

Office of the Vice-President Research



Research Funding and Support

A weekly update on
funding opportunities,
workshops, and other
support services.

In this Issue – 30 April 2024

USask Workshops and Support Services:

- [CFI 2025 Innovation Fund \(IF\) – CFI Draft Call Released; Request for Feedback](#)

Resources for Researchers

- [Data Centre Move – NSERC and SSHRC](#)
- [Important Changes: Implementation of the Policy on Sensitive Technology Research and Affiliations of Concern](#)

Cross Disciplinary and Institutional Opportunities and Updates:

- [Royal Society of Canada](#)

Health Sciences Opportunities and Updates:

- [CIHR Institute of Infection and Immunity \(III\) & USask “Meet the Community” Event](#)

International Opportunities and Updates:

- [Canadian Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Scholarship \(QES\) - 2025 Call for Proposals](#)
- [Mitacs Globalink Research Internship Program Call for Faculty Project Submissions for Summer 2025](#)
- [NSERC-US Global Centers: Use-Inspired Research Addressing Global Challenges through the Bioeconomy](#)
- [NFRF International Call for Proposals: 2024 NordForsk-Led International Joint Initiative on Sustainable Development in the Arctic](#)
- [Cooperative AI Research Grants](#)

- [National Institutes of Health \(NIH\): New Approaches for Measuring Brain Changes Across Longer Timespans \(R01 Clinical Trial Optional\)](#)
- [National Institutes of Health \(NIH\): Limited Competition: Research Resource for Natural Product Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Data \(R24 Clinical Trial Not Allowed\)](#)

Visit the [OVPR Grants Calendar](#) for up to date deadlines and events.
Learn more about RASI services [online](#).

USask Workshops and Support Services

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.

Resources for Researchers

Data Centre Move – NSERC and SSHRC

The Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) wish to inform you of the upcoming move of our data centre over the Canada Day long weekend and the impact on the research community.

There will be a planned outage of NSERC and SSHRC's corporate websites and several granting portals and systems from **Friday, 28 June 2024 at 4pm (ET) until Tuesday, 02 July 2024 at 8am (ET)**.

To minimize the impact of this interruption, both agencies have made precautionary changes to competition timelines and corporate activities. For a list of the changes as well as the systems that will be unavailable during the move, please visit [NSERC](#) and [SSHRC](#) dedicated webpages.

We expect all systems to be operational again on 02 July following the data centre move. In the unlikely event of an extended outage, we will post updates on our above-mentioned dedicated webpages and on our social media channels.

****Email and phone lines will not be affected by the move.****

As a best practice, applicants should keep a copy of their documents and grant application information in their personal files.

For questions about funding opportunities or programs, contact your usual program liaison person at [NSERC](#) or [SSHRC](#).

For technical questions, contact our helpdesk at 1-855-275-2861 (option 5), or via email at webapp@nserc-crsng.gc.ca / webgrants@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca.

Important Changes: Implementation of the Policy on Sensitive Technology Research and Affiliations of Concern

In accordance with the [Sensitive Technology Research and Affiliations of Concern \(STRAC\) Policy](#), grant applications submitted by a university or affiliated research institution to the federal granting agencies and the Canada Foundation for Innovation involving research that aims to advance a [Sensitive Technology Research Area](#) will not be funded if any of the researchers involved in activities supported by the grant are currently affiliated with, or in receipt of funding or in-kind support, from a [Named Research Organization](#).

The federal granting agencies are implementing the STRAC Policy in a harmonized manner, to funding opportunities that launch as of **01 May 2024**. Further guidance, including detailed procedures and a [list of funding opportunities](#) that will apply this Policy, have been published through the [Tri-agency Guidance on the STRAC Policy](#) webpage.

Please consult the appropriate funding opportunity literature to determine whether the STRAC Policy applies and, where applicable, for any additional information on procedures to be followed.

What does this mean for rolling intake funding opportunities, such as Alliance?

As of **01 May 2024**, new requirements will apply to [all Alliance grant](#) applications aiming to advance a listed sensitive technology research area. Further information on these new requirements, including new [responsibilities of researchers](#) and [responsibilities of institutions](#), are provided on the [Tri-agency Guidance on the STRAC Policy](#) webpage.

This includes, at the application phase, a requirement for researchers in named roles to complete the [Attestation for Research Aiming to Advance Sensitive Technology Research Areas Form](#). Submission of Alliance applications is now temporarily paused to enable the necessary changes to the [online system](#) to support these updated requirements. Applicants will be able to submit their Alliance applications starting **03 May 2024**.

Note that all applications currently being prepared in NSERC's online system, but not yet submitted, will need to include the completed attestation form(s) if that application aims to advance a listed sensitive technology research area.

The federal granting agencies are committed to providing Canada's research community with the most up to date information and best practices designed to reduce research security risks. We are offering webinars to help familiarize the research community with this new policy.

Information Webinars

English

Thursday, 09 May, 1pm -2:30pm EDT – [Register](#)

Tuesday, 28 May, 11am-12:30pm EDT – [Register](#)

French

Monday, 06 May, 11am-12:30pm EDT – [Register](#)

Thursday, 30 May, 1pm-2:30pm EDT – [Register](#)

We also encourage you to consult the [Safeguarding your Research portal](#), which provides additional resources and tools for the academic community to assess and mitigate security risks associated with their research.

To learn more about the Canada Foundation for Innovation's implementation of research security measures, please consult its dedicated [guidance page](#).

If you have any questions or would like to discuss how this policy and its implementation, please contact Lisa Belhumeur at belhumeur.lisa@usask.ca or research.security@usask.ca.

If you have any questions or comments for the Tri-Agencies, please contact:

NSERC: researchsecurity@nserc-crsng.gc.ca

CIHR: support-soutien@cihr-irsc.gc.ca

SSHRC: researchsecurity-securiterecherche@sshrc-crsh.gc.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.

Health Sciences Opportunities and Updates

CIHR Institute of Infection and Immunity (III) & USask “Meet the Community” Event

The Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology, and Immunology at the University of Saskatchewan and the CIHR Institute of Infection and Immunity (III) invite you to attend its Meet the Community Event.

Date: Thursday, 30 May 2024

Location: Louis' Loft (Memorial Union Building – Upper Level), 93 Campus Drive, Saskatoon, SK

Time: 4:30-6:30pm - Welcome & presentations, 6:30-7:30pm - Posters & refreshments

The two-hour event will begin with Opening remarks by Elder Harvey Thunderchild and Welcome remarks from USask Associate Vice-President of Research, Dr. Darcy Marciniuk and CIHR-III Scientific Director, Dr. Charu Kaushi. There will also be an opportunity to engage with the CIHR-III community through a Q&A panel. The event will conclude with a trainee poster session and networking reception.

USask Speakers include:

- **Melissa April & Chelsie Collins** – Community Research Associates, *Hope Through Strength (HTS)* Project
- **Kerry Lavender** – Assistant Professor, Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology and Immunology
- **Tony Ruzzini** – Associate Professor, Department of Veterinary Microbiology
- **Arinjay Banerjee** – Principal Research Scientist, Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization

Register in advance [here](#).

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Linda Chelico, Professor, Biochemistry, Microbiology, and Immunology, College of Medicine at linda.chelico@usask.ca.

International Opportunities and Updates

Canadian Queen Elizabeth II Diamond 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

- international study, research, or internships for **outbound Canadian students** (Canadian citizens or permanent residents) and/or
- 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 5pm 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:

- Partner organizations and history of partnership. Funding may also be used to establish new relationships.
- Eligible project country(ies) see Annex B in [Guidelines](#).
- List of USask applicant team members (including Canadian partner organizations or other Canadian university, if applicable)
- 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:
 - Outbound component
 - Inbound component
- 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)
- Approximate funding amount requested from the QES program
- 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)

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 week.

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

If you have questions of technical difficulties please contact international.office@usask.ca or Zsuzsa Papp at zpapp@mitacs.ca by 1pm, 31 May 2024.

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 June 11, 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, June 11, 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 May 28 (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)

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 international.office@usask.ca **by 15 May**.
- 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

Cooperative AI Research Grants

The Cooperative AI Foundation is seeking proposals for research projects for [Cooperative AI Research Grants](#). Anyone is eligible to apply, and we welcome applications from disciplines outside of computer science. This call will remain continuously open throughout 2024, and will have four deadlines after which applications will be processed: **14 January, 17 March, 30 July, and 06 October**.

The Cooperative AI Foundation's (CAIF's) mission is to support research that will improve the cooperative intelligence of advanced AI systems for the benefit of all of humanity. As the field of Cooperative AI is emerging and we are in an early stage of our grantmaking, our intention with this call is to keep the scope as wide as possible while staying true to CAIF's mission. We will consider proposals that meet the following conditions:

- The proposal must be for a research project (as opposed to, for example, an educational or advocacy project);
- The proposal must be focused on the development of AI to help address multi-agent/cooperation problems;
- The proposal must be such that the results could be relevant for the most advanced AI systems, including future systems;
- The proposal should aim to contribute in a major way to societally beneficial AI development.

Further guidance on what we mean by these terms and on some of the research directions that are currently being prioritized can be found [here](#).

Funding Amount: GBP 10,000 to GBP 385,000 with a median grant size of GBP 150,000

Internal Deadline: Ten business days prior to external deadline

External Deadline: 30 July and 06 October 2024

National Institutes of Health (NIH): New Approaches for Measuring Brain Changes Across Longer Timespans (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)

The purpose of this [funding opportunity](#) is to encourage multidisciplinary investigators to develop new approaches or apply existing approaches in novel ways to measure brain activity, connectivity, genomics, or other aspects across the age spectrum of neurodevelopment. The overarching goal is to extend our understanding of brain development and aging, including studies of the neurodevelopmental origins of later health and disease. Research can include healthy human participants of any age; specific clinical groups such as those with cognitive, motor, or affective regulation challenges; and/or animal research on these domains of function. The studies can focus on longitudinal neuroanatomical or functional changes at any level, including genetics/genomics, single cells, connectomics, neural population activity patterns, and others. This funding opportunity is intended to encourage technological and conceptual innovation to improve repeated measures across longer epochs of the lifespan, to better predict outcomes at later ages.

This NOFO requires a Plan for Enhancing Diverse Perspectives (PEDP), which will be assessed as part of the scientific and technical peer review evaluation. Applications that fail to include a PEDP will be considered incomplete and will be withdrawn. Applicants are strongly encouraged to read the NOFO instructions carefully and view the available [PEDP guidance material](#).

Project Duration: Maximum 5 years

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

Internal Deadline: Ten business days prior to external deadline

External Deadline: 05 June 2024, 05 October 2024, 05 February 2025, 05 June 2025, 05 October 2025

National Institutes of Health (NIH): Limited Competition: Research Resource for Natural Product Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Data (R24 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

The National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health (NCCIH) with the Office of Dietary Supplements (ODS) solicit applications for continuation of an established nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) research resource consisting of raw and meta-data from natural products ranging from crude extracts to purified substances; with the capacity to upload, download, store, search and analyze raw NMR data. The purpose of this limited competition is to promote sustainability, scaling and wider community inclusiveness of the established NMR research resource. This notice of [funding opportunity](#) (NOFO) is part of the Consortium Advancing Research on Botanicals and Other Natural Products (CARBON) Program. Other elements of this Program include the RFA-OD-24-014 Botanical Dietary Supplements Translational Research Teams (RM1) and RFA-AT-24-008 Leveraging Big Data to Understand Natural Product Impacts on Whole Person Health (R01).

Project Duration: Maximum 5 years

Funding Amount: Maximum \$350,000 USD

Internal LOI Deadline: 31 May 2024

External LOI Deadline: 10 June 2024

Internal Proposal Deadline: 28 June 2024

External Proposal Deadline: 08 July 2024

BE WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS