



Research
Manitoba

researchmanitoba.ca

MANITOBA SOLUTIONS GRANT

Program Guide

Last Updated:

July 7th, 2026

1. Preface

Research Manitoba promotes, supports, and coordinates the funding of research excellence in health, natural science and engineering, and social science and humanities in Manitoba. Our organization cultivates local talent development by investing in early career researchers and graduate students and fosters strategic partnerships to bolster innovation and commercialization in the province.

2. Purpose

The Manitoba Solutions Grant (MSG) is a strategic research funding initiative led by Research Manitoba to address Manitoba's most pressing challenges through interdisciplinary, collaborative research. Projects must be co-developed with knowledge users, such as industry, nonprofits, or community-based organizations who play a direct role in shaping the research and applying its outcomes.

Each year, one priority area will be selected in collaboration with the Manitoba government, ensuring strong alignment with provincial needs and opportunities. Projects must show clear potential to create tangible, measurable benefits to Manitobans, strengthen local capacity, and advance equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility (EDIA) in research.

3. Objectives

The specific objectives of the Manitoba Solutions Grant are to:

- Invest in Manitoba-focused research.
- Foster collaboration between academia and knowledge users, such as Manitoba-based organizations, community, and industry.
- Build provincial research capacity.
- Generate measurable benefits for Manitobans.

4. Priority Research Call

Climate Adaptation & Community Protection

This year, the Manitoba Solutions Grant competition will focus on research in **Climate Adaptation & Community Protection**. This call will provide catalyst funding to support Manitoba-based research that applies, analyses, or develops strategies to support and protect our communities from the effects of a changing climate.

Increasing wildfire, flood, extreme weather, and water security risks require Manitoba-specific adaptation evidence to guide land-use planning, emergency management, and the climate resilience of essential infrastructure and services relied upon by communities.

Call Requirements and Eligibility

This call aims to:

- Strengthen Manitoba's research capacity, infrastructure, and expertise in climate adaptation and community protection.
- Support applied and translational research that investigates the real-world applications of climate change, its impact on our communities, and developing solutions for a climate resilient future.
- Generate new knowledge, evidence, and tools that enable Manitoba's disaster readiness.
- Encourage interdisciplinary and cross-sectoral research collaborations involving academic institutions, industry, public sector organizations, Indigenous communities, and non-profits.

Eligible research areas may include (but are not limited to):

- Applied climate risk modeling tailored to Manitoba geographies, including flood-prone regions, agricultural zones, northern communities, and transportation corridors.
- Watershed, source water, and drinking water protection research co-developed with municipalities or First Nations.
- Food security and supply chain resilience studies examining climate-related risks to production, distribution, affordability, and access, including northern and remote contexts.
- Community-level emergency preparedness and adaptation research with measurable outcome indicators, including continuity of food, water, and critical services during extreme events (ex. community evacuations).
- Climate-focused infrastructure resilience research evaluating how energy, water, transportation, food, and digital systems can withstand and adapt to extreme climate conditions.
- Northern transportation and logistics reliability research informing provincial capital planning and continuity of essential goods and services.

Projects funded through this call should produce evidence-based insights, frameworks, or prototypes that can inform policy, guide best practices, or be scaled for broader application in Manitoba.

If you have questions regarding your project's alignment with the priority research call, please contact helpdesk@researchmb.ca.

5. Award Amount and Duration

The Manitoba Solutions Grant is a **two-year** award that is awarded on a competitive basis and is valued at a **maximum of \$100,000 per year**, totaling a maximum of **\$200,000**.

Proposals do not have to request the maximum value of the award. All proposals must provide a thorough budget justification. At this time, Research Manitoba will fund a minimum of seven awards per competition.

While matching funds from collaborating knowledge users are not required for this competition, demonstrated partnership commitment in the form of in-kind and matching funds will enhance the strength of an application. Any and all matching funds should be disclosed in both the budget justification and the Knowledge User Organization Form.

Award funds are to be used to defray the direct cost of research only.

Examples of eligible expenses can be found in **Appendix B**.

If concurrently applying for funding/have received funding for this research project from a national research funding agency and/or other external research funding organization, applicants must provide details of the budget requested from the other funding organization and provide justification that there is no overlap in the use of funds.

A one-year automatic extension on the use of funds will be permitted, with no additional funding. To utilize the extension, please complete an [extension request form](#) and indicate you will be using the one year no-cost extension.

Note: The Manitoba Solutions Grant provides funding for up to two years. Year 2 funding is not guaranteed and is contingent upon satisfactory progress and financial accountability in Year 1, as demonstrated through the Interim Report and Financial Review. Continuation is subject to Research Manitoba approval.

6. Eligibility Requirements

General Eligibility Requirements

- Lead/Principal Applicant must be affiliated with an eligible Manitoba research institution. **Please note:** Applicants that have an affiliation with both an academic institution and a research institution are required to use their academic institution as their primary organization and the administrator of funds for this grant.
- Projects must include at least one knowledge user as a co-applicant. Every listed knowledge user co-applicant must complete a Knowledge User Organization Form.
- The proposed research and related activities must be conducted primarily in Manitoba.

- Teams must demonstrate interdisciplinary expertise and meaningful collaboration across sectors.
- Matching funds and in-kind contributions are not required but may enhance the strength of applications and should be identified at the time of full application submission.

An example of collaboration can be found in **Appendix A**.

7. Application Deadlines

The Manitoba Solutions Grant competition runs on an annual basis.

Stage 1 – Expression of Interest (EOI)

EOI Applications Open: **July 7th, 2026 at 9am CST**

EOI Application Deadline: **August 17th, 2026 at 4pm CST**

Stage 2 – Full Proposal (by invitation only)

Full Proposal Applications Open: **September 2026**

Full Proposal Application Deadline: **November 2026**

Any changes to the above timeline will be announced on the program website. Specific timeline for the full proposal stage will be communicated directly to invited applicant(s).

Award decisions are anticipated for the **end of March 2026**.

8. Application Requirements

The Manitoba Solutions Grant program is research-focused, and applications must be prepared as a research proposal. This includes providing clear scientific rationale, rigorous methodologies, and citing relevant scientific literature and providing a list of references.

Please complete the EOI application using the latest [application form](#). All applications and associated materials must be submitted to info@researchmb.ca before the deadline.

Applications will not be accepted after the deadline regardless of circumstances.

Please ensure all uploaded documents adhere to the following page setup and formatting requirements:

Margins:	¾" (2 cm)
Page:	8.5" x 11" (21.5" x 28.0 cm)
Font:	11 points
Spacing:	No condensed type or spacing
Line Spacing:	Single-spaced

Stage 1 – Expression of Interest (EOI) Application

- i. **Applicant information:** Please provide the identification, address and contact information for the primary applicant and co-applicant(s). At least one knowledge user is required to be listed as a co-applicant on the project.
 - All knowledge users identified as (a) co-applicant(s) are required to complete the **Knowledge User Organization Form** listed in **Appendix C**.
 - If a knowledge user does not want to be included as a co-applicant, the knowledge user can be listed as a collaborator and provide a letter of support for the application. However, this cannot occur in place of a knowledge user co-applicant, but rather in addition to the knowledge user co-applicant.
- ii. **Budget Table and Budget Justification (maximum two pages):** Upload a budget justification with a full breakdown of the funds requested from Research Manitoba. If matching funds are being provided by the collaborating knowledge user, please include a budget breakdown of these funds. Refer to the list of eligible and ineligible expenses in **Appendix B** prior to completing the budget table.
 - If concurrently applying for funding/have received funding for this research project from a national research funding agency and/or other external research funding organization, please provide a budget breakdown of the funds and provide justification that there is no overlap in the use of funds.
- iii. **Abstract (maximum 250 words):** Provide a non-technical summary of your proposal, written in simple and clear language suitable for a general audience. The summary should include:
 - A brief background of the research. This should be short and fact-based, providing context for the importance of the research.
 - A description of the research methods used in the project.
 - The expected outcomes of the research.

The abstract should indicate how your research ultimately can impact the lives of Manitobans.
- iv. **Summary of Proposal (maximum 3 pages):** Provide a summary of the proposal including the project's objectives, expected outcomes, knowledge mobilization plan, and timeline of the proposed activities within the 2-year scope of this grant.
- v. **Appendices:** Materials provided in the appendices must be supplementary in nature. The appendices must not be used to provide essential details of methods or study rationale that would normally be included in the Research Project Description. **Please note:** Reviewers will be under no obligation to read more than the first ten appendix pages. The appendices do not count towards the Summary of Proposal's page maximum.

- vi. **Manitoba-Focused Benefits and Impact (maximum one page):** Clearly articulate how the proposed research will:
 - Address a current or emerging Manitoba-specific need,
 - Improve outcomes in/for Manitoba,
 - Have a positive impact in Manitoba, including social, economic, and health impacts,
 - Or build capacity for research and innovation in Manitoba.
- vii. **Research Team and Research Capacity (maximum 250 words):** Describe the primary applicant and the research team's expertise to successfully carry out the proposed project. Provide a list of research personnel who will be involved in the project and their relevant expertise. Detail the research environment, infrastructure required, and access plan to facilities and equipment required for the project.
- viii. **Knowledge User Collaboration (maximum 250 words):** Please outline the nature of the collaboration between the primary applicant and the collaborating knowledge user. This should include the knowledge user's participation in the project and the potential benefits this research will have on their organization.
- ix. **Signature Page:** Please upload a copy of the Signature Page with the appropriate signature(s).
- x. **Narrative CV:** An updated Narrative CV (no older than six months) is required from the primary applicant for submission. This narrative CV will follow the Tri-Agency template. For more information on how to write a narrative CV please visit these links:
[Tri-agency CV - CIHR](#)
[Guidance for writing a narrative CV](#)

Stage 2 – Full Proposal Application (by invitation only)

- xi. **Applicant information:** Please provide the identification, address and contact information for the primary applicant and co-applicant(s). At least one knowledge user is required to be listed as a co-applicant on the project.
 - All knowledge users identified as (a) co-applicant(s) are required to complete the **Knowledge User Organization Form** listed in **Appendix C**.
 - o The Knowledge User Organization Form submitted with the EOI application will be retained for the full application submission. If edits are needed, there will be a new form available for completion with the full proposal submission.
 - If a knowledge user does not want to be included as a co-applicant, the knowledge user can be listed as a collaborator and provide a letter of support for the application. However, this cannot occur in place of a knowledge user co-applicant, but rather in addition to the knowledge user co-applicant.

- xii. **Budget Table and Budget Justification (maximum two pages):** Upload a budget justification with a full breakdown of the funds requested from Research Manitoba. If matching funds are being provided by the collaborating knowledge user, please include a budget breakdown of these funds. Refer to the list of eligible and ineligible expenses in **Appendix B** prior to completing the budget table.
- If concurrently applying for funding/have received funding for this research project from a national research funding agency and/or other external research funding organization, please provide a budget breakdown of the funds and provide justification that there is no overlap in the use of funds.
- xiii. **Abstract (maximum 250 words):** Provide a non-technical summary of your proposal, written in simple and clear language suitable for a general audience. The summary should include:
- A brief background of the research. This should be short and fact-based, providing context for the importance of the research.
 - A description of the research methods used in the project.
 - The expected outcomes of the research.
- The abstract should indicate how your research ultimately can impact the lives of Manitobans.
- xiv. **Research Proposal (maximum 6 pages):** Please attach a single pdf document with the research proposal. Please ensure this section includes the following:
- Objectives
 - Literature review
 - Experimental approaches
 - Methodology
 - Expected outcomes
 - Timeline
- xv. **Appendices:** Materials provided in the appendices must be supplementary in nature. The appendices must not be used to provide essential details of methods or study rationale that would normally be included in the Research Project Description. Reviewers will be under no obligation to read more than the first ten appendix pages. The appendices do not count towards the Research Proposal's page maximum.
- xvi. **Manitoba-Focused Benefits and Impact (maximum one page):** Clearly articulate how the proposed research will:
- Address a current or emerging Manitoba-specific need,
 - Improve outcomes in/for Manitoba,
 - Have a positive impact in Manitoba, including both financial and including social, economic, and health impacts,
 - Or build capacity for research and innovation in Manitoba.

- xvii. **Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, & Accessibility (EDIA) (maximum 350 words):** EDIA must be embedded in the project design, team composition, and community engagement, including alignment of Ownership, Control, Access, and Possession (OCAP) principles and/or appropriate First Nations, Métis, or Inuit research ethics where relevant.
- xviii. **Research Team and Research Capacity (maximum 350 words):** Describe the primary applicant and the research team's expertise to successfully carry out the proposed project. Provide a list of research personnel who will be involved in the project and their relevant expertise. Detail the research environment, infrastructure required, and access plan to facilities and equipment required for the project.
- xix. **Knowledge User Collaboration (maximum 350 words):** Please outline the nature of the collaboration between the primary applicant and the collaborating knowledge user. This should include the knowledge user's participation in the project and the potential benefits this research will have on their organization.
- xx. **Knowledge Mobilization (maximum 350 words):** A robust Knowledge Mobilization plan must demonstrate how finding will be shared, applied, or scaled within Manitoba.
- xxi. **High Quality Personnel (HQP) Training Plan (maximum 350 words):** Describe how this project will offer meaningful training experiences to HQP at academic institutions, and/or staff and trainees in the knowledge user's setting. Please provide a concise training plan focused on development of relevant technical and professional skills such as leadership, communication, collaboration, and entrepreneurship.
- xxii. **Suggested Reviewers:** Suggest the names of three independent experts competent to assess the technical aspects of the proposal. This list can include experts from the academic community and/or non-academic community (e.g., public/private sector). If possible, please include at least one expert from Manitoba.
- xxiii. **Signature Page:** Please upload a copy of the Signature Page with the appropriate signature(s).
- xxiv. An updated Narrative CV (no older than six months) is required from the primary applicant and all co-applicants listed on the application for submission. This narrative CV will follow the Tri-Agency template. For more information on how to write a narrative CV please visit these links:
[Tri-agency CV - CIHR](#)
[Guidance for writing a narrative CV](#)

9. Assessment Criteria

Applications are assessed in a competitive, peer-review process that considers the following criteria:

- **Relevance to Manitoba's Selected Priority Area:** Does the proposal clearly address the selected annual priority area? Is the Manitoba-specific need or opportunity clearly defined and well supported?
- **Knowledge User Integration:** Is a knowledge user actively involved as a co-applicant or collaborator? Are their roles, contributions, and commitments clearly described?
- **Scientific Quality and Feasibility:** Is the research design rigorous and appropriate for the objectives? Are the methods, timeline, and budget realistic and well-justified?
- **Knowledge Mobilization Plan:** Does the knowledge transfer strategy include relevant, realistic plans for sharing and applying results? Are audiences clearly identified?
- **EDIA and Community Engagement:** Are EDIA principles embedded in the team, research design, and engagement strategy? Is Indigenous engagement culturally appropriate and ethical?
- **Team Composition and Collaboration:** Is the team interdisciplinary and well-aligned with the project goals? Are roles clearly defined and collaborative strengths demonstrated?
- **Matching Contribution and Partnership:** Are there any matching funds or in-kind contributions that are confirmed and appropriate? Do partnerships add strategic value and demonstrate shared ownership of the project?
- **Training and Capacity Building Opportunities:** Are there meaningful roles for students or early-career researchers? Does the project enhance research capacity in Manitoba?

10. Reporting, Policies, and Other Information

Research Manitoba reserves the right to determine the eligibility of applications based on the information therein. Research Manitoba also reserves the right to interpret the regulations and policies governing its funding opportunities.

All applicants and grant holders must comply with the regulations set out in the Research Manitoba [Finance and Administration Guide](#).

Research funds are to be spent according to the budgets approved during the review and decision process. Occasionally, it may be needed to reallocate grant funds between approved categories if the needs or circumstances of the research project have changed. Grant holders need Research Manitoba approval for such reallocation only if the change involved is 25% or more of the grant's total.

Grant recipients are to report the outputs and outcomes of their funded research projects on the completion of their award. The Manitoba Solutions Grant requires an Interim Report and an End-of-Grant Report to be submitted. Grant recipients will be informed by Research Manitoba when the reports are to be completed. [Grant Report Templates](#) can be found on the Research Manitoba website under the [Grant Administration](#) tab.

As a general disclaimer, all proposed research projects need to be compliant with all relevant laws, regulations, guidelines (from the applicable institutions), and policies and/or requirements of Research Manitoba.

11. Contact Information

For questions regarding the application, submission process, and the Research Manitoba Grant Management System, please contact:

Email: helpdesk@researchmb.ca

Monday to Friday – 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Appendix A – Knowledge User Collaboration

The following types of knowledge users may collaborate on the proposed project:

- Private sector companies
- Public utilities
- Non-profit organizations
- Indigenous organizations
- Community organizations
- Municipalities and local governments
- Start-up companies
- Multinational companies (with research and development, manufacturing, and/or other commercial activities in Manitoba)
- Foreign companies (only in partnership with a Manitoba-based organization, and with tangible economic benefits to Manitoba)

Where applicable, collaborating parties must ensure that IP agreements are in place prior to applying.

An example of a collaboration is as follows:

A researcher for University X will be working with a local mental health organization to develop and validate an AI tool to detect early signs of mental health issues, such as depression, anxiety, and suicidal ideation, in adolescence. The project will use AI to analyse social media activity, language patterns, and behaviour data, which will be provided by the local mental health organization.

Appendix B – Table of Eligible and Ineligible Expenses

This is not an exhaustive list. If you are uncertain of the eligibility of an expense, please consult with one of our program officers by contacting helpdesk@researchmb.ca.

Eligible Expenses	Ineligible Expenses
<u>Salaries, Wages, and Benefits</u>	
- Salaries, benefits, research stipends, or hourly wages for Master's students, PhD students, Postdoctoral Fellows or research assistants directly involved in the project - Salaries and wages of technicians, research engineers, or scientists directly involved in the project	- Payments to primary applicant, co-applicant(s), or collaborators as consulting fees, honoraria, or salary - Release time stipends/course load reduction support (except for college primary researcher and clinicians)
<u>Professional Fees</u>	
- Clinician research release stipend (up to \$9,000 for PI only) - Course load reduction support (up to \$9,000 for college primary researcher only) - Project management, legal fees, consultant fees, business development expenses - Administrative support	Professional association fees and/or dues
<u>Materials and Supplies</u>	
- Items directly related to research (e.g., chemicals, consumables, lab supplies) - Small equipment (up to \$10,000 unless special permission is granted)	- Equipment over \$10,000 (without permission from Research Manitoba) - Home internet costs - Standard monthly connection or rental costs of telephones
<u>Travel Expenses</u>	
- Travel and accommodation for collaboration integral to the research plan - Travel to field sites or for real-world demonstrations for potential users/buyers - Travel to academic conferences, workshops, or seminars (up to \$2,500 unless special permission is granted)	Travel to academic conferences, workshops, or seminars over \$2,500 (without permission from Research Manitoba)
<u>Other Expenses</u>	
Knowledge Mobilization Activities: Publication fees (up to 5% of total requested grant amount, with justification)	Capital Assets and Equipment: Purchase, construction, renovation, or rental of labs or supporting facilities - Indirect Costs of Research such as overhead expenses

Appendix C – Knowledge User Organization Form

Contact Information

Organization Name*:	
Authorized Contact Person (Name and Title)*:	
Address*:	
Email Address*:	
Phone Number*:	

Organization Information

9 Digit Business Number (if applicable):	
Date of Incorporation (if applicable):	(YYYY-MM)
Operating Since*:	(YYYY-MM)
Which Sector is your organization in? *:	☐ Private sector (Including public and private companies) ☐ Public sector (Including Crown corporations and other companies that are owned by public organizations) ☐ Not-for-profit sector (Including all hospitals and postsecondary institutions) ☐ Other: Specify _____
Location of Headquarters*:	☐ In Manitoba ☐ Outside of Manitoba, please specify location: _____
Number of Employees*:	Manitoba-based employees Full time: ____ Part time: ____ Contract: ____ Non-Manitoba-based employees: ____

Organization Questionnaire

1. Which of the following best describes your organization:

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| ☐ Cooperative | ☐ Holding Company | ☐ Indigenous-owned business |
| ☐ Private company | ☐ Public company | ☐ Venture capital/angel investor/seed company |

☐ Crown Corporation or other corporation owned by a public organization	☐ Federal government agency	☐ Federal government department
☐ Funding organization	☐ Indigenous organization	☐ Municipalities, local or regional government
☐ R&D organization that is funded or controlled primarily by government	☐ Provincial/Territorial government agency	☐ Provincial/Territorial government department
☐ Public utility	☐ Incubator or accelerator organization	☐ Community organization
☐ Consortium with majority of funding from government sources	☐ Foreign not-for-profit organization	☐ Hospital
☐ Industrial association	☐ Medical or clinical research institute	☐ Organization that maintains collections for public good (ex. Libraries, museums, zoos, etc.)
☐ Other Canadian registered charity not captured by other categories	☐ Philanthropic organization	☐ Postsecondary institution
☐ Union	☐ Other: Specify _____	

2. Does your organization carry out R&D, produce goods or provide services in Manitoba?

☐ Yes

☐ No

3. Does your organization have the financial, managerial and technical capacity to carry out the proposed project?

☐ Yes

☐ No

4. Does your organization have at least three (3) full-time dedicated staff?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If you answered **No** to questions 4, please fill out the table below:

Employee Information (Name, title or role, qualifications, and area of expertise)	Type of Employment	Location (check all that apply)
Name: _____ Title: _____ Qualifications: _____ Area of Expertise: _____	☐ Full-time ☐ Part-time ☐ Contract	☐ Home Office/Virtual ☐ Onsite ☐ In Manitoba ☐ Outside Manitoba
Name: _____ Title: _____ Qualifications: _____ Area of Expertise: _____	☐ Full-time ☐ Part-time ☐ Contract	☐ Home Office/Virtual ☐ Onsite ☐ In Manitoba ☐ Outside Manitoba

5. Does your organization operate from its own offices or facilities (i.e., not work from a home address, a virtual work setting)?

☐ Yes

☐ No

6. Describe your organization, including the nature of its operations in Manitoba, and demonstrate how your organization and its staff have the expertise, and capacity to carry out the proposed project (e.g. technical and non-technical staff, research capacity, facilities, and financial capabilities) (Maximum 250 words).

Matching Funds Commitment (optional)

As the authorized representative, I confirm the financial commitments from my organization:

(a) Direct Cash Contribution: _____

(b) In-kind Contribution: _____

Knowledge User Signature

Terms and Conditions:

Before you, as the authorized representative of the partner organization, submit information as part of an application to Research Manitoba, you must read and agree to the following

terms and conditions. Please retain a copy of the agreed Terms and Conditions for your records.

By submitting information as part of an application to Research Manitoba, as the authorized representative, you certify that:

- you have received approval from your organization to participate in this proposal and to commit funds and in-kind contributions;
- the information your organization provided in the funding application and related documents is true, complete and accurate to the best of your knowledge;
- your organization agrees with the content of the application and will provide the committed resources;
- your organization will inform Research Manitoba immediately, in writing, of any change that affects the participation or eligibility status of the organization.

As the authorized representative of the organization, you also confirm that should a grant be made:

- your organization will comply with the terms and conditions of the grant during tenure of the grant;
- your organization will meet financial and other reporting requirements specific to the grant or granting program;
- your organization acknowledges and accepts the general conditions as outlined in the Finance and Administration Guide.
- your organization guarantees that, where applicable, the guidelines of the Canadian Council on Animal Care with respect to related animal experimentation will be followed; the CIHR guidelines for handling recombinant DNA molecules and animal viruses and cells will be adhered to; they will comply with the Tri-Agency Framework: Responsible Conduct of Research; and, where human subjects are involved, the research will be conducted in accordance with the Tri-Council Policy Statement: "Ethical Conduct of Research Involving Humans", and the sponsoring institution's documents.

I confirm that I have read, understood, and agree to the terms and conditions listed above, and that all the information provided in this form is accurate at the time of completing this application.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

(Please provide first name, last name, position title, and signature)