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CFI 2025 Innovation Fund (IF) – CFI Draft Call Released; Request for Feedback

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).

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. Immediate questions can be directed to rasi.support@usask.ca.
2024 NSERC Discovery & RTI Grants Workshop

We cordially invite you to attend the 2024 NSERC Discovery Grant and NSERC Research Tools and Instrument Grant workshop hosted by the Tri-Agency Research Support Team - 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

Questions can be sent to Michaela Lynds, Research Development Specialist (NSERC) at michaela.lynds@usask.ca.
SHRF partners on 2024 EPIC-AT Health Research Training Platform Fellowships

SHRF has partnered with AGE-WELL to provide additional funding for Saskatchewan-based trainees in the EPIC-AT enhanced training platform that will prepare the next generation of leaders in digital health solutions for seniors with complex health needs. See more details here.

Applications are submitted through AGE-WELL’s portal and inquiries regarding the funding opportunities should be directed to training@agewell-nce.ca.

Eligible applicants will automatically be considered for SHRF's additional funds; no additional application is required.

Application Deadline: 03 May 2024

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

SHRF 2024-25 Align Grant Now Accepting Applications

The Align Grant aims to enable a diverse and connected research community in Saskatchewan that is well-positioned to receive peer-reviewed funding and conduct impactful health research aligned with Saskatchewan stakeholder needs.

Stakeholders include communities, people with lived experience, families, caregivers, decision makers, health practitioners, health care administrators, educators, policy makers, patient groups, community-based organizations, industry, health charities, etc.

This opportunity is open to applications addressing any area of human health.

Applications to this funding opportunity must address the following objectives:

1) Increase research relevance, coordination, and potential for impact by:
   a. Enabling development and engagement of robust interdisciplinary research teams, including stakeholders outside academia.
   b. Providing funding to complete activities that shape research to align with the Saskatchewan context and respond to Saskatchewan stakeholder needs.
2) Increase quality and success of Saskatchewan applications to peer-reviewed funding competitions at the regional (e.g., western Canadian- minimum two provinces), national and international level, as well as to SHRF.
3) Support the development of Saskatchewan research and health professional trainees through opportunities to gain experience in collaborative team building and engagement outside academia, co-development of research questions and approaches, and other research and professional skills related to proposed activities.
Amount: up to $10,000. Values requested must be reflective of a justified and fiscally responsible budget and in balance with the expected deliverables and outcomes of the proposed activities.

Term: 1 year. Funding is eligible for no-cost extensions.

Application Deadline: 24 July 2024 at 4:30pm CST

Funding Start: 01 September 2024

Information Webinar: Here

For any questions, email program contact Chelsea Cunningham (ccunningham@shrf.ca).

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**Natural Sciences and Engineering Opportunities and Updates**

**Upcoming Webinars: Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI), and Applied Research and Development Grants (ARD)**

Please see below for upcoming webinars hosted by NSERC.

**Reminder: Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) webinars**

We are pleased to announce a series of three equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) webinars tailored to the College and Community Innovation (CCI) program. Registration is not necessary.

- **Part 1 (April 2024): How to develop equitable and inclusive practices**
  This session will include a review of EDI concepts and EDI considerations in the context of the CCI program, as well as an in-depth look at specific barriers related to research teams and student training to help guide you in developing your EDI practices.

- **Part 2 (May 2024): How to address EDI as it relates to research teams and student training**
  This session will focus on the two EDI sub-criteria related to promoting EDI in the research environment. We will discuss how to define a concrete practice in sufficient detail, discuss some examples and present an EDI toolkit.

- **Part 3 (Fall 2024): How to address EDI in the research process**
  This session will cover different aspects of EDI in the research process, including how to embed EDI in your research questions, methodology and knowledge dissemination.

For dates, times and links for each webinar, check out the [Upcoming events](#) table.

**Follow up to the Applied Research and Development (ARD) grants webinar**

Attached are the [PowerPoint presentations](#) from the session. These documents are available for information purposes only.

**Upcoming Events and Deadlines**

For information and details on upcoming CCI program events, please visit the [Upcoming events](#) page.

To learn about important dates related to the CCI program grants, please visit the [Application deadlines and notification of decision](#) page.
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.

Save the Date: Horizon Europe Research Funding Program Information Session for USask Researchers

Canada has recently joined the Horizon Europe funding scheme as an associated country. This significant development provides Canada with access to the world’s most extensive research and innovation collaboration program, with a budget of €95.5 billion (CDN$140 billion) over 2021-2027. Canadian researchers can now apply under Pillar II (€53 billion) of Horizon Europe funding calls that address “Global challenges and European industrial competitiveness” under six thematic clusters (Health; Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society; Civil Security for Society; Digital, Industry and Space; Climate, Energy and Mobility; Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment).

The USask International Office is hosting an information session to help researchers and staff navigate Pillar II of Horizon Europe, the steps to apply, things to consider (challenges and tips), and how our team can support you in developing Horizon Europe funding applications. Please register for this event here and save the date in your calendar. We will send more information directly to you about how to join the session closer to the presentation date.

**Date:** 25 April 2024
**Time:** 10:30am-noon
**Platform:** Zoom or Teams

Canadian Queen Elizabeth II Dimond Jubilee Scholarship (QES) - 2025 Call for Proposals
Universities Canada and the Rideau Hall Foundation are pleased to invite members of Universities Canada or Colleges and Institutes Canada to submit a proposal for the seventh call of the QES program. The Canadian Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Scholarships program (QES) was created to improve global talent exchange between Canada and other nations. The program aims to develop the next generation of innovative leaders and community builders by providing enriched academic, professional, and cross-cultural experiences and by facilitating lasting local and global community engagement.

QES 2025 will support projects that focus on the adaptation, response and resilience to a changing climate. This includes (but is not limited to) projects focused on biodiversity; agriculture; energy; climate and public health; economic impacts of climate change; air quality; community resilience; education; ecosystems; and water quality.

Projects will support
1. international study, research, or internships for outbound Canadian students (Canadian citizens or permanent residents) and/or
2. study and research for inbound international graduate students.

All QES funded activities must be for academic credit/recognition. How the credit/ recognition is attributed is to be determined by the Canadian postsecondary institution. Possibilities include specific course credit, directed reading, co-curricular, co-op credit etc. In the case of inbound international students doing short term study or research, QES funded activities must be directly linked to the graduate program in which they are registered in their home country. For all information on this call for proposals, please consult the program guidelines.

USask Internal EOI Competition:
As per the call for proposals, each Canadian university may submit only one (1) institutional application for a multi-year project seeking funding of up to $300,000 CAD. The USask International Office in consultation with other units, will coordinate submission of proposals for this call through an internal selection process, as follows:

- Expressions of Interest (EOI) must be submitted to international.office@usask.ca by 5:00 p.m. CST on Wednesday, 01 May, 2024. Please note the internal selection committee reserves the right to recommend EOI applicants combine or collaborate on the proposal. Priority will be given to project proposals that focus on diversity and inclusion and result in an increased contribution to local and global communities by young leaders.

The EOI submission must include the following content:
1. Partner organizations and history of partnership. Funding may also be used to establish new relationships.
2. Eligible project country(ies) see Annex B in Guidelines.
3. List of USask applicant team members (including Canadian partner organizations or other Canadian university, if applicable)
4. Please indicate if the proposed project will comprise one or both of the following components, including the estimated number of involved scholars for each component:
   a. Outbound component
   b. Inbound component
5. Project summary: Clearly and succinctly describe your overarching research theme, objectives, activities, and expected results for outbound and/or inbound component(s) (500 words maximum)

7. Approximate funding amount requested from the QES program

8. Sources of matching funds, including status (pending or confirmed)

For all information on this call for proposals, please consult the program guidelines and visit the FAQ page. Please contact the International Research team at international.office@usask.ca with any questions about this call, and we would be very pleased to assist and support.

**Funding Amount:** up to CAD $300,000  
**Project Duration:** multi-year project  
**Internal EOI Deadline:** 01 May 2024 at 5pm (CST)  
**Internal Full Proposal Deadline:** 03 June 2024  
**External Deadline:** 07 June 2024 at 5pm (EDT)

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**NFRF International Call for Proposals: 2024 NordForsk-Led International Joint Initiative on Sustainable Development in the Arctic**

Canada commits up to $20 million for **2024 NordForsk-Led International Joint Initiative on Sustainable Development in the Arctic** that 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.

**Please note:**
- The following aims are central to the call: Interdisciplinarity, Sustainable development, Arctic Added Value, and Indigenous perspectives;
- Research conducted in Canada must be co-developed and co-led with Indigenous communities;
- A research consortium must have partners from at least 3 Nordic countries, meaning Canadian team(s) and/or US team(s) plus teams from at least 3 Nordic countries;
- Each consortium partner has to adhere to the requirements of their respective agencies; those requirements could differ from agency to agency;
- Consortium partners from the Nordic countries might need institutional support documents (e.g., a signed Letter of Commitment) from Canadian institutions; please contact the international.office@usask.ca by 15 May 2024.
- The application for the call has two stages: (1) registration and (2) full submission. To apply for funding from NFRF, Canadian research team members must submit a registration form by 30 May 2024. This is a mandatory step in the application process. Full application submission deadline will be in fall 2024.
For program details on Canada’s participation, please visit the website. For program details on the Nordic countries’ participation, please visit NordForsk website.

NordForsk hosted an online webinar on 19 March 2024. The webinar was aimed at researchers interested in the call, provided insights into the themes of the call and the NordForsk application process. See a recording of the webinar.

IO and RASI work together to provide proposal development support. If you are interested in applying for this call, please contact international.office@usask.ca as soon as possible to discuss your project concept and team composition.

**Funding Amount:** CAD $1,000,000 per year

**Project Duration:** up to four years

**Internal Deadline:** 15 May 2024

**External Registration Deadline:** 30 May 2024

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**NSERC-US Global Centers: Use-Inspired Research Addressing Global Challenges through the Bioeconomy**

NSERC in collaboration with the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) calls for proposals for large-scale collaborative use-inspired research under the **NSERC-US Global Centers: Use-Inspired Research Addressing Global Challenges through the Bioeconomy** to address global challenges through the bioeconomy.

Below are some key points:

- Canadian applicants must collaborate with at least one US-based researcher who meets the NSF eligibility requirements; it’s optional to have partners from Finland, Japan, Republic of Korea and/or the UK.
- Canadian university researchers in the social sciences, humanities, natural sciences and engineering fields are all eligible to apply.
- For each project, Canadian researchers can request up to CAN$500,000 per year for a duration of 4-5 years. The US researchers for the same project can request up to USD 5 million in total over 4 or 5 years. Other international partners, if applicable, can request funds from their respective national funding agencies to cover their part of work.
- The US Principal Investigator (PI) will submit a single collaborative proposal on behalf of the research team to NSF. Deadline is 11 June 2024. In parallel, the participating Canadian researchers on the team (no matter they are from the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences or engineering fields) must submit one simplified application to NSERC. The deadline is the same, **11 June 2024**. To ensure our office has enough time to do proper compliance and research security review, the USask internal deadline to get the finalized proposal academically approved is **28 May 2024 (10 business days before the external deadline)**.
- Interdisciplinary: it is strongly encouraged that proposals include components not only in the natural sciences or engineering, but also the social and behavioural sciences and humanities. Proposals focusing on social sciences perspectives of bioeconomy are welcomed to apply too.
For Canadian researchers, it is welcomed to involve Indigenous Peoples, their uniquely valuable connection to Canada’s ecology, and their incorporation of traditional Indigenous knowledge in research.

For details of this call, please see the NSERC website. For a full explanation of these themes, please see the NSF website.

**Funding Amount** CAD$ 500,000/year  
**Funding Period:** 4 - 5 years  
**Internal Deadline:** 28 May 2024  
**External Deadline:** 11 June 2024 at 8pm EST

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**Grand Challenges Canada - Seeking Innovative Ideas to Support Youth Mental Health and Wellbeing**

Grand Challenges Canada through their Seeking Innovative Ideas to Support Youth Mental Health and Wellbeing funding opportunity is looking to fund bold prevention and promotion ideas that address the early drivers of mental health and wellbeing for the most underserved 10- to 24-year-olds in 12 countries: Colombia, Ecuador, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Morocco, Pakistan, Romania, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, and Vietnam.

1. **Proof-of-Concept (POC) Funding**  
   POC funding up to $250,000 CAD will be awarded over 15, 18 or 24 months to early-stage projects that can implement, test and refine solutions to country-specific personal, social, and/or environmental factors impacting young people’s mental health and wellbeing in one of the 12 countries.

2. **Transition-to-Scale (TTS) Funding**  
   TTS funding between $300,000 CAD and $1,500,000 CAD over 12-48 months will be awarded to support organizations that align with country-specific priorities along their scaling journey to help catalyze their sustainability and impact.

3. **Ecosystem Catalyst (EC) Funding**  
   EC funding between $200,000 CAD and $300,000 CAD over 24 months will be awarded to organizations that can address priority barriers to scale, such as legislation, evidence, coordination, and mobilize demand for the scale-up of effective solutions in one of the 12 countries.

**Eligibility:**
- Only organizations implementing their project in the 12 priority countries, Colombia, Ecuador, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Morocco, Pakistan, Romania, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, and Vietnam, will be considered.
- Preference will be given to Youth-led organizations based in one of 12 priority countries.

**Internal Deadline:** 10 business days before submission to agency  
**External Deadline:** Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis.
Mitacs – Globalink Research Internship Program Call for Faculty Project Submissions for Summer 2025

The Globalink Research Internship (GRI) Call for faculty project submissions for the summer of 2025 is now open. GRI pairs faculty in Canada with international undergraduates from the following countries and regions: Australia, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, France, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Mexico, Pakistan, South Korea, Taiwan, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Kingdom and the United States. From May to October of each year, top-ranked applicants participate in a 12-week research internship under the supervision of Canadian university faculty members in a variety of academic disciplines, from science, engineering, and mathematics to the humanities and social sciences.

Eligibility

In order to be eligible for hosting interns as part of the Globalink Research Internship program, you must:

- Have one of the following statuses at an eligible institution: Full professor, Associate professor, Assistant professor, Adjunct professor, Emeritus professor
- Be able to supervise international students at your institution
- Be able to host interns within the stipulated dates of the GRI program: Internships must start between May 1 and July 31 and must be delivered over the course of 12 consecutive weeks.

Funding value:

The Globalink research internship award amount for students includes:

- Funding to contribute to the cost of a round-trip airfare to Canada (amount varies depending on country of origin)
- Funding to contribute to the cost of transportation from the airport in Canada to accommodation
- Stipend for housing (amount varies depending on country of origin)
- Stipend towards student enrollment fees up to a maximum of $300
- Stipend for food and incidentals (amount varies depending on country of origin)
- Emergency health insurance policy for the duration of the internship
- Support from student mentors on campus in Canada
- Access to industry events and professional development courses

How to Apply: For faculty members to submit your project, please click [here](#).
Submission Deadline: 04 June 2024

Taiwan Foundation for Democracy Visiting Fellowship

As the first national democracy assistance foundation in Asia, the Taiwan Foundation for Democracy (TFD) promotes research on global democracy and human rights to deepen understanding of democratic development theories and practices. To that end, the TFD has established a Visiting Fellowship Program to support international scholars and practitioners interested in carrying out field research in Taiwan or conducting studies that compare or contrast Taiwan’s democratic experiences with those of other countries.

The TFD offers four categories of fellowships:

- International Visiting Fellowships
- Postdoctoral Fellowships
- Dissertation Fellowships
- Democracy and Human Rights Service Fellowships

For details about the features and eligibility requirements of each category, please visit the program website.

**Funding Amount:**
- For the Dissertation Fellowship: the monthly stipend falls within a range of **NT$40,000 – NT$45,000**
- For the other three categories: the monthly stipend falls within a range of **NT$45,000 - NT$ 55,000**

**Project Duration:** 3-6 months
**Internal Deadline:** 31 May 2024
**External Deadline:** 15 June 2024 for projects to be conducted between September and December 2024

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