

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

Research Support Fund

Accountability and Public Acknowledgment

May 2016

Public acknowledgment

1. *definition of the indirect costs of research, along with concrete examples of the types of expenses incurred by the institution in managing the research funded:*

Research funding provided through the granting agencies (the [Canadian Institutes of Health Research](#) (CIHR), the [Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council](#) (NSERC), and the [Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council](#) (SSHRC)) is generally limited to direct project costs (e.g., research equipment, research assistant salaries, etc.). Institutions whose

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the [Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council](#) (SSHRC).

Every year, the federal government invests in research excellence in the areas of health sciences, engineering, natural sciences, social sciences and humanities through its three granting agencies. The Research Support Fund program reinforces this research investment by helping institutions ensure that their federally-funded research projects are conducted in world-class facilities with the best equipment and supports available.

Research funding provided through the granting agencies (CIHR, NSERC and SSHRC) is generally limited to direct project costs (e.g., research equipment, research assistant salaries, etc.). Institutions whose researchers receive funding for research also incur costs to manage their research enterprise. These are often called “indirect costs of research.” These costs include, for example, the costs of maintaining modern labs and equipment; costs of providing researchers with access to up-to-date knowledge resources; costs of managing and administering research; costs of meeting regulatory and ethical requirements; and costs of transferring research results to knowledge users.

[Eligible institutions](#) receive an annual grant through the fund to defray a portion of the indirect costs incurred to support federally-funded research. The program (formerly known as the Indirect Costs Program) was introduced in 2003 as part of the federal government’s strategy to make Canada one of the world’s top countries in research and development. It currently has a budget of \$341 million and serves over 120 postsecondary institutions across the country.

More information on the Research Support Fund

The University directs funds to specific research initiatives and the following is a key strategic direction for Dalhousie over the next several years which will require funding support to achieve:

Expand the opportunities for research, scholarly and artistic work

Direct and attract resources to priority research areas, with local, national and international importance

Attract and retain outstanding professors

Attract and support excellent graduate students and postdoctoral fellows to strengthen the

Setting and reporting on institutional performance objectives

5. *Identify institutional performance objectives for the grant. Objectives should be in accordance with how the institution chooses to invest its grant in either one, several or all five of the eligible [expenditure categories](#), and must include corresponding indicators and target outcomes:*

2016 - 2017

Eligible expenditure category	Institutional performance objective	Indicator	Output	Outcomes reported at year end
Research facilities	Continue to develop and support core research facilities and multi-user space	Core facilities accommodate more research equipment	Establish Guidelines for Core Facilities	Support core facilities capacity and usage
Research resources	Manage and facilitate matching fund requests with a documented and transparent process	Researchers complete and submit matching fund request forms	Establish Guidelines and Forms for Matching Fund Requests	Expectation of researchers and research community is managed through established guidelines
Management and administration of an institution's research enterprise	Improve research application processing and approval	Submission of application documents on		