Research Support Fund – 2023-2024

The Research Support Fund (formerly known as the Indirect Costs of Research 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. The Fund helps Canadian post-secondary institutions with expenses associated with managing research funded by the three federal funding agencies: Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), and Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). It reinforces the federal government research investment by helping institutions ensure that their federally funded research projects are conducted in high-quality facilities with the best equipment and administrative support available. The Fund has a budget of over $360 million and serves more than 100 post-secondary institutions across the country.

Definition of Indirect Costs

There are a number of centralized institutional activities and services that support the research mandate of the University. These vary in scope and size but are critical to our success. Institutional activities and support services include the following areas:

- **Library:** operations and information acquisitions and resources
- **Research Administration:** Research Office services including animal care, research ethics, grants and contracts administration and legislated requirements for reporting on grants and activities, communications, and the Industry Liaison Office (ILO).
- **Research Support Services:** a wide range of services, including research accounting, occupational health, and lab safety.

Each of these activities is vital to the overall effectiveness of the institution.

Each year the Mount receives a grant through the Research Support Fund to help pay for a portion of the central and departmental administrative costs related to federally funded

research. For **2022-2023**, based on a formula calculated on the percentage of federal research funding awarded, the Mount was allocated **$611,159**. These funds were used as follows:

Research Resources: $310,159

This funding is used for library acquisitions to support our students and faculty in conducting their research.

Management and Administration: $270,000

There are significant staffing resources that go into the management and administration of research projects. The following examples demonstrate some of the areas and offices involved:

- The Mount's Research Office, led by the Associate Vice-President, Research, handles oversight and development of research initiatives including applying for grants, and communication of the research objectives and outcomes for the Mount and research ethics.
- Financial Services, which handles equipment procurement, materials and supplies for research, grant accounting and report submission, payroll services, and payment of research expenditures.
- Human Resources, which handles any search processes and hiring of employees for grant initiatives.

Regulatory Requirements and Accreditation: $15,000

Research Support Funding is used to support a portion of the expenditures related to the process of Research Ethics approval and oversight as well as the Canadian Council on Animal Care.

Intellectual Property: $16,000

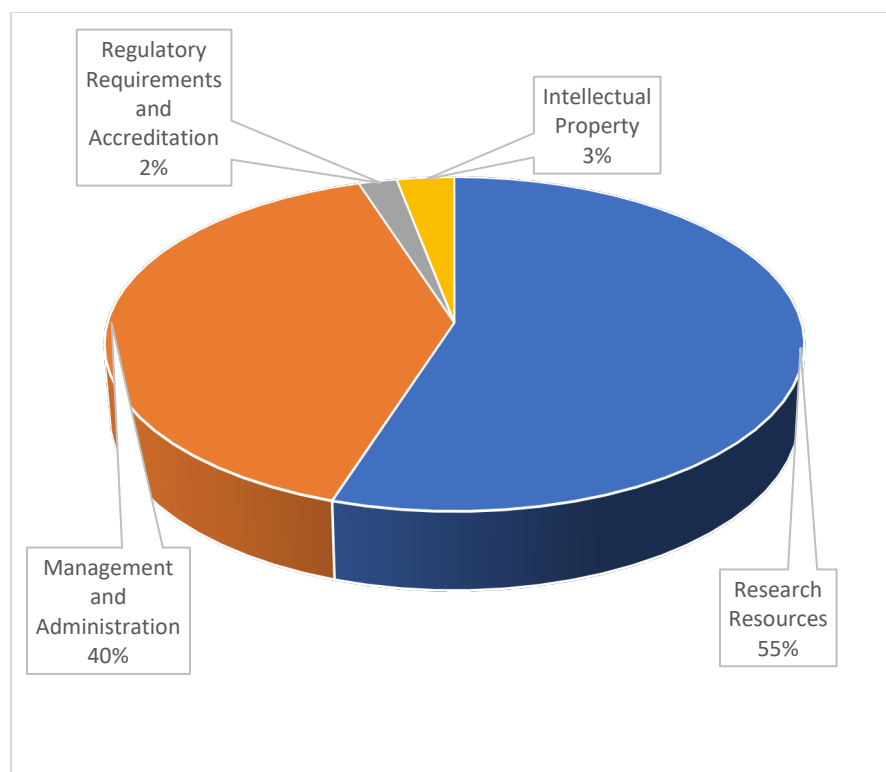The Mount shares the cost of a position for an Industrial Liaison Officer with several other universities.

2023-2024 Proposed Allocation

For **2023-2024**, the Mount proposes to use its allocated funds of **$669,718** as follows:

Category	Amount	%
Research Facilities	-	0.0%
Research Resources	368,718	55.0%
Management and Administration	270,000	40.0%
Regulatory Requirements and Accreditation	15,000	2.0%
Intellectual Property	16,000	3.0%

2024-2025

2023-2024 Forecsted RSF Allocation

For more information on the Research Support Fund, please click here.