2021 Research Junction Development Grant - Guidelines

Research Junction Development Grants will support the University of Saskatchewan (USask) and City of Saskatoon in their efforts to increase research, scholarly and artistic collaboration and build connections between the two organizations. Individual grants between $10,000 and $30,000 will be awarded to new research projects carried out by USask faculty in partnership with City of Saskatoon staff.

Eligibility:
Open to research teams consisting of at least one USask faculty member (tenured, tenure-track, or term) or research staff (eligible for tri-agency funding) and one City of Saskatoon staff member pursuing a research project. A City of Saskatoon collaborator and a USask faculty member must jointly design the project. This one-time grant supports research that addresses a City of Saskatoon research question, in support of furthering one of the City of Saskatoon’s Strategic Goals. The project should create a new collaborative partnership or broaden the scope of an existing partnership.

Criteria:
Funding will be awarded following a review process by adjudicators appointed by the City of Saskatoon and University of Saskatchewan. Adjudicators are guided by the following criteria:

- The research is original, reflects a research need for the City of Saskatoon, and has clear objectives;
- The appropriateness of the applicants’ expertise in the proposed area of research;
- The activities of the project are feasible and are likely to be completed within an 18 month period;
- The inclusion and quality of highly qualified personnel (HQP) training opportunities;
- The budget is realistic and adheres to eligibility guidelines;
- The completion of the project has the potential to create meaningful knowledge translation;
- The project’s potential for continued collaboration and the feasibility of plans to move from the development stage to a larger-scale, externally funded research project.

Eligible Expenses:
Funding requests must be reasonable and fully justified. Eligible expenses include:

1. Undergraduate or graduate student wages or stipend.
2. Salary contributions to Postdoctoral fellow, research associate or technical assistant.
3. Travel as is necessary for the collaboration or fieldwork.
4. Materials and supplies necessary for the project.
5. Consumable equipment relevant to the research project.
6. Costs associated with knowledge mobilization/transfer.
7. Conference travel is eligible up to a maximum of $1,000 of the proposed budget. Explanation of how conference attendance is essential to the project must be included in the application.
Terms of Support:
Recipients will have 18 months from their desired start date to use the funds with any remaining funds returned at the end of the project. Grant recipients are required to submit a report written for a general audience within two months of completing the project (max 200 words).

Application Procedure:
The application should include the following:

1. The signed application form.
2. A 2-page letter of support from the participating City of Saskatoon department outlining their interest in the project, resource contributions (ie. data, personnel, or funding), and the role of the City lead in sharing expertise to the project. See details on page 2 of the application form.
3. A 2-page biosketch of the Principal Investigator. See details on page 2 of the application form.
4. A research proposal (5 pages maximum). See details on page 2 of the application form.
5. A budget and justification (1 page maximum). See details on page 2 on the application form.

Application Deadline:
The application must be submitted to research.junction@usask.ca by May 21, 2021 at 4pm. Funding decisions will be made within one month of the application deadline.

Support for Locating a Collaborator in the City or University:
USask faculty and City of Saskatoon staff who have a project idea and are interested in identifying and establishing a collaborator should contact research.junction@usask.ca.

Note: Partnership identification and matching can take up to a month before a team can start planning their proposal. Please allow additional time for this when requesting a match.