

Office of the Vice-President Research



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

In this Issue – 07 January 2025

Cross Disciplinary and Institutional Opportunities and Updates:

- [2025 DARE Undergrad Training and Mentorship Awards](#)

Health Sciences Opportunities and Updates:

- [SHRF Matters Newsletter](#)
- [SHRF 2025-26 Establishment Grant: Eligibility Deadline 23 January 2025](#)

Social Sciences and Humanities Opportunities and Updates:

- [Launch of the 2025 SSHRC Impact Awards Competition](#)

International Opportunities and Updates:

- [International Office OVPR: Internal UnivRS Deadline for International Funding Applications](#)
- [Global Affairs Canada \(GAC\): Emerging Leaders in the Americas Program \(ELAP\); Canada-ASEAN Scholarships and Educational Exchanges for Development \(SEED\); Study in Canada Scholarships \(SICS\)](#)
- [French Embassy in Canada: The Mourou/Strickland Program & High-Level Scientific Fellowship Program](#)
- [Open Technology Fund: The Rapid Response Fund](#)
- [The Conservation, Food & Health Foundation](#)
- [NIH: Microbial-based Cancer Imaging and Therapy - Bugs as Drugs \(R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed\)](#)
- [NIH: Co-infection and Cancer \(R01 & R21\)](#)
- [Pfizer Research Grant Request for Proposals \(RFP\)](#)
- [2025 Horizon Europe info sessions for Canada Pillar II-Cluster 2 : Culture, Creativity, and Inclusive Society](#)

Visit the [OVPR Grants Calendar](#) for up to date deadlines and events.

Learn more about RASI services [online](#).

Cross Disciplinary and Institutional Opportunities

2025 DARE Undergrad Training and Mentorship Awards

The [2025 DARE Undergrad Training and Mentorship Awards program](#) will support USask faculty **within the first five years** of their academic appointment to hire, train and mentor an **undergraduate summer student** to support their research, scholarly, or artistic works (RSAW) program. Please see the [award guidelines](#) for more information.

NEW – Two Award Streams:

Stream 1: SSHFA - Open to faculty who do Social Sciences, Humanities, and Fine Arts (SSHFA) research

- [Stream 1: SSHFA Application Form](#)

Stream 2: SCPOR - A Saskatchewan Centre for Patient-Oriented Research (SCPOR) funded award open to faculty who do Patient-Oriented research

- [Stream 2: SCPOR Application Form](#)

Eligibility: faculty within the first five years of their academic appointment at USask in the Social Sciences, Humanities and Fine Arts and/or conducting Patient-Oriented Research (POR)

Number of Awards available: Ten Stream 1: SSHFA awards & Five Stream 2: SCPOR awards

Award Amount: \$6,000 (faculty top-up required)

Award Term: 14-16 weeks from May to August 2025

Deadline to Apply: 07 February 2025

Please reach out to dare.rasi@usask.ca if you would like more information or have any questions. If you have questions about the eligibility of your project or how to conduct POR, please contact scpor@usask.ca.

Health Sciences Opportunities and Updates

SHRF Matters Newsletter

Please see below for highlights from the 16 December, 2024 [SHRF Matters Newsletter](#):

- [Latest version of the SHRF Funding Guide available](#)
- [Join us as we celebrate health research in Saskatchewan | 30 January 2025](#)
- [SHRF Grant Team Support](#)
- [PEARL - Patient Engagement and Research Link](#)
- [HRDP-SK - Health Research Data Platform Saskatchewan](#)

Available Funding:

- [2025-26 Establishment Grant | Application Deadline: 13 March 2025](#)
- [Mobilize Grant: Truth & Action - Updated](#)
- [2024-25 Mobilize Grant Call #2 | Application Deadline: 06 February 2025](#)

SHRF 2025-26 Establishment Grant: Eligibility Deadline 23 January 2025

[SHRF's Establishment Grant](#) supports early-career researchers in Saskatchewan to establish an autonomous program of research addressing Saskatchewan health challenges and achieve the research productivity necessary for obtaining major funding from national and other external agencies.

Principal Applicants must hold a qualifying appointment in Saskatchewan at, or above, the rank of Assistant Professor (or equivalent), that meets the definition of Principal Applicant as outlined in the [SHRF Funding Guide](#).

Funding Amount: up to \$150,000 for up to 3 years

Eligibility Deadline: 23 January 2025

External Full Application Deadline: 13 March 2024

Internal UnivRS Deadline: 5 working days before the external deadline

Information Webinar Recording: [Available here](#)

Program Contact: Pawan Kumar (pkumar@shrf.ca)

Social Science and Humanities Opportunities and Updates

Launch of the 2025 SSHRC Impact Awards Competition

Please note the following information regarding the USask Internal Deadlines for the [SSHRC Impact Awards](#)

USask candidate recommendation deadline: 13 January 2025 – ***New extended deadline***

SSHRC Information Session: 23 January 2025, 12:30-2:00 PM

SSHRC Deadline: 01 April 2025

USask is limited to **one submission per award**, so candidates will be considered internally prior to developing a full nomination package.

Please send the following information to brittany.walch@usask.ca by **13 January 2025** for internal consideration.

- Nominee name and affiliation.
- Award category being considered (Gold, Talent, Insight, Connection, or Partnership).
- 500-word rationale to describe (*Award descriptions and selection criteria can be found [here](#)*):
 - How nominee is suitable for the award based on the award description.
 - How the nominee meets the award selection criteria. Please ensure you review the selection criteria for the award and speak on how they meet the [Challenge](#) and [Achievements](#).
- Names of potential nominators (if known) including a short rationale to explain why they would be an ideal nominator.
- Current CV (specific CV format not needed at this stage, however, if the nomination is to go forward, an updated SSHRC CV format will be required).
- Confirm the nominee holds or have held SSHRC funding relevant to the award category.

Please contact Institutional Awards Officer Brittany Walch (brittany.walch@usask.ca) for questions.

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.

Global Affairs Canada (GAC): Emerging Leaders in the Americas Program (ELAP); Canada-ASEAN Scholarships and Educational Exchanges for Development (SEED); Study in Canada Scholarships (SICS)

[International Student Scholarship Programs](#) (ELAP, SEED, and SiCS) funded through Global Affairs Canada (GAC) are accepting applications from international students for short-term study or research at a Canadian university. If you are interested in supporting a graduate student's application to one of these programs, please review the 'How to Apply' section and take note of the quotas in each program, as well as the deadlines [here](#).

These International Visiting Research Student Scholarship Programs allow students to come to USask for a period of four to six months and provide scholarships ranging from approximately \$8,200 – \$12,700 CAD. Scholarship funds cover international student expenses such as visa and/or study/work permit fees; airfare for the scholarship recipient via the most direct and economical route; health insurance; living expenses, such as accommodation, utilities, and food; ground transportation, including a public transportation pass; and books and supplies required for the recipient's study or research, excluding computers and other equipment.

How to Apply (International Graduate Student Applications):

Preliminary Stage 1 – Preliminary Deadline: 24 January 2025. The student applicant, in consultation with the USask host supervisor, must complete the respective '2025 Application Form' in its entirety and email it to the International Office (IO) at international.office@usask.ca as soon as possible and no later than January 24, 2025.

Invited and Submission Stage 2 – 2025 February & March

The IO will provide an Invitation to Submit confirmation by email in 2025 February. Only applicants invited to submit will move forward to full submission. No changes in the core application content (i.e., research project and activities, graduate student applicant or USask host supervisor) are permitted after an invitation to submit is issued. Invited applicants must then email the International Office the finalized application form, and all required supporting documents by March 8, 2025. The International Office will make the final submission on the applicants' behalf through our institutional portal by the funder deadline – likely in late March (*the exact agency deadline to be announced by the funder*). Applicants and their USask host supervisor will be notified once the submission is completed.

If you have questions, concerns, or would like to discuss a potential international graduate application, please do not hesitate to contact the International Office at international.office@usask.ca.

Preliminary Stage 1 – Preliminary Deadline: January 24, 2025

Invited and Submission Stage 2 – February & March 2025

French Embassy in Canada: The Mourou/Strickland Program & High-Level Scientific Fellowship Program

The French Embassy in Canada has opened two calls for applications to support French-Canadian scientific cooperation in 2025:

- **[The Mourou/Strickland program](#)**, for tenure-track researchers from France and from Canada (outside Quebec):
This program provides seed grants to encourage new bilateral cooperation, in all disciplines. The scholarship includes a round-trip flight Canada-France (or France-Canada) and a contribution towards subsistence costs (5 daily allowances). Please read the [2025 Guidelines](#) carefully before sending your application.
- **[High Level Scientific Fellowship program](#)**, for PhD candidates and post-docs working in a Canadian university (outside Quebec):
This program offers scholarships to foster research mobility to France. The aim of this programme is to facilitate and strengthen collaboration with academic researchers, working in priority in following fields: Emerging Technologies (AI, quantum, etc.), Health (One health, public health policy, genomics, etc.), Ocean and polar sciences (oceanography, biodiversity, marine ecology, etc.), Energy (renewable energy, net zero transition, sustainability, etc.)

Project Duration: varies

Funding Amount: varies

Internal Deadline: 13 January 2025

External Deadline: 26 January 2025

Open Technology Fund: The Rapid Response Fund

[Open Technology Fund: The Rapid Response Fund](#) aims to resolve threats in a timely and comprehensive manner for individuals, communities, and organizations whose free expression has recently been repressed. The Rapid Response Fund offers two types of support to organizations, activists, journalists, and other human rights defenders facing digital attacks and emergencies of various kinds: (1) technological services from trusted service partners and (2) direct financial support for the many needs that cannot be fulfilled by available service partners. For either form of support, the process starts with [a single application](#). Support is only available through the Rapid Response Fund when there is a **clear and time-sensitive** digital emergency in which an applicant is seeking short-term and urgent support.

Project Duration: up to 6 months

Funding Amount: varies

Internal Deadline: 10 business days before the external deadline

External Deadline: OTF accepts applications on a rolling basis

The Conservation, Food & Health Foundation

[The Conservation, Food and Health Foundation](#) seeks to protect the environment, improve food production, and promote public health in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Latin America, and the Middle East. The Foundation supports projects and applied research that: (1) Generate local or regional solutions to problems affecting the quality of the environment and human life; (2) Advance local leadership and promote professional development in the conservation, agricultural, and health sciences; (3) Develop the capacity of local organizations and coalitions; and (4) Address challenges in the field.

The following are examples of the Foundation's areas of interest within the fields of conservation, food, and health, and are not meant to be exclusive.

Project Duration: one- or two-year period

Funding Amount: most grants will fall in the \$25,000-\$50,000 per year range

Internal Deadline: 10 business days before the external deadline

External Deadline: 15 February & 15 August (annually)

NIH: Microbial-based Cancer Imaging and Therapy - Bugs as Drugs (R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Through this **Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)**, the National Cancer Institute (NCI) solicits grant applications proposing to utilize bacteria, archaeobacteria, bacteriophages, or other non-oncolytic viruses and their natural products to study the underlying mechanisms of the complex interactions between microorganisms, tumors, and the immune system, and to explore their clinical potential for cancer imaging, therapeutics or diagnostics. Projects can focus on using microorganisms as anti-tumor agents, as activators of anti-tumor immunity, or as delivery vehicles for treatment, diagnosis, or imaging, complementing or synergizing with existing tools and approaches. This NOFO will support basic mechanistic and preclinical studies in cell culture and animal models. Applicants are encouraged to address both the microbial and tumor aspects of microbial tumor interactions relevant to microbial-based cancer therapy (including therapies for oral cancer), tumor imaging, tumor detection, or diagnosis.

Project Duration: The maximum project period is 5 years.

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

Internal Deadline: 21 January 2025

External Deadline: 05 February 2025

NIH: Co-infection and Cancer (R01 & R21)

The purpose of these two Notices of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs) is to enhance mechanistic and epidemiologic investigations addressing the roles of co-infection and cancer to shed light on presently unestablished pathways in carcinogenesis that may inform prevention and treatment strategies for infection-related cancers. Co-infection is defined as the occurrence of infections by two or more infectious (pathogenic or non-pathogenic) agents – either concurrently or sequentially – and includes both acute and chronic infections by viruses, bacteria, parasites, and/or other microorganisms. Preference will be given to investigations of co-infections with known oncogenic agents (excluding human immunodeficiency virus [HIV]) and of co-infections that engender novel opportunities for prevention and treatment.

PAR-25-082: Co-infection and Cancer (R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

- **Project Duration:** The project period may not exceed 5 years.
- **Funding Amount:** Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project.
- **Internal Deadline:** 10 business days before the external deadline
- **External Deadline:** Various from 05 February 2025

PAR-25-083: Co-infection and Cancer (R21 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

- **Project Duration:** The maximum project period is 2 years.
- **Funding Amount:** The combined budget for direct costs for the two-year project period may not exceed \$275,000. No more than \$200,000 may be requested in any single year.
- **Internal Deadline:** 10 business days before the external deadline
- **External Deadline:** Various from 16 February 2025

Pfizer Research Grant Request for Proposals (RFP)

The intent of the [Pfizer Research Grant Request for Proposals \(RFP\)](#) is to support Investigator Sponsored/General Research projects that will implement and assess the impact of therapy management approaches for patients with HER2+ Metastatic Breast Cancer (mBC) receiving tucatinib in combination with trastuzumab and capecitabine. Organizations are invited to submit proposals for initiatives that will implement innovative and community-accessible approaches to improving therapy management with the 3-drug regimen of tucatinib, trastuzumab and capecitabine, including increasing patients' understanding, quality of life, or adherence to treatment and/or facilitate follow-up or symptom management in daily clinical practice. Projects should be aimed at improving patient care and outcomes using a research framework or "Health Services Research" type approach to evaluate and assess the impact of the interventions.

Project Duration: 18-month suggested project length (may be shorter or longer)

Funding Amount: Individual projects requesting up to \$250,000 will be considered. The estimated total available budget related to this RFP is \$500,000.

Internal Deadline: 16 January 2025

External Deadline: 30 January 2025

2025 Horizon Europe info sessions for Canada Pillar II-Cluster 2 : Culture, Creativity, and Inclusive Society

The EU Delegation to Canada invites you to an online webinar on Horizon Europe. This session will provide key insights into Horizon Europe's funding opportunities for [Pillar II - Cluster 2: Culture, Creativity, and Inclusive Society](#), designed to foster innovation and collaboration across Europe and beyond.

You will have an opportunity to:

- Explore the Horizon Europe Work Program with an overview of the Cluster-specific guidelines and tips on how to effectively read and interpret them from invited National Contact Points
- Learn the Do's and Don'ts of proposal writing directly from experts
- Understand the evaluation process through insights shared by seasoned academics who have experience with Horizon Europe evaluation panels
- Hear from Horizon Europe grantees as they share their journey, from consortium formation to proposal writing, research execution, and dissemination of results
- Connect with experts and potential partners in engaging Q&A Session

Date: Wednesday, 29 January 2025, starting at 8 am.

BE WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS

For more information, email research.services@usask.ca

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