

Incremental Project Grants

INSTITUTIONAL PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES 2024-2025

In 2024/25, the University of Alberta will receive Incremental Project Grants funding of \$3,678,494 and has allocated the funding to the following projects:

Project Description	Priority area(s)	Allocated Amount	Institutional Performance Objective	Indicator	Targeted Outcomes
Technology Transfer Services	Innovation and commercialization activities (Intellectual property and knowledge mobilization)	\$ 797,800	A stronger and more valuable IP portfolio that can be commercialized by university inventors and other industry partners; increased profile and reputation of university innovations. Researchers being more aware of benefits of pursuing IP.	Number of patents disclosed, filed and issued on university technology innovations; number of licensing deals executed for university IP; licensing revenue;	By 31-March-2025: More Canadian IP developed and retained in Canada, leading to economic benefits in the form of new products and services that enter the economy; new high quality jobs; greater economic development and positive social impacts.
Startup support	Innovation and commercialization activities (Intellectual property and knowledge mobilization)	\$ 494,000	More university-based spinoff companies with greater viability and investment into those companies; increased commercialization activity; increased industry partnerships;	Number and quality of ventures created and revenue invested/attracted; number of industry partnerships.	By 31-March-2026: More AB based high growth startups created that can attract investors and bring new products to the market
Innovation Portal	Innovation and commercialization activities (Intellectual property and knowledge mobilization)	\$ 30,000	People with similar interests will have an opportunity to find each other in a self-serve manner.	We will be able to track interactions and we should see a steady increase in use once it is up and running.	By 31-March-2025: Greater success in pairing researchers with projects and allowing companies to have a primary portal for starting discussions regarding collaborations with our researchers
Indigenous Initiatives and Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Research Resources	Equity diversity and faculty renewal (Management and administration of an institution's research enterprise)	\$ 292,770	Greater understanding in our research community of the key concepts and terms of EDI, assistance for researchers with the knowledge needed to work in, with, and for Indigenous communities in Alberta, respecting different sovereign nations, cultural and linguistic differences, governance structures, geographical territories, treaty relationships and non-treaty relationships and other key points. Improved data to measure progress of initiatives in support of EDI and II in research and innovation. New opportunities for research partnership between UofA faculty members and Indigenous communities.	Videos of second set of EDI terms and concepts available on VPRI EDI site; Completion of second set of short videos of Indigenous research primer and FAQs completed by March 2025. Additional researcher resources developed by March 2025, with more workshops held to support researchers and research community. Program Officer, Indigenous Research & Initiatives hired and working with researchers, with VPIPR office and with others. Research Development Officer hired to support II + EDI in grant proposals and enhance success.	By 31-March-2025: Greater success of our researchers in incorporating EDI principles and practices into their research programs, environments and applications. Researchers who are better prepared to work in, with, and for Indigenous communities, better relations with Indigenous nations, communities and organizations. More and stronger relationships and partnerships with Indigenous communities. Improved data to measure progress, and greater success in external funding.

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Research Networks Support Initiative	Information resources including digital resources open access and databases (Research Resources)	\$ 245,085	Increase the visibility of and community for Black scholarly research accomplishments, Indigenous scholarly research engagement, 2SLGBTQIA+ research and scholarship, etc. through the establishment of interdisciplinary networks of researchers. Increased funding capacity; support and retention of researchers and professors from equity-denied groups. Targeted supports for specific external grants to support research success across the University.	Number of active networks or hubs that require administrative or operational support. New support materials and workshops for researchers for successful grant applications and community engagement activities.	By 31-March-2025: Increased researcher-community networks; increased funding capacity; a functional institutional social innovation framework; support and retention of researchers and professors from equity-denied groups. More interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary activity, leading to more large team grants with community group involvement.
International Research Initiative	Equity diversity and faculty renewal (Management and administration of an institution's research enterprise)	\$ 54,885	Expansion of our international research collaborations to include institutions from developing and emerging countries of the Global South and those developed countries that wish to engage with us to support developing country engagement.	Number of new partnerships with institutions from emerging and developing countries, with emphasis on countries of origin of our underrepresented minority group faculty members, plus targeted developed countries with requirements for us to engage with developing countries.	By 31-March-2025: Broader international collaborations and partnerships that support our research priorities as articulated in our institutional Strategic Plan for Research and Innovation.

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Streamlining REB review of multijurisdictional research ARISE enhancements	Information resources including digital resources open access and databases (Research Resources)	\$ 400,000	Streamlined ethics reviews and FCOI processes will reduce workloads for Ethics Committee members, administrators as well as the researchers and their teams.	REBX - deliverables would include: Investigate and resolve issues related to renewal workflow defect between IRISS and ARISE for psites. Automate the generation of approval and changes requested letters for new studies (certification) and amendment workflows. Technical consulting fees for UBC integration work. Configure REBX for non health integrations between UC and UA (REB 1 and REB 2 and CFREB integration). Configure QA/test environment to account for Exchange - in collaboration with the University of Calgary. Human REB Form Revision: The Human REB application form has been relatively stable since 2012. Revisions to several sections of the application form such in accordance with best practices in areas as follows are required: Research involving Indigenous peoples, EDI updates to the form, Safeguarding research integration, Research Data Management requirements, as well as updates to TCPS2. Objectives and Deliverables: Review and confirm new AUP system requirements; Confirmation of solution available within platform to meet the requirements; Build new AUP form; Testing of new AUP form with small pilot group; Support for PIs to migrate existing studies to new AUP form. Updated new AUP form will ensure all business processes within animal module in ARISE have undergone consultation and process improvement since automating the application process in 2012. Review of FCOI forms and process to streamline work for researchers.	By 31-March-2026: Single Board of Record approvals through REBX, will form part of the infrastructure to attract Industry Sponsored clinical trials to Alberta. Reduction of multiple ethics reviews across Canada will also support unfunded researchers who lack the support and infrastructure for duplicative administrative ethics applications. A streamlined application form will lead to reduced reviewer and applicant burden, better data available to the ACUC to perform their reviews and improved turnaround time from submission to approval for new Animal Use protocols. A streamlined FCOI application process will support our researchers applying for US Federal funding, while provided better compliance review processes for administrators.

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Animal Care and Use Compliance and Accreditation	Equity diversity and faculty renewal (Management and administration of an institution's research enterprise)	\$ 260,330	Dedicated personnel to fulfill key compliance and operational roles will allow the Research Integrity Support portfolio to prepare the University for its CCAC assessment, resulting in fewer major and/or minor recommendations and will result in a successful accreditation. The compliance veterinarian: a) will serve to relieve some operational duties currently assumed by the University Veterinarian allowing him time to focus on policy and programatic issues; b) will sit on each of the ACUCs, reducing the burden for Facility Veterinarian/Directors and theoretically improving the overall turn around of the ACUC reviews, as veterinarian review is often a rate limiting factor; c) will support the PAM program by conducting PAM visits required in advance of the CCAC visit. The administrative resource will: a) support the the completion of key required elements of the accreditation package of documentation (ie. full review/update to all institutional SOPs); and b) provide overall support to compilation of the assessment package.	Response to CCAC program assessment will be managed resulting in enhanced compliance with CCAC reguirmnts The Post Approval Monitoring program is established a U of A in compliance with CCAC requirements UAPPOL Animal Policy and Procedures are updated and approved by December 2024. ACUC review turn around time decreased due to dedicated veterinarian availability for full committee reviews and sub-committee reviews A Cannabis Institutional License is submitted and approved by Health Canada with a framework and program to conduct this research in cokpliance with the terms of the Institutional license is establsihed at the University. The Human Research Ethics Program conducts a fulsome review of its ethical application form and guidance as a benchmark of best practices across Canada.	By 31-March-2025: CCAC program assessment findings are addressed within the timeframe required by CCAC. Required policy, procedure and SOP are all brought into compliance. Increased researcher satisfaction with the ethics review process in light of reduction in review timelines. A Cannabis research institutionanl process is implemented supporting researchs to conduct this research in compliance with Health Canada regulations. The University Human Research Ethics Program is conducted in accordance with updates guidelines and SOPs.

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University-wide Research Facilities and Operations	Facilities renewal including deferred maintenance (Research Facilities)	\$ 1,103,624	Given the major institutional investment in Core Facilities and their increasing importance as assets in the research ecosystem, optimization of rationalizing, organizing and managing these facilities will lead to efficiencies and cost savings to allow the University of Alberta to realize its research / teaching and community service missions.	Renewed governance and critical upgrades for university-wide core research infrastructure.	By 31-March-2025: Establish and empower governance structures to conduct a comprehensive operational and financial analyses of existing CFs. This outcome also includes the identification and implementation of potential synergies and efficiencies through consolidation or shared management models, aimed at reducing duplication and improving resource utilization across the university. Develop and standardize digital resources, including a uniform website format and a comprehensive search engine integrated into the VP (Research and Innovation) homepage. This digital overhaul will ensure that all CFs are easily accessible to both internal and external users, enhancing the visibility and usability of the facilities. Explore professional development streams through collaboration with University's existing pedagogical infrastructure specifically designed for CF Directors and Managers. Simultaneously, explore the integration of advanced transactional management software across CFs to streamline operations, enhance real-time financial monitoring, and optimize resource management. Improved workplace conditions for researchers and their teams. Increase efficiency and capacity of research space. Completion of the work within the fiscal year.