

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

Northern Research Initiative Workshop

Research Acceleration & Strategic Initiatives is bringing together researchers and scholars from **across all disciplines** to have important conversations about how we support research, scholarly and artistic work

(RSAW) and **training programs focused** on the **North and beyond**, and to bring together crucial partners in this endeavor.

The goal of this workshop is to build interdisciplinary connections, create an understanding of **Northern research capacity at USask**, and identify opportunities for partnerships and funding to capitalize on. The workshop will feature special guest speakers, panel discussions and will provide opportunities for faculty to connect and discuss Northern research opportunities.

Date: 25 September 2025

Time: 7:30 AM - 3:00 PM

Location: Exeter Room, Marquis Hall, USask Saskatoon Campus

RSVP Deadline: Wednesday, 17 September 2025

Register: [Online](#)

For more information, please contact rasi.support@usask.ca.

Pre-PAW Congress Workshops

Join the International Office on Monday, 20 October 2025 and Tuesday, 21 October 2025, for three exciting workshops offered as part of the 2025 Pre-PAW Congress programming, designed to connect faculty, students, and staff through global opportunities in research and education. These workshops are free and open to all. Due to a limited number of spots, please register in advance to secure your place. Individual registration links are below for each workshop so please choose the one or more that are of interest to you! The workshop agendas and room locations will be shared with attendees closer to the date.

1. Unlocking research collaboration with the Czech Republic: Strengths, priorities and funding

Date: Monday, 20 October 2025

Time: 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

Location: Location TBA, University of Saskatchewan Main Campus

The USask International Office would like to invite faculty, students, staff and others interested to the 2025 Pre-PAW Congress workshop offered by the Consulate General of the Czech Republic in Toronto. This interactive workshop presented by representatives from the Czech Republic Consulate in Toronto, will offer valuable insight into research collaboration with the Czech Republic. The session will explore the strengths, priorities and funding opportunities available to collaborate with the Czech Republic, and highlight major research and infrastructure projects in the Czech Republic.

Participants will hear directly from Eva Libs Bartoňová, Head of Trade and Investment Section at the Consulate General of the Czech Republic in Toronto. She will share insights on how to explore international funding and research collaborations in the Czech Republic and will provide practical guidance for researchers at all stages. The presentations will be followed by an extended Q&A session to encourage dialogue and support the development of future partnerships.

Register here: <https://www.surveymonkey.ca/r/RQK658N>

2. Funding Research in Germany

Date: Tuesday, 21 October 2025

Time: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Location: Location TBA, University of Saskatchewan Main Campus

Hosted by USask's International Office as part of the 2025 Pre-PAW Congress programming, this interactive workshop will offer valuable insight into the German research landscape, funding structures, and academic exchange opportunities for Canadian students, scholars, and institutions. The session will explore avenues for research and academic collaboration with Germany, and feature representatives from Germany's two leading funding organizations: the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the German Research Foundation (DFG).

Participants will hear directly from Bettina Schuffert, Program Officer at the DFG Office North America in Washington, D.C., and John Paul Kleiner, Senior Manager, University Relations at the DAAD Information Centre in Toronto. Both speakers will share insights on how to explore international funding, research collaborations, and study opportunities with the **Alexander von Humboldt Foundation and DFG** in Germany and will provide practical guidance for researchers at all stages. The presentations will be followed by an extended Q&A session to encourage dialogue and support the development of future partnerships.

Register here: <https://www.surveymonkey.ca/r/RJHKSXV>

3. Choose France for Research

Date: Tuesday, October 21, 2025

Time: 1:30 PM – 4:00 PM

Location: Location TBA, University of Saskatchewan Main Campus

The USask International Office would like to invite faculty, students, staff and others interested to the 2025 Pre-PAW Congress workshop, to learn about the research opportunities and priorities between Canada and France. This workshop will feature a keynote presentation by Dr. Géraldine Dantelle, Attaché for Science and Higher Education at the French Embassy in Canada, who will offer insights into the French research landscape and pathways for collaboration.

The workshop will feature presentations from both USask researchers and partner institutions in France and will include reflection on personal experiences working across borders and disciplines. The session will conclude with a panel discussion and an audience Q&A on how to engage innovatively to achieve common research goals and sustain the partnership.

Register here: <https://www.surveymonkey.ca/r/RJH7ZHR>

We hope you'll join us for these opportunities to connect, share, and explore new possibilities for collaboration. Please share with anyone you think might be interested.

2025 NSERC Discovery & RTI Grants Fall Workshop

We cordially invite you to join us for the 2025 [NSERC Discovery Grant](#) and [NSERC Research Tools and Instruments Grant](#) Fall Workshop hosted by OVPR.

This session will cover a wide range of topics, and include top tips and advice on:

- Developing strategies relevant to the NSERC Merit Indicators
- 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
- Utilizing the Internal Review program offered by OVPR

There will also be a Q&A session.

Presenters

Julia Boughner: University NSERC Leader & Professor of Anatomy, Physiology, and Pharmacology (CoM)

Danielle Baron: Manager Research & Graduate Studies (Ag. & Bio.)

Tera Ebach: Research Office Analyst (WCVM)

Graham Fairhurst: Research Services Specialist (SENS)

Michaela Lynds: Research Development Specialist (OVPR)

Date: Thursday, 25th September 2025

Location: HLTH 1130 (E-Wing)

Time: 1:00 pm – 2.30 pm

Registration deadline: 22 September 2025

Register here: [2025 NSERC DG & RTI Fall Workshop](#)

To maximize time for Q&A, participants are encouraged to visit the [OVPR Tri-Agency Research Support](#) website and view the video and slides from the recent NSERC Discovery & RTI Grants Spring Workshop, which included a dedicated session on the RTI grant.

Videos and slides from previous years are also available.

Please direct any questions to Michaela Lynds (Research Development Specialist, NSERC) at michaela.lynds@usask.ca

Health Sciences Opportunities and Updates

SHRF partners on 2026-27 MS Canada Research Competition

SHRF has partnered with [MS Canada](#) to co-fund Saskatchewan-based applications in any area of MS research through MS Canada's available funding opportunities. Co-funded endMS Personnel Awards may be eligible to receive a \$10,000 top-up from SHRF.

Application Deadlines: 02 October 2025, 16:00 Eastern time ([RASI Internal Deadline](#): 25 September 2025)

Applications are submitted through MS Canada's portal (<https://proposalcentral.com/>), and inquiries regarding the funding opportunities should be directed to ms.grants@mscanada.ca

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

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

- **Discovery Research Grants**

The [Discovery Research Grant](#) Program is intended to support various research projects aligned with MS Canada's (MSC) strategic plan. MSC will support Discovery Research grants for up to three (3) years. These grants are non-renewable.

Funding Amount: The amount that may be requested is expected to be within a range of \$50,000-\$100,000 per year. Budgets must not exceed \$300,000.

- **Catalyst Research Grant**

The [Catalyst Research Grant](#) program awards seed funding that allows researchers to develop and test new and innovative research questions and pursue pioneering approaches that have high potential to

advance the MS field. MSC supports Catalyst Research Grants for up to two (2) years. These grants are non-renewable.

Funding Amount: The maximum amount that may be requested is \$50,000 over the maximum term of the grant.

- **[endMS Doctoral Studentship Awards](#)**

The **[endMS Doctoral Studentship Award](#)** provides opportunities for research training and broadening the scientific understanding of MS for students currently enrolled in a Doctoral level program.

Funding Amount: \$22,000 per year for up to 4 years (\$50,500 per year for M.D. holders)

- **[endMS Postdoctoral Fellowships](#)**

The **[endMS Postdoctoral Fellowship Program](#)** is intended to support research for training of Postdoctoral Fellows in studies related to MS. The endMS Postdoctoral Fellowships serve to attract and retain young researchers in the field of MS.

Funding Amount: \$41,000 per year for up to 3 years for Ph.D. holders (\$50,500 per year for M.D holders)

International Opportunities and Updates

Register for USask's People Around the World (PAW) Congress

Registration for the **[People Around the World \(PAW\) 2025 International Congress](#)** is open until Friday, 10 October 2025 at 6:00 pm CST. The PAW Congress is taking place on our University of Saskatchewan (USask) Saskatoon campus from 22-24 October 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. **[Check out the website for recently added program updates.](#)**

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.

Register now and join researchers, scholars, industry partners, government representatives and community members for this dynamic event!

Learn more and register [here](#).

Mitacs: Horizon Europe International Mobility Award

The **[Mitacs – Horizon Europe International Mobility Award \(IMA\)](#)** is designed to support Canadian faculty and eligible small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in the early stages of consortium-building and proposal development under Horizon Europe Pillar II. This offering will provide short-term funding to facilitate travel and in-person engagement with European collaborators – addressing a well-recognized barrier to meaningful participation in one of the globe's largest research funding frameworks.

Applications must be submitted by one faculty member, with the option to include either one additional faculty member or one SME Partner Organization. Applications must not include more than two travelers. There are no restrictions on academic disciplines or industry sectors; however, fields must align with Horizon Europe calls for

proposals and/or corresponding European research consortia. Awards will be valued at up to CAD \$5,000 per traveler (maximum \$10,000 per award).

For more information on applicant eligibility, please [view the website](#).

Important dates:

Call opens: Monday, 25 August 2025

Call closes: Monday, 29 September 2025

Review decision date: Estimated 4 weeks post-close date

Travel concludes: Friday, 29 May 2026

Please connect with your local [Mitacs Advisor](#) with any questions.

Horizon Europe Events

The Canadian Horizon Europe Secretariat is pleased to share some upcoming events on Horizon Europe for your consideration.

09 September 2025: [Unlocking Horizon Europe – Practical Pathways to Research Collaboration](#) (Toronto)

This event is organized in collaboration by the Czech Consulate General in Toronto, the Delegation of the EU to Canada, CzechInvest Agency and AMIRES, the event will provide insights into tangible opportunities for cooperation under Horizon Europe: the upcoming call 2026/27, practical recommendations and concrete project opportunities with emphasis on Engineering and Life Sciences.

The workshop is organized at the occasion of the Czech R&D mission to Canada and will offer an opportunity to meet Czech research organizations, universities and innovation ecosystem stakeholders.

This event will also take place in [Edmonton on September 11th](#)!

16-17 September 2025: [European Research and Innovation Days](#) (Brussels/Hybrid)

The European Commission is hosting Research and Innovation Days (hybrid event) to discuss the future of research and innovation in Europe and beyond. The event will focus on the EU's budget, Startup and Scaleup Strategy, the European Life Science Strategy, AI in Science Strategy, and European Innovation.

03 October 2025: [Science Diplomacy Symposium: EU-Canada Scientific Collaboration in Horizon](#) (Toronto)

The Canadian Science Policy Centre, in collaboration with the European Union through its Delegation to Canada, will host a half-day event in Toronto. It will feature dynamic panel discussions on opportunities for EU-Canada research collaboration, youth engagement, and the evolving landscape of science diplomacy.

15 October 2025: [European Research Council \(ERC\) Grants – Q&A and Testimonials](#) (Virtual)

Euraxess North America is hosting a webinar on European Research Council grants with officials from the ERC and current grantees.

26-27 November 2025: [Horizon Deep Tech Summit](#) (Madrid)

The Horizon Deep Tech Summit 2025 is the leading international event in Deep Tech, set to take place in Madrid. The event will cover key topics such as quantum computing, artificial intelligence, space tech, energy & decarbonisation, mobility, food tech, med tech, biotech, cybersecurity, advanced materials, dual-use technologies, and defence tech. The event will host panel discussions, start up competitions and multiple networking opportunities with key players in the ecosystem.

Conference: Healthy Competition: Can Europe Regain Its Global Edge in Life Sciences?

Join leading policymakers, researchers, and industry experts at the **Science|Business** public conference—a hybrid event in Brussels—on how Europe can reclaim its leadership in life sciences amid global competition.

This timely discussion will explore whether Europe’s world-class research, institutions, and infrastructures can be leveraged more effectively to bring life-science innovations to market. Key challenges—ranging from regulatory complexity and fragmented R&I ecosystems to investment gaps—will be examined alongside the European Commission’s new “**Choose Europe for Life Sciences**” strategy, aimed at attracting talent, capital, and innovation by 2030. More information can be found [here](#).

Date: Thursday, 16 October 2025

Time: 09:00 – 13:30 CEST

Location: Hybrid event — Brussels, Belgium and online

SSHRC Destination Horizon Grants – Last Round of Competition in 2025

Destination Horizon Grants support researchers affiliated with eligible Canadian postsecondary institutions to build capacity, foster existing partnerships, and further develop networks and/or consortia with European Union and other “associated countries” researchers, with the ultimate goal of applying to [Horizon Europe](#)—Pillar II calls for proposals.

Destination Horizon Grants are not intended to support implementation of Horizon Europe projects. Instead, the grants support activities between researchers that facilitate:

- disciplinary and/or interdisciplinary exchanges;
- scholarly exchanges;
- intersectoral exchanges between academic researchers and practitioners from the public, private and/or not-for-profit sectors; and/or
- international research collaboration and scholarly exchanges between researchers affiliated with Canadian postsecondary institutions and researchers, students and non-academic partners from the EU and other associated countries.

Funding amount: up to \$15,000

Duration: one year

External proposal deadline: 22 September 2025

Internal EOI deadline: 03 September 2025

Please note that a postsecondary institution may only submit up to three Destination Horizon Grant applications for a given deadline so internal selection must occur prior to submission. To submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) for consideration to apply for the 22 September 2025 deadline please send the following documents to international.office@usask.ca with the subject line “Destination Horizon Grants” by **03 September 2025**. The email should include the following attachments:

- Project Description (max. 1000 words)
- a description of the existing relationships with researchers, partners, networks and/or consortia from European Union and associated countries;
- a description of the overall research goals and specific research objectives of the researchers, partners, networks and/or consortia;
- a description of how Destination Horizon funding and host contributions will support the further development of the network and/or consortium in order to apply to a future Horizon Europe—Pillar II call for proposal;
- the nature and extent of training, mentoring and employability activities for students, emerging scholars and/or other highly qualified personnel, if applicable; and

- details on how all activities can be undertaken within one year.
- List of Applicants (please provide name, affiliation, email address, and role in this application)
- Funds requested from SSHRC ([template at this link](#))
- Matching funds from other sources ([template at this link](#)). Please note: SSHRC requires a 100% matching fund in the form of cash contributions.

**Letter of support will be required at the full application stage.

For more information about this grant, please visit the [program website](#).

German Research Foundation - Initiation of International Collaboration Program

DFG (German Research Foundation) launched this program to support German researchers interested in establishing collaborative scientific relationships with partners abroad to apply for funding for trips abroad, guest visits or for exploratory workshops.

USask researchers are encouraged to work with their German partners to explore collaboration opportunities with the support of this funding opportunity.

Eligibility Requirements

Researchers who have already achieved their doctorates and who are working in the German scientific system may apply.

Funding is available for the following collaborative measures:

- Trips abroad (max. three months) or guest visits in Germany (max. three month);
- Exploratory workshops.

For more information, please visit the [program website](#).

Deadline: Proposals may be submitted at any time.

Fulbright Canada: Awards for Canadian Scholars

Fulbright Canada Traditional Scholar Award: US\$12,500 for one semester (4 months). These awards are field open and can be taken up at any university, think tank, or government agency in the United States.

Fulbright Canada Scholar Entrepreneurship Award: US\$12,500 for one semester (4 months). These awards support scholars in conducting research while providing the necessary resources to transform innovative ideas into successful entrepreneurial endeavours and can be taken up at any university, think tank, or government agency in the United States.

Fulbright Canada Short-term Entrepreneurship Award: US\$10,000 for four weeks. These awards are designed for professionals, students, and scholars and can be taken up at any university, think tank, or government agency in the United States. The award aims to equip experienced individuals with the tools and knowledge necessary to succeed in entrepreneurial endeavours.

Fulbright Canada Research Chair Award: The award values range from US\$25,000 to US\$50,000 and from four to nine months. Fulbright Canada Research Chairs are targeted opportunities at select universities/institutions designed to host exceptional scholars and experienced professionals who conduct research in a specific area.

Funding amount: varies by the program

Duration: varies by the program

Deadline: varies by the program

RFP: Play Learn Thrive - Grand Challenges Canada

Grand Challenges Canada, with support from The LEGO Foundation, has launched [Play Learn Thrive](#)—a new funding opportunity to address gaps in early childhood development in emergencies (ECDiE) and education in emergencies (EiE). This call supports projects that strengthen support systems for children aged **birth to 12 years** in **Jordan, Lebanon, Kenya, and Uganda**—especially those whose developmental and educational needs are currently not being met.

Applicants must:

1. Have an **active presence** and implement programming directly in at least one of the four countries (Kenya, Jordan, Lebanon and/or Uganda)
2. Be a **legally incorporated not-for-profit organization**
3. Be **legally registered** to operate in at least one of the four eligible countries

Transition to Scale funding follows a two-stage process:

1. Screening and project summary
2. Invitation-only full application for shortlisted projects

Funding available: \$300,000–\$1,500,000 CAD

Duration: Up to 24 months

Rolling submissions: 21 January–23 September 2025

Internal Deadline: 09 September 9, 2025 ([ten business days prior to the external](#))

External Deadline to apply: 23 September 2025

Sony Research Award Program

As part of one of the world's most innovative and recognizable brands, we are committed to support university research and innovation in the U.S., Canada, India, and select European countries, while also fostering partnerships with university faculty and researchers. The [Sony Research Award Program](#) provides funding for cutting-edge academic research and helps build a collaborative relationship between faculty and Sony researchers. With awards up to \$150,000 USD* per year for each accepted proposal, both the Faculty Innovation Award and Focused Research Award create new opportunities for university faculties and research institutions to engage in pioneering research that could drive new technologies, industries and the future.

Faculty Innovation Award

The Sony Faculty Innovation Award provides up to \$100K USD in funds to conduct pioneering research in the areas listed [here](#). Please select the single most relevant keyword to your submission.

Focus Research Award

The Sony Focused Research Award provides an opportunity for university faculty, research institutes, and Sony to conduct this type of collaborative, focused research. The award provides up to \$150K USD in funds and may be renewed for subsequent year(s). A list of candidate research topics appears [here](#). Please select the Focused Research Theme for which your submission is written.

Eligibility requirements for PIs:

- PI's institution: PIs must belong to a university, educational institution, or governmental/non-profit research institute.
- PI's position: PIs must be a full-time professor (adjunct professors and adjunct researchers are not eligible) or researcher and be eligible to supervise Ph.D. students at the PI's institution. Full professors, associate professors, and assistant professors are eligible to apply

Grant duration: One year, with a possible extension

Internal deadline: 05 September 2025 ([ten business days prior to the external](#))

External deadline: 15 September 2025

Water Research Foundation: Research Project on Maintaining Disinfectant Residuals in Water Distribution Systems

The [Water Research Foundation: Research Project](#) is seeking proposals to help water utilities establish comprehensive programs and practices for maintaining a minimum disinfectant residual throughout the distribution system.

Objectives

- Develop a state of the science for hyperspectral imaging and highlight its applicability to the municipal One Water sector.
- Assess the sensitivity and accuracy of hyperspectral microscopy to detect microbial pathogens in a variety of impacted source water types (i.e., water, wastewater, reclaimed water, and stormwater) and water quality types (e.g., ranges of hardness, TOC, and alkalinity). Pathogens should include, but are not limited to, *Cryptosporidium*, *Giardia*, and *E. coli*.
- Assess the minimum required quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) needed to use the data for monitoring purposes.
- Assess data cleaning, noise reduction, unmixing, and anomaly detection practices needed to refine the database produced.
- Assess the applicability of machine learning to predict microbial species based on hyperspectral imaging.
- Investigate if hyperspectral microscopy can detect chemicals and/or particles (i.e., microplastics, nanoplastics, and nanoparticles) in source water.

Grant amount: USD \$250,000

Internal deadline: 08 October 2025 ([ten business days prior to the external](#))

External deadline: 22 October 2025

BE WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS

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

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