

Research Support Fund

Public Disclosure Statement for 2023-24

The **Research Support Fund (RSF)** helps Canadian postsecondary institutions with the costs associated with managing research funded by the three federal research granting agencies.

Indirect Costs of Research

The “hidden” costs associated with managing research are called indirect costs and include the cost many institutional activities and services that are required to support research but are not covered by research grants and contracts. Some of these are:

- Salaries for staff who provide administrative support for researchers and their projects (research office, finance, legal, IT, library);
- Costs related to the maintenance of laboratories and research facilities (power, security, building and equipment maintenance).
- Research resources

Research and scholarship are part of a teaching-intensive regional university and contribute significantly to excellence in undergraduate education. Research and scholarship enhance UFV’s social, cultural, economic, and environmentally-responsible development and contribute to the strategic goals of UFV.

The Research Support Fund is essential to building and sustaining a culture of research and scholarship at UFV as well as pragmatically supporting everyday activities and operations. The fund enables UFV to employ staff (Director of Research; Ethics and Compliance Officer, Grants and Contracts Officers; Research Services Assistant; Financial Analyst and Liaison) who support faculty and student researchers. Many initiatives supported by the RSF showcase UFV faculty and student research and promote interdisciplinary networking within the institution and community.

The value of each grant is calculated as a percentage of the institution's total federal research funding from NSERC, SSHRC, and CIHR with some exclusions. Detailed information about the Research Support Fund can be found [here](#). The actual amount of the RSF grant that UFV receives does not cover the total amount of eligible costs, so the grant is attributed to the cost of maintaining the Office of Research and Graduate Studies.

Allocation of UFV Research Support Funds 2023-24

100% of the 2023-2024 Research Support Funds were used to support the financial administration of the research enterprise at UFV. This primarily include salaries and benefits, plus professional development activities required for staff to remain current with research administration of all research funds.

Research management and administration

Salaries and training costs for staff who work on grant applications, research proposals, and support the research enterprise; costs associated with publications and events that highlight UFV research; costs of grant-writing workshops and professional memberships.

The Research Support Fund plays a vital role in many of our successes as administrators support the research and knowledge dissemination activities of faculty and students. Some examples of our support for UFV faculty and student researchers in the 2023-24 academic year are listed below:

- Hosting a faculty MicroLecture where 22 faculty presented two-minute lectures on the findings and implications of their current research.
- Offering annual workshops for faculty and students: Faculty Sabbatical Planning and Application workshop; Grant Mentorship Program; Research Option and Scholarly Activity workshop; Research Ethics Workshops, NSERC and SSHRC Scholarship workshops and ROMEO training workshops.
- Assisting more than 39 undergraduate students who presented at national and international professional conferences.
- Supporting seven students who received NSERC Undergraduate Student Research Awards.
- Presenting 25 students with Undergraduate Research Excellence awards for excellence in research done in 23 disciplines, industry, and Indigenous

communities.

- Supporting more than 450 undergraduate student research assistants.
- Hosting Student Research Day where more than 100 students presented their research posters while competing for 11 financial awards of \$200 each.
- Reviewing over 187 research ethics protocols to ensure UFV met TCPS and CCAC compliance.
- Providing HREB members and Research Office staff opportunities to attend national conferences such as CAREB, CARA, and CCAC for training and networking.