

About The Research Support Fund (RSF):

In 2003, the Government of Canada introduced the Indirect Costs Program to provide Canadian universities and colleges with an annual grant to help pay for a portion of their hidden or “indirect” costs of research, which pose a financial challenge to these institutions. The Indirect Costs Program transitioned to the Research Support Fund in 2015. Every year, the federal government funds specific research projects through its three granting agencies:

- The [Canadian Institutes of Health Research](#) (CIHR);
- The [Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council](#) (NSERC);
- The [Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council](#) (SSHRC).

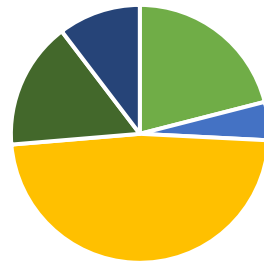
Thus, the Research Support Fund also reinforces this research investment by helping postsecondary institutions ensure that their federally-funded research projects are conducted in world-class facilities with the best equipment and administrative support available. Grants for indirect costs must add to, and not displace, any research support funds that postsecondary institutions have received from the provincial government, private sector or other federal sources.

Trent’s Research Support Fund Allocation:

The amount of Trent’s Research Support Fund Costs Allocation is calculated using an algorithm based on a three-year rolling average of the funding the University is awarded from the federal granting agencies (SSHRC, NSERC, CIHR). According to this calculation, in 2016-2017 Trent received a Research Support Fund allocation of \$1,846,976. This allocation was divided into five RFS categories:

Facilities	\$388,073
Resources	\$88,468
Management and Administration	\$884,197
Regulatory Requirements & Accreditation	\$294,929
Intellectual Property	\$191,309

Research Support Fund Expenditures 2016-2017



Description of the Impacts of the Research Support Fund at Trent University

The Research Support Fund Program is critical to Trent University as it provides base-level support to the research enterprise. Examples of impacts linked to the Research Support Fund include:

- Support of Trent University's regulatory compliance bodies such as the Animal Care Committee, the Biosafety Committee and Research Ethics Board;
- Support of the veterinarian and vet services;
- Support for research accounting services including financial audit costs and purchasing services;
- Buyer assistance for purchasing of research materials, equipment, and services;
- Legal counsel;
- Memberships in academic organizations;
- Contributions to operating costs for custodial, security, maintenance, utilities required for research space;
- Technical support (cartographic/photographic, machine shop, electronics)
- Support for research grant management and administration including regulatory compliance;
- Laboratory renovations and maintenance, equipment upgrades and repair;
- Insurance and licenses on research vehicles;
- Management of Trent University's intellectual property assets;
- Contribution to library acquisitions including electronic and print journals;
- Production of research promotional materials such as "Showcase";
- The creation, development, and maintenance of systems to enable tracking research grants;
- Grant facilitation and professional development of both faculty and staff engaged in the research enterprise;
- Contributions to the management and administration of research centres and institutes
- Support and management of science facilities