

Research Support Fund Allocation 2023/24

The Research Support Fund (RSF) assists Canadian postsecondary institutions with the costs associated with managing their research enterprise, helping them to maintain a world-class research environment. AU acknowledges the essential support of the RSF to enhancing the university's priority and capacity on research.

RSF Amount and Allocation Areas

The notional grant amount for the 2023-2024 fiscal year is \$587,115. Athabasca University expects to allocate the funds within the following categories:

Research Resources: Supports and infrastructure for digital research and networking.

Management and Administration of the Institution's Research Enterprise: Research administration supports for grant development and facilitation, grants management software, capacity building, and development of the redesigned Strategic Research Plan.

Regulatory Requirements and Accreditation: Coordination of AU's research ethics activities and processes.

Intellectual Property and Knowledge Mobilization: Supports and initiatives for research development, commercialization, and digital knowledge mobilization.

The table below charts a pathway for success—from output to outcomes—in each of these categories of strategic utilization of the RSF.

RSF Performance Objectives

RSF Eligible Expense Category	Output	Performance Objective	Performance Indicator	Target Outcome
(2) Research Resources	<p>Projected: 2.6% of RSF investment.</p> <p>Develop and maintain AU's supports and infrastructure for digital research.</p>	Establish key resources for digital research activity and networks.	Usage of digital research resources and networks.	Enhanced capacity and engagement in digital research infrastructure.
(3) Management and Administration of the Institution's Research Enterprise	<p>Projected: 59.6% of RSF investment.</p> <p>Offer accessible and responsive supports and systems throughout the research life-cycle.</p>	Maintain or increase faculty engagement in research services processes.	Maintain or increase number grant submissions.	<p>Maintain or increase sponsored research revenue.</p> <p>Maintain or increase percentage of faculty holding (i.e., awarded) external funding.</p>
(4) Regulatory Requirements and Accreditation	<p>Projected: 18.9% of RSF investment.</p> <p>Maintain regulatory requirements and ethics processes.</p>	Continued regulatory vigilance, coordination, and management.	Effective delivery of ethics reviews and process enhancements.	Maintain or increase the number and efficiency of research ethics applications processed.
(5) Intellectual Property and Knowledge Mobilization	<p>Projected: 18.9% of RSF investment.</p> <p>Increase research output to academic and non-academic audiences to maximize input.</p>	Develop and refine research development supports and impact initiatives.	Engagement in research development supports and impact initiative.	<p>Enhanced contribution of research development to grant submissions.</p> <p>Diverse and broad reach of knowledge mobilization initiatives supported through the RSF.</p>