

Office of the Vice-President Research



Research Funding and Support

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](#).

USask Workshops and Support Services

CFI-JELF Information Session

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

This information session to be held on **Tuesday, 26 August 2025 (2 PM -3 PM)** has been targeted for those interested in the **February 2026** CFI submission group. Institutional CFI ask guidelines and review process will be discussed and a timeline for the submission will be provided. Potential applicants and co-applicants are strongly encouraged to attend. Research facilitators and technical staff are welcome. USask will also submit JELFs to CFI in October 2026.

February 2026 JELF Guidelines

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

Expressions of Interest intake will be **16 October 2025** and will be assessed for the fit with USask research priorities, impact to the USask research community, need for the infrastructure, feasibility and sustainability of the project and availability of institutional JELF envelope.

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

Internal Research Programs

NSERC Discovery Grant and Research Tools & Instruments Grant Oct/Nov

Application: Internal Review/Intention to Apply

If you are applying for a [NSERC Discovery Grant \(DG\)](#) and/or a [Research Tools and Instruments Grant \(RTI\)](#) this year, we would encourage you to participate in the Internal Review program offered by OVPR.

Your proposal will be forwarded to your suggested reviewers, providing an opportunity to get valuable feedback on your grant application. In the event of an unsuccessful proposal, Internal Review of your DG application is one of the factors required to be eligible to apply for President's NSERC funding.

- To take part in the Internal Review program please complete the [2025 Intention to Apply/Request for Internal Review form](#)
- Guidance on the steps and important dates can be found in the [2025 Internal Review Timeline](#)

The USask Intention to Apply/Request for Internal Review deadline is 25 July 2025

For more information, please contact Michaela Lynds, Research Development Specialist (NSERC) at grant.review@usask.ca.

Cross Disciplinary and Institutional Opportunities

Indigenous Capacity and Leadership in Research Connection Grants: September 2025 Competition

The [Indigenous Capacity and Leadership in Research \(ICLR\) Connection Grants](#) will contribute to Indigenous leadership and self-determination in research. The events and activities funded represent opportunities to engage and exchange knowledge on successful ways of conducting Indigenous research that are transformative and contribute to Indigenous-led research, including wholistic and [distinctions-based](#) approaches.

This funding opportunity aligns with the tri-agency [Setting New Directions to Support Indigenous Research and Research Training in Canada strategic plan](#) and Indigenous communities' aspirations to provide support for transformative research and training that contributes to innovation and reconciliation.

More specifically, it aims to:

- support the research priorities of Indigenous Peoples;
- champion Indigenous leadership, self-determination and capacity in research, to the benefit of Indigenous communities;
- increase awareness and understanding of Indigenous researchers, students and communities;
- recognize Indigenous ways of knowing as an integral part of valid and authoritative research;
- support Indigenous-led strategies and structures that address respectful and mutually beneficial data management and intellectual property rights in Indigenous research; and
- decolonize Indigenous research through the development of clear structures and resources for Indigenous Peoples to grow research capacity, including creating greater accessibility to granting agency program funding.

All of the grants for this funding opportunity are reserved for First Nations or Métis not-for-profit organizations, Indigenous not-for-profit organizations serving more than one distinction, or Indigenous postsecondary institutions. The portion of the [federal budget commitment](#) dedicated to the Inuit Peoples will be allocated through a separate funding mechanism.

While non-Indigenous institutions may not be the primary applicant in these funding opportunities, they may still participate on a proposal as a partner or have individuals participate on a project team in the role of co-applicant or collaborator, as applicable.

In the case of an application to an individual grant, the project director must be affiliated with one of these eligible organizations/institutions. (See [Applicants and Institutions details](#) for more information on institutional and individual grant eligibility.)

Value and Duration

ICLR Connection Grants are valued at a maximum of \$50,000 for one year (including indirect costs). See details in [Specific rules for the use of grant funds](#)).

A one-year automatic grant extension without additional funding is also available under this funding opportunity.

Funding Amount: Up to \$50,000 for 1 year

Application Deadline: 23 September 2025, 8 PM Eastern ([RASI Internal Deadline](#): 16 September 2025)

For more information, contact:

Email: partnerships@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

Toll-free: 1-855-275-2861

Indigenous Innovation and Leadership in Research Network Grants – Stage 1

The tri-agency [Indigenous Innovation and Leadership in Research Network Grants](#) aligns with the tri-agency strategic plan [Setting New Directions to Support Indigenous research and research training in Canada](#) as well as Indigenous communities' aspirations to help create a new model for Indigenous-led, transformative research. Indigenous Innovation and Leadership in Research Network Grants are valued at a total investment of \$19 million over four years, for the following categories of Métis, First Nations, and Indigenous not-for-profit organizations and Indigenous institutions serving more than one distinction.

All grants for this funding opportunity are reserved for:

- **First Nations or Métis not-for-profit organizations**
- **First Nations or Métis postsecondary institutions**
- **Indigenous not-for-profit organizations serving more than one distinction**
- **Indigenous postsecondary institutions serving more than one distinction**

Federal budget commitment for [Inuit](#) research will be allocated through a separate funding mechanism.

While non-Indigenous institutions may not be the primary applicant in these funding opportunities, they may still participate on a proposal as a partner or have individuals participate on a project team in the role of co-applicant or collaborator, as applicable.

This call for proposals affirms and seeks to build on Indigenous knowledge systems and Indigenous ontology, epistemology and methodology. Networks are encouraged to be wholistic, reflecting the full range of collaboration across disciplines and subject areas pertaining to the social sciences and humanities; natural sciences and engineering; and health and wellness.

Value and Duration

- Indigenous Innovation and Leadership in Research Network Grants Stage 1 are valued at up to \$75,000 for one year.
- Indigenous Innovation and Leadership in Research Network Grants Stage 2 (by invitation only) are valued at up to \$1.75 million per grant.
- A one-year automatic grant extension without additional funding is also available for Stage 2.

Funding Amount: Stage 1 - up to \$75,000 for one year

Application Deadline: 21 October 2025, 8 PM Eastern ([RASI Internal Deadline](#): 14 October 2025)

For more information, contact:

Email: Indigenous-Autochtone@sshrcc-crsh.gc.ca

Toll-free: 1-855-275-2861

Health Sciences Opportunities and Updates

CIHR Access Newsletter

Please see below for highlights from the 26 June 2025 [CIHR Access Newsletter](#):

- [Has your CIHR-Funded Research Led to a New Discovery? Submit your story about research impact!](#)
- [New Guidelines for reviewing the Tri-Agency CV: Learn how to assess the new narrative-style tri-agency CV as a peer reviewer](#)
- [Fall 2025 Reviewer in Training Program Coming Soon!](#)
- [Outstanding Peer Reviewers June 2025](#)

SHRF Solutions Program: Innovation & Impact Grants

The purpose of the **SHRF Solutions Program** is to support collaborative and engaged research for the development and implementation of innovations to address timely Saskatchewan health needs and create a sustainable impact in a focused area. The SHRF Solutions Program is accepting eligibility submissions until **18 September 2025**, ahead of the full application deadline on 13 November 2025.

Grants offered as part of the Solutions program support interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary teams including knowledge users.

Considering the stage and goals of the proposed research, applicants select the appropriate grant opportunity according to the following objectives:

- Innovation Grant: Catalyzing new ideas and approaches to support innovative solutions that respond to focus area gaps and needs;
- Impact Grant: Advancing promising solutions into real-world and practical applications that respond to focus area gaps and needs.

Funding is available for collaborative and engaged health research in the areas of Brain Health, Pediatric Brain Health, Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias, and Lung Health.

Funding Amount: Innovation Grant – up to \$50,000 for 1 year; Impact Grant – up to \$150,000 for 2 years

Eligibility Submission Deadline: 18 September 2024, 4:30 PM CST

Full Application Deadline: 13 November 2025, 4:30 PM CST ([RASI Internal Deadline](#): 06 November 2025)

Webinar recording: [View on YouTube](#)

For questions about the Solutions Program, reach out to the program manager, Karen Tilsley: ktilsley@shrf.ca.

International Opportunities and Updates

Internal Call for Applications: Innovation Saskatchewan Top-Up Funding for Eligible DAAD Programs and Germany-USask Partnership Building Activities

The Government of Saskatchewan's innovation agency and the DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) committed to supporting joint efforts to promote the international exchange of students and researchers and research and academic collaboration between the Saskatchewan and German universities and research institutions.

Through this initiative, the **Stream 1** top-up funding is offered to the students, faculty and post-docs at the University of Saskatchewan (USask) who have been successful in obtaining financing through one of the eligible DAAD programs ([link](#)) to cover/reimburse costs associated with DAAD program, but not covered by the award. **Faculty members are encouraged to consider supporting any postdocs they are working with to apply to eligible DAAD programs to support their research stay at USask or in Germany.**

Stream 2 of the funding may be applied toward joint initiatives with German partners, that do not require a successful DAAD program application. Eligible activities may include mutual delegation visits, alumni events, and other similar activities that will support increased engagement between the USask and German research community.

Eligibility

Eligible expenses include:

- Travel related expenses: airfare from Germany to/from SK; reasonable accommodation costs; meal per diems; ground transportation
- Research related expenses: direct costs; materials and supplies; project specific space rental; use of specialized equipment.

- Event related expenses: venue rental costs; catering (alcohol excluded); printing of signage or other similar materials

Priority Areas

The **priority areas** defined by Innovation Saskatchewan apply to both students and faculty and include:

- **Health** (e.g., One Health)
- **Synchrotron sciences**
- **Digital technologies, industry, and space** (e.g., quantum computing, artificial intelligence)
- **Food security, bioeconomy, natural resources, agriculture, and environment/climate change**
- **Energy** (including nuclear, renewable, and alternative energy sources)

How to apply:

Application and supporting documents provided to the International Office at international.office@usask.ca with subject line DAAD-IS Top-Up Funding Application:

Stream 1 Application

- Award letter from DAAD;
- Copy of the application package submitted to DAAD;
- Provide the following information in email text:
- Indicate that this is a Stream 1 application
- DAAD program name (eligible [programs listed here](#))
- Lead applicant and affiliated unit as well as a list of participating USask team members
- Relation of the proposed activities to one of the abovementioned priority areas
- Outcomes to be achieved in relation to participating in the DAAD program
- Top-up funding budget; and
- Budget justification

Stream 2 Application

Provide the following information in email text:

- Indicate that this is a Stream 2 application
- Lead applicant and affiliated unit as well as a list of participating USask team members
- Relation of the proposed activities to one of the abovementioned priority areas
- Outcomes to be achieved in relation to organizing the partnership engagement activities
- Funding budget; and
- Budget justification

If you have any questions and/or would like to discuss your application with the International Office team, please contact international.office@usask.ca with subject line DAAD-IS Top-Up Funding Inquiry.

Competition open date: 10 April 2025

Competition close date: 01 October 2025 or until the funding is exhausted

For Stream 1, DAAD activity must be completed by: 20 January 2026

USask People Around the World Congress – Registration Open!

Early-bird registration is now open for the [People Around the World \(PAW\) 2025 International Congress](#) taking place on our University of Saskatchewan (USask) Saskatoon campus from **October 22-24, 2025!**

This year's theme of *Healthy people, healthy planet: Driving innovation with data* will examine the benefits of shared perspectives, highlighting solutions to support local and global communities guided by data-driven insights and innovative technologies.

The Congress will offer an action-packed three days that feature keynotes, panel sessions, student poster sessions and more from leading institutions and experts around the world who are at the forefront of health and data innovation.

We're excited to announce this year's opening and closing keynote speakers, who will no doubt provide useful insights and fresh perspectives on areas of great importance.

Learn from Timothy Caulfield—best-selling author and professor of health law and policy—as the opening keynote speaker and from André Picard—award-winning national health writer and author—as the closing keynote speaker.

Take advantage of discounted rates and join researchers, scholars, industry partners, government representatives and community members for this dynamic event.

Learn more and register [here](#).

Draft Work Programs for Horizon Europe 2026-2027 Available

To locate a specific call for proposals under Horizon Europe, please refer to the [Work Programmes](#), which detail the available calls within each of the six thematic clusters under Pillar 2. These documents serve as essential guides for identifying funding opportunities aligned with your research priorities.

Preliminary versions of several Horizon Europe work programs for the 2026–2027 cycle are now available. These drafts offer early insight into upcoming funding priorities and strategic directions across various research and innovation areas. Please note that all drafts are subject to change before their final publication, which is expected in December 2025. You can find the full, updated list created by *Science|Business* [here](#).

Horizon Europe Drop-In Consultations with the International Office

Horizon Europe offers multiple opportunities for Canadian researchers to join multinational projects tackling global challenges, from climate change to health, digital transformation, and more. Have questions about Horizon Europe? The International Office team is here to support you throughout the Horizon Europe process and help you lay a strong foundation for success. Drop in for one-on-one support, guidance on how to get started, find partners and develop a strong proposal.

Drop-in times:

- Tuesday 15 July, 1:00pm – 2:00pm
- Tuesday 22 July, 1:00pm – 2:30pm
- Wednesday 23 July, 10:00am – 11:30am
- Tuesday 29 July, 1:00pm – 2:30pm
- Thursday 31 July, 10:00am – 11:30am

The International Office (**Rm 222**) is located on the second floor of the **Thorvaldson Building**.

Please also consider signing up for the introductory [Horizon Europe Canvas Course](#), a self-paced course designed to support USask researchers and their teams in exploring and applying for Horizon Europe funding. The course provides an overview of Horizon Europe, covering its structure, key priorities, and **funding opportunities under Pillars I and II**. It offers insights into **the Horizon Europe Portal**, its **resources**, and **services available at USask** to leverage Horizon Europe opportunities. This course also serves as a platform to help you identify/**connect with potential collaborators**, both within USask and externally.

Global Affairs Canada: Upcoming Indo-Pacific Regional Connectivity Envelope call for proposals

In the coming weeks, Global Affairs Canada will launch a [call for proposals under the Regional Connectivity Envelope \(RCE\)](#).

Based on past experience, the window between the official call launch and the submission deadline may be short. USask International Office encourages USask researchers who are interested in applying to start preparing early. Reviewing Canada's Indo-Pacific Strategy ([link](#)) could be especially helpful in shaping your project concept and aligning it with GAC's priorities. You are welcome to reach out to the International Office at international.office@usask.ca to ask questions or discuss your plan.

For more information on this Call, please visit the [program webpage](#).

European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST) Actions - Opportunities for Canadians

The [European Cooperation in Science and Technology \(COST\)](#) is a funding organization for the creation of research networks, called [COST Actions](#). These networks offer an open space for collaboration among scientists across Europe and beyond.

COST is bottom up, this means that researchers can create a network – based on their own research interests and ideas – by submitting a proposal to the COST Open Call. The proposal can be in any science field. COST Actions are highly interdisciplinary and open. It is possible to join ongoing Actions, which therefore keep expanding over the funding period of four years. They are multi-stakeholder, often involving the private sector, policymakers as well as civil society.

COST Actions cover the expenses of networking activities such as meetings, short mobilities, organization of training schools, communication, grant to attend conferences organized by third parties. Research-related costs are not eligible. The average grant size for a 4-year action is around 600,000 Euro.

The Open Call 2025 is open. The deadline for submissions is 21 October 2025. Details of the 2025 Open Call can be found [here](#).

Eligibility:

- Minimum 7 participants from 7 different [COST Member States](#), 50% of which must be a [“widening country” \(also known as Inclusiveness Target Country or ITC\)](#). Participants can apply at any stage of their career.
- Canada is not a COST Member State. However, there are opportunities for Canadian researchers to participate and get refund in certain circumstances.

Interested USask researchers can refer to the following Q&As for Canadian participants:

- **Q: What can I participate in?**
 - COST Actions are open and inclusive. Our research networks are different to many other EU funded projects because it is possible to join and participate in a COST Action once it has started, even if you were not involved at proposal stage.
 - The country you selected is classified as a Third State, you can participate in most COST Action activities.
 - Participation to a COST Action may take the form of a long-term participation, in which case you can join a network as a Working Group member.
 - Participation to a COST Action may also take the form of an ad-hoc participation in one of its [networking tools](#), subject to invitation by the Action's Management Committee, that include:

- Meetings, workshops and conferences organized by the Action
- Training Schools (as a participant or trainer)
- Hosting a Short-Term Scientific Mission (STSMs)
- Contributing to a Virtual Mobility Grant
- **Q: Can I be reimbursed?**
 - You are not eligible to receive financial support from COST to fund your participation in COST Action activities.
 - However, once in the lifetime of the Action you can be refunded to participate in a COST Action meeting as an invited individual. You can also receive financial support to be a trainer in a COST Action Training School.
- **Q: Can I be a main proposer or part of a network of proposers for a new COST Action?**
 - You cannot be a main proposer but you can be part of a network of proposers for a new COST Action submitted to our annual Open Call. For more information on the Open Call [please check here](#).
- **Q: Can I be a COST external expert?**
 - Yes, you can apply to be a COST external expert and contribute to the evaluation of COST Open Call proposals and assessment of COST Action results. Experts from all scientific areas are welcome.
 - To become an expert you do not necessarily have to belong to an academic institutions, however a university degree and considerable scientific or professional experience in the specific areas of expertise are required. This is an occasional, short-term assignment. [Learn more here](#).

University of Zurich Fellowship in Crisis Competence

The [University of Zurich Fellowship in Crisis Competence](#) offers a short-term (2–10 week) research opportunity for scholars with a background in crisis, crisis competence, resilience, or related areas. As part of the Agora - Urban Crisis Competence initiative, the fellowship fosters collaboration between researchers and senior staff of the City of Zurich to translate academic insights into practical crisis solutions. Fellows will conduct independent research aligned with their own interests while engaging in transdisciplinary exchange. The program provides travel and accommodation support, access to university facilities, and the opportunity to produce tangible outputs such as policy briefs or concept papers. Researchers from all backgrounds holding a PhD, currently employed at a research institution, and possessing some German language skills are encouraged to apply.

Application: Please send your CV and a short text describing your research interest to office@ccc.uzh.ch.

Deadline: No deadline - applications are reviewed on a rolling basis.

For more details, please visit the [program webpage](#).

AWB Volunteer Opportunity: Strengthening capacity in competency based curriculum at Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology (Kenya)

[Academics Without Borders \(AWB\)](#) is a Canadian nonprofit organization. Its mission is to help low and middle-income countries improve their universities and colleges so that they can train their own experts and conduct research to promote their countries' development. AWB provides support to help cover logistical expenses for the selected project volunteer.

Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology is a public university located in Kakamega, Kenya. Established as a fully-fledged university in 2007, MMUST is committed to academic excellence, research, innovation, and community service. MMUST has eleven schools, over 12000 students, and more than 150 faculty members.

This project is a partnership with the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS) at MMUST. The faculty has five departments; Criminology and Social Work, Geography, Journalism and Mass Communication, Language and Literature Education, and Social Sciences Education.

Number of Volunteers: 1

For details, please visit [here](#).



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

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