Grants** – to support new collaborations and engage with communities to improve welfare and quality of life – valued up to \$20,000
- **Global Community Service Fund – Existing Partnership Grants** – to support existing collaborations and engage with communities to improve welfare and quality of life – valued up to \$20,000

The Call for Proposals regarding specific targets, eligibilities, selection criteria, and application forms is available on the International Office [Internal Funding page](#).

Please connect with the International Research team at international.office@usask.ca with any questions about these funding opportunities, and we would be very pleased to assist and support.

USask Misiweskamik International Postdoctoral Fellowship 2025

Funded through [USask's International Blueprint for Action](#), this competitive fellowship has a mandate of bringing international postdoctoral scholars to the University of Saskatchewan.

The Fellowship may allocate up to one award in the following [Signature Areas of Research](#):

1. [Indigenous Peoples](#): Engagement and Scholarship
2. [Health and Wellness](#): Combining the arts, social sciences, biomedical sciences and medicine to make humans healthier
3. [Communities and Sustainability](#): Exploring the interrelatedness of human communities and natural ecologies

Value and Duration: \$50,000/year for two years

Number of Awards: One fellowship awarded annually

Application deadline: 07 February 2025

Details of the call can be found [here](#).

DAAD Programs for Research Internships

The deadlines for DAAD programs in support of research and study in Germany have been announced for the next semester. Full details on each of these programs and how to apply found at the links below.

30 November 2024 - [RISE Germany](#) (Research Internships for STEM Undergrads)

RISE Germany offers undergraduate students from North American, British and Irish universities the opportunity to complete a summer research internship at top German universities and research institutions. RISE Germany is funded by the German Federal Foreign Office.

- Students are matched with a host university or institute according to their area of interest (biology, chemistry, physics, earth sciences, engineering, or a closely related field)
- DAAD provides students a monthly stipend for three months to help cover living expenses
- Host universities, universities of applied sciences (UAS) and institutes provide housing assistance and match students with Ph.D. student mentors or researchers (only UAS)
- German language is not required and the working language will be in English

30 November 2024 - [RISE Professional](#) (Workplace Internships for STEM Grad students)

RISE Professional offers summer research internships in Germany to Master's and Ph.D. students from USA, Canada, Great Britain or Ireland at companies and non-university research institutions with strong relations to industry. Undergraduates who are RISE Germany alumni are also eligible. Depending on the internship recent graduates are also eligible. RISE Professional is funded by the German Federal Foreign Office.

- The program is open for students in the field of biology, chemistry, computer science, physics, earth science, engineering or a closely related field
- All participants receive a scholarship from DAAD and an additional stipend from their host company/institution to help cover living expenses
- Funding is possible for a period up to six months depending on the internship in summer or fall
- German language requirements vary according to the internship placement
- Undergraduates who are Alumni from the RISE Germany program and recent graduates (depending on the internship) are also eligible to apply

Funding Amount: varies according to the internship type

Project Duration: three to six months, depending on the internship type

External Deadline: 30 November 2024

Travel Support for Canadian UArctic Members

This initiative aims to foster engagement and collaboration of Northern Canadians, including Indigenous peoples, within the [UArctic network](#), with a specific focus on supporting participation and perspectives in UArctic activities and events. Priority for funding will be for Northern and Indigenous UArctic member faculty, students, community knowledge holders, Chairs, and Thematic Network leads. This program is made possible through the Global Arctic Leadership Initiative and supported by Global Affairs Canada. You can find more information [here](#).

The fund will provide up to \$5,000 CAD in travel support to:

- Students, faculty, and staff attending Arctic-related conferences, workshops, and meetings.
- Institutionally-sponsored travel support for community knowledge holders.
- UArctic Chairs and Thematic Network Leads representing UArctic at Arctic-related events.

Application deadline: 31 December 2024

To apply, please complete the application form, including a detailed budget and any supporting documentation through Memorial University's [Survey Apply](#) system. Community member support requests must be sponsored by faculty, while student travel requests must be supported by a supervising professor.

For further inquiries, please contact Lisa Goulet, UArctic Membership Engagement Coordinator, at lisa.goulet@uarctic.org.

Kleinhans Fellowship Program for Community Forestry Research

The [Kleinhans Fellowship Program for Community Forestry Research](#) supports research that seeks solutions to the challenges faced by the community forestry model and is oriented toward solving real-world problems as defined by community forest enterprises.

Research project must address one of the following topics:

- Markets for lesser-known species and non-timber forest products (NTFPs)
- Biodiversity management practices
- Social organization and governance
- Multi-community enterprises

Eligibility:

- Researchers of any nationality or residence are eligible for the Kleinhans Fellowship; however, the research itself must be conducted in Latin America.
- Applicants must have a master's degree in forestry, ecology, botany, environmental science or an appropriate related field. Doctoral candidates or post-doctoral researchers are preferred, although applicants may substitute relevant experience for higher-level degrees.

Funding value: US\$20,000 per year for two years

Application deadline: 28 February 2025

Canada-Japan Joint Call: Bringing Biology to Cancer Prevention Team Grants

This [upcoming funding opportunity](#) is led by CIHR and the Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED).

The Team Grants: Bringing Biology to Cancer Prevention aims to unite interdisciplinary research teams to advance the biological and mechanistic understanding of cancer etiology, genesis, and risk, linked with host, lifestyle, environmental, social, and other factors, to identify new targets and approaches for cancer prevention, risk reduction, and early detection. Collaborations between traditional cancer prevention researchers (e.g., population and public health researchers, epidemiologists, social scientists) and those from other disciplines (e.g., biologists, immunologists, geneticists, drug developers) or who are new to the field are strongly encouraged. Collectively, these research teams will develop and disseminate evidence-based solutions to enable improvements in cancer prevention, risk reduction, and early detection at the individual and/or population-level.

Funding amount:

- The maximum amount per grant is \$400,000 CAD per year for up to five (5) years, for a total of \$2,000,000 CAD per grant.
- The maximum amount for the Japanese component of the "International Japan-Canada Geroscience" grant is ¥76,000,000 YEN per year for up to five (5) years, for a total of ¥380,000,000 YEN. This Japanese funding amount is in addition to the funding provided for the Canadian component of the International Japan-Canada Geroscience Team as described above. As such, the Japan-Canada Geroscience Team is eligible for total funding of up to \$2,000,000 CAD and ¥380,000,000 YEN.

Anticipated Timelines (these timelines are estimates and subject to change):

- Webinar: Winter 2025
- Launch: Fall 2024 / Winter 2025

- Registration Deadline: Winter 2025
- Application Deadline: Summer 2025
- Funding Start Date: Fall 2025

The official CIHR funding opportunity will be posted on [ResearchNet](#) in the coming weeks.

US National Institutes of Health (NIH) - Blueprint Neurotherapeutics Network (BPN): Biologic-based Drug Discovery and Development for Disorders of the Nervous System (UG3/UH3 Clinical Trial Optional)

The purpose of this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is to provide funding, resources, and expertise to accelerate the development of diverse biotherapeutic modalities — including but not limited to antibodies, peptides, proteins, oligonucleotides, gene therapies, cell therapies, and other emerging therapeutic modalities — for the treatment of nervous and neuromuscular system disorders. You can find more information [here](#).

Funding Amount: Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project.

Project Duration: Applicants may seek up to two years of UG3 funding. The UH3 phase cannot exceed four years. The total duration of both the UG3 and UH3 cannot exceed 5 years.

Internal Deadline: 10 business days before the external deadline

Letter of Intent Deadlines: 30 days prior to the application due date

Application Deadline: 27 January 2025 (the next ones will be 15 July 2025, 15 January 2026, 15 July 2026, 15 January 2027, and 15 July 2027)

US National Institutes of Health (NIH) - Mitochondrial-associated Mechanisms of Neuropathological and Immunodeficient Aging in the Context of HIV and SUD (R01 Clinical Trials Not Allowed)

To promote research investigating protective and pathogenic mechanisms at the nexus of mitochondria function and aging in the context of HIV infection and exposure to addictive substances. We anticipate this foundational knowledge could be leveraged to develop targeted therapies and improve outcomes in people aging with HIV, substance use and addiction. You can find more information [here](#).

Funding Amount: Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project.

Project Duration: up to 5 years

Internal Deadline: 10 business days before the external deadline

Letter of Intent Deadlines: 10 February 2025

Application Deadline: Not applicable; for AIDS-related proposals: 20 March 2025

Mitochondrial-associated Mechanisms of Neuropathological and Immunodeficient Aging in the Context of HIV and SUD (R21 Clinical Trials Not Allowed)

This notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) invites applications to investigate protective and pathogenic mechanisms at the nexus of mitochondrial function and aging in the context of HIV infection, antiretroviral therapy (ART) and exposure to addictive substances. We anticipate this foundational knowledge could be leveraged to develop targeted therapies and improve outcomes in people aging with HIV, substance use, and addiction. You can find more information [here](#).

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

Project Duration: up to 2 years

Internal Deadline: 10 business days before the external deadline

Letter of Intent Deadlines: 10 February 10, 2025

Application Deadline: Not applicable; for AIDS-related proposals: 20 March 2025

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