

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

Research Support Fund

Accountability and Public Acknowledgment

updated March 2019

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 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.

Examples of the types of expenses incurred at Dalhousie University and affiliate hospitals in managing the research funded are:

- research space facility fees, e.g., custodial, maintenance, security, utilities and insurance, and research equipment maintenance
- electronic data access and resources including technical support, e.g., portion of library operating costs
- Research Services’ staff assistance and oversight
- regulatory compliance including human and animal ethics certifications and research integrity and scholarly misconduct services
- research commercialization and intellectual property services and support through the Industry Liaison & Innovation office.

2. *description of the [Research Support Fund program](#) and link to the program’s website:*

The federal government Research Support Fund program assists Canadian postsecondary institutions and their affiliated research hospitals and institutes with the indirect costs associated with managing the research funded by the three federal research 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).

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.

More information on the Research Support Fund program can be found on the website:

http://www.rsf-fsr.gc.ca/about-au_sujet/index-eng.aspx

3. *list of Dalhousie University affiliated institutions:*

- Nova Scotia Health Authority
- IWK Health Centre

See attached Affiliated Organizations Validation Form.

4. *overview of how the institution allocates its grant funds under each of the five categories:*

The Research Support Fund Grant is included as a revenue source to the University Operating budget and helps defray a portion of these costs which are imbedded in the various responsibility centres in the operating budget. For example, a portion of the grant supports utility costs for research space on University campuses which are included in the University budget for Energy, Water, Taxes and Insurance. The majority of the costs supported by the grant are ongoing. Where the federal government allocates increased Research Support Grant funding to the University, it is allocated to the various categories based on the cost drivers for each category. As an example, as additional space is provided for research activities, the grant allocated for the maintenance and insurance of space is adjusted.

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 impact of research
- Foster undergraduate research
- Enhance research with state-of-the-art facilities and resources in accordance with the Institutional Framework for the Support of Research.

The hospitals allocate funding from the Research Support Fund to various initiatives including: maintain and revitalize existing research space and equipment; provide systems required to support research; support the administration of new research initiatives; supplement Research Ethics administration; and maintain lab safety and certification requirements.

For 2018/19, the Research Support Fund (RSF) grant to Dalhousie University (including affiliate hospitals) was \$8,926,852, and the RSF Incremental Project Grant (IPG) was \$716,177. These funds were allocated accordingly:

Research Facilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deferred maintenance (RSF-IPG) 	\$3,294,580 \$716,177
Research Resources	\$1,503,395
Management and Administration	\$3,264,770
Regulatory Requirements and Accreditation	\$723,186
Intellectual Property	\$140,921

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:

2018 - 2019

Eligible expenditure category	Output (investment or expense of RSF grant funds)	Performance Objective	Performance Indicator	Target Outcome
Research facilities	Four designated Core facilities receive appropriate operational support Deferred maintenance undertaken in Tupper Medical Building	Review and support Core research facilities and multi-user space Improve research labs	Core facilities offer equipment and technical support to broader research community Labs are modernized for researchers	Core facilities model effective and efficient resource usage Research labs are updated to current standards to facilitate world-class research
Management and administration of an institution's research enterprise	Create Information Management team to pilot test and implement Researcher Portal	Improve research application processing and approval	Submission of application documents on-line	Electronic submission improves processing time and enhances researcher application experience
Management and administration of an institution's research enterprise	Increase support to Grants unit to better assist Tri-agency researchers and applications	Improve services to researchers and provide specific Tri-agency expertise	Service expectations of researchers are met	Increased number of applications to Tri-agency and/or increased success rates
Intellectual Property (IP)	Create position in Industry Liaison & Innovation office to serve large-scale oceans initiatives including the Ocean Frontier Institute, DeepSense, and the Ocean Supercluster	Support for research innovation and tech transfer in the oceans sector	Active engagement and collaboration with industry partners in the oceans sector	Increased industry partnerships and/or contracts with oceans sector
Intellectual Property (IP)	Establish position of Executive Director, Innovation & Entrepreneurship, in Vice-President Research Office	Support for extra-curricular innovation and entrepreneurship programs and Dal's innovation Sandboxes	Increased student/researcher participation in entrepreneurship and Sandbox activities	Plan/path established to guide and accelerate innovation ideas to commercialization



RESEARCH SUPPORT FUND Affiliated Organizations Validation Form

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING OUT THE FORM

The list of affiliated organizations provided will be used to identify all the credits that will be attributed to the applicant institution in the [grant calculation exercise](#) for the Research Support Fund. It is the applicant institution's responsibility to provide complete and accurate information.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

- Read the instructions on the program website prior to filling out this form (see both the [Program accountability and public acknowledgment](#) and the [Apply to the program](#) pages).
- Changes to this form (including corrections to errors) cannot be made once the form has been submitted to the program.
- Adjustments **will not** be made to an applicant institution's grant value in cases where incorrect information was provided in the form.
- Incomplete forms, or those that do not follow the instructions, will not be accepted.**
- Ensure that all sections of the form are complete prior to submission.
- Email the completed form in MS Word format only on or before the RSF [grant application deadline](#) to: information@rsf-fsr.gc.ca. **IMPORTANT: Do not send the form as a PDF.**

FILLING OUT SECTIONS 'E' AND 'F' OF THE FORM

- Applicant institutions **must** include the formal names of their affiliated organizations. Do not use acronyms or abbreviations.
 - Add as many rows as necessary to the tables in order to include all affiliated organizations. Place the cursor in the last row and column of the table and use the Tab key to add more rows; or, if you prefer, use the cut and paste function to add additional rows.
 - Enter only one affiliated organization name per row.** It is not necessary to identify the nature of the affiliation with the applicant institution; i.e., whether it is a primary affiliation, sub-affiliation or sub-sub affiliation.
 - Do not append any documents to this form. All affiliations must be entered into the appropriate sections and data fields of the form provided.**
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SECTION C: ACCOUNTABILITY AND PUBLIC ACKNOWLEDGMENT REQUIREMENTS

- Applicant institutions that are eligible to apply for a Research Support Fund grant **at or above the value of \$25,000** must meet the program’s [accountability and public acknowledgment requirements](#). In the table below, provide the website link to the applicant institution’s web page where the Research Support Fund’s accountability and public acknowledgments requirements have been met.

Accountability and Public Acknowledgment Requirements	Applicant Institution’s Website Link
Public Acknowledgment	https://www.dal.ca/dept/research-services/resources/funding-stats.html
Institutional Performance Objectives <i>(Research Support Fund grant at or above the value of \$530,000 only)</i>	https://www.dal.ca/dept/research-services/resources/funding-stats.html

- Provide an overview of the institution’s Research Support Fund [communications strategy](#). Note that at the end of the granting period, institutions must report on how they implemented their Research Support Fund communications strategy in their [annual outcomes report](#).

Research Support Fund Communications Strategy
<p>Dalhousie University and affiliate hospitals will promote the Research Services Fund throughout the year.</p> <p>It is anticipated that two stories will be produced annually acknowledging the Research Support Fund and the support it provides to the institutions. These stories will be posted in the Dalhousie Research Services (DRS) Newsletter and, when appropriate, on the Today@Dal electronic notice board produced by Communications & Marketing (C & M). The DRS newsletter is e-mailed weekly by Research Services to the Dalhousie research community, and Today@Dal is e-mailed daily by C & M to Dalhousie members. The stories will be posted on the Dalhousie Research Services website and made available to the local media.</p> <p>A concerted effort will be made to acknowledge the Research Support Fund program, when appropriate, in outreach presentations to the research community.</p>



SECTION D: NO AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

- Check the appropriate boxes below (as applicable) if your institution **does not have any** health affiliated organizations or any other type of affiliations (i.e., no primary affiliations, sub-affiliations or sub-sub-affiliations).

No affiliated hospital(s) or health research institute(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
No other affiliated organization(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>

SECTION E: AFFILIATED HOSPITAL(S) OR HEALTH RESEARCH INSTITUTE(S)

- Indicate in the table below all affiliated research hospitals and health research institutes. Add as many rows to the table as necessary to include all health affiliates.
- The terms and conditions of the program stipulate that [official and valid agreements](#) must be negotiated with **all** affiliated research hospitals and health research institutes for the grant year, irrespective of whether or not program funds are being shared with the affiliate. Confirm, by checking in the appropriate box, that a valid agreement for the grant year has been signed with each of these affiliated organizations, or that a valid agreement will be in place prior to any transfer of funds (if applicable). Institutions may be asked to provide a copy of these agreements to the Tri-agency Institutional Programs Secretariat at any time.
- If the applicant institution is not affiliated with any hospitals or health research institutes, check the box provided in 'section D' above.

	Affiliated <u>hospital or health research institute</u>	Valid agreement in place for the grant year	Agreement will be in place prior to transfer of funds
1.	Nova Scotia Health Authority (formerly Capital District Health Authority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.	IWK Health Centre	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6.		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



8.		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9.		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10.		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11.		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12.		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13.		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14.		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15.		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16.		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17.		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18.		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19.		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20.	Add as many rows as necessary to include all health affiliates. Use the Tab key or 'cut and paste' function.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

SECTION F: OTHER AFFILIATED ORGANIZATION(S)

- Indicate **all** other organizations affiliated with the applicant institution that meet the program definition of an **affiliate** (**excluding** any health research institutes listed above). Add as many rows to the table as necessary to include **all** affiliates (including primary affiliations, sub-affiliations, and sub-sub-affiliations). **Enter only one organization name per row.** If the institution does not have any 'other affiliations', check the box provided in 'section D' above.

Other affiliated organizations (include all primary affiliations, sub-affiliations and sub-sub-affiliations)	
1.	Queen Elizabeth II Health Science Centre (NS)
2.	Victoria General Hospital (NS)
3.	Horizon Health Network (NB)
4.	Schulich School of Law (NS)
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16.	



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17.	
18.	Add as many rows as necessary to include all affiliates (use the Tab or cut and paste function).