

What is the Research Support Fund?

The Research Support Fund (RSF) is a permanent Government of Canada program that helps post-secondary institutions cover the indirect costs of research, enabling them to manage their research activities and maintain a world-class research environment. The program provides an annual grant to eligible universities and colleges to support these costs. [Visit the RSF website](#) for more information.

What are ‘Indirect costs’ of research?

Indirect costs of research refer to the central and departmental administrative expenses that support research but cannot be directly attributed to specific projects. These are the essential costs institutions must cover to enable research activities to occur. RSF groups indirect costs into five categories: 1. Research facilities: examples include renovations, upgrades, and maintenance and operation of research spaces, laboratories, and offices. 2. Research resources: examples include the acquisition and management of library holdings, improved information and research security resources, and insurance for research equipment. 3. Management and administration of the institution’s research enterprise: examples include salaries of research support staff, training and professional development, and research promotion and public relations. 4. Regulatory requirements and accreditation: examples include supporting research ethics boards, training research personnel in health and safety, and upgrading facilities to meet regulatory compliance requirements. 5. Intellectual property and knowledge mobilization: examples include expenses related to patent applications, technology transfer, licensing, administration of partnership agreements, and the development of incubators.

How is the Research Support Fund calculated?

Grants are calculated based on the amount of funding an institution received from the three federal granting agencies over the previous three years. The formula is designed to allocate a higher proportion of funding to institutions that receive less overall support from these agencies. In doing so, the Research Support Fund helps smaller universities and colleges provide adequate support for their research programs and strengthen their research capacity. [Visit the RSF website](#) for more information.

How much is CBU allocated?

In 2025–2026, CBU received an RSF allocation of \$531,841. For 2026–2027, this allocation increased by approximately 13% to \$599,968.

How did CBU use these funds?

Table 1: RSF Expenditure by Category (Dollar Figure), 2025-2026

Expenditure Category	Amount
Research facilities	\$132,960
Research resources	\$159,533
Management and administration	\$186,144
Intellectual property and knowledge mobilization	\$53,184
Total	\$531,841

Figure 1: RSF Expenditure by Category (Percentage Distribution), 2025-2026

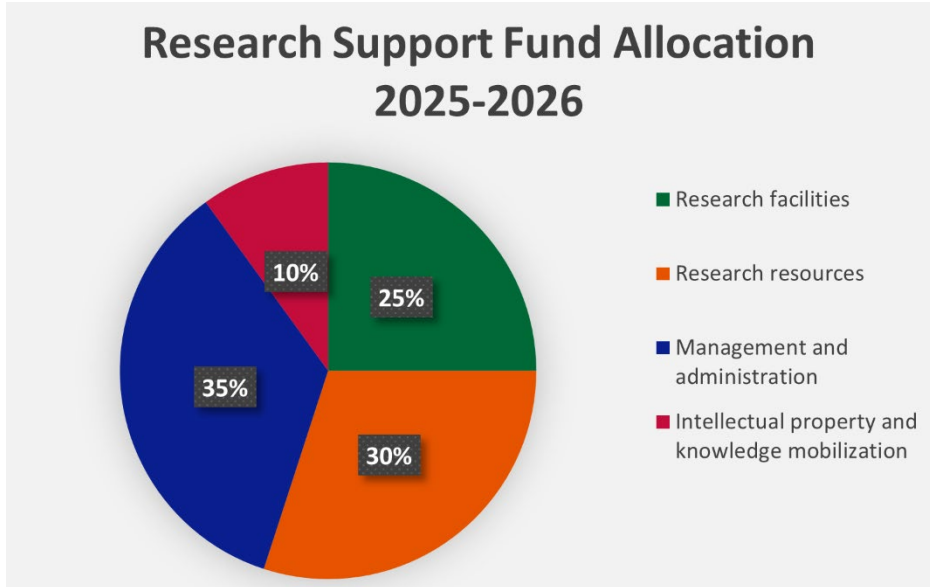


Table 2: RSF Objectives Table, 2025-2026

Eligible Expenditure Category	Output	Performance Objective	Performance Indicator	Target Outcome	Reported Outcome
Research Facilities	Projected expenditure: 25%	Investing in upgraded research facilities.	Number of fume hoods procured for future research facility.	Procurement of research-grade fume hoods completed in alignment with construction timelines for the new facility	TBA AUG. 2026
Research Resources	Projected expenditure: 30%	Maintain access to high quality research software and databases.	Annual renewal of institutional Qualtrics license and assurance of uninterrupted platform access. Number of core research databases supported, contributing to the continued availability of licensed digital research resources.	100% continuity of service.	TBA AUG. 2026
Management and Administration of an Institution's Research Enterprise	Projected expenditure: 35%	Streamline pre and post award research administration processes.	Centralize internal grant submissions and approval processes to one platform. Platformize the research ethics board submission and feedback process.	Implementation of research admin software.	TBA AUG. 2026
Regulatory Requirements and Accreditation	--	--	--	--	--
Intellectual Property	Projected expenditure: 10%	Ongoing administration of industry agreements and partnerships	Number of active industry agreements maintained annually. Average turnaround time for agreement processing (e.g., draft to execution).	Maintain or increase number of active industry agreements. 50% of agreements processed within 10 business days.	TBA AUG. 2026

RSF Investment Story

The RSF Outcomes Report highlights examples of how RSF funding contributed to a strong and supportive research environment during the previous fiscal year. The 2025–2026 Outcomes Report will be submitted in August 2026, after which we will share two impact stories demonstrating the value and outcomes of RSF-supported activities at CBU.