



Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science and Justice Studies

Faculty Research Development Grants

The Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science and Justice Studies at the University of Saskatchewan (the “Centre”) is an interdisciplinary Centre that promotes research and graduate training in justice and forensic behavioural science. Demands have, and continue to emerge, at the municipal, provincial and national levels for scholarly activity pertaining to the criminal justice system. These demands, include the need for research, training, and evaluation concerning the law and justice systems, personnel and incarcerated persons, crime prevention, conflict resolution, and community health issues as informed and impacted by correctional services.

The Centre is pleased to invite applications for a unique round of faculty research development grants focused on current topics of importance in Canadian Corrections and Justice:

- **Alternatives to incarceration**
- **Supporting the health and wellbeing of correctional staff**
- **Community integration**
- **Use of AI in correctional settings**
- **Reduction of violent incidents in institutions**
- **Analytical models for correctional population projections**
- **Other topics relevant to Corrections and Justice**

This funding is made possible through support from Correctional Service Canada (CSC). The purpose of these awards is to fund small projects that will enable researchers to better position their research for success at provincial and national funding levels.

Individual or co-applicant grant applications are invited for varying amounts up to \$15,000.

Only one submission per faculty member will be considered per competition, although a single individual may be named as Principal Investigator on one submission and Co-investigator on another. Researchers may apply for funding on a yearly basis (no more than once per calendar year) provided that any research previously funded by the Centre is complete and that a written summary of that work has been submitted to the Centre for posting on the website.

Consideration will be given to all submissions, but funding is competitive and will be granted based on the following criteria:

- the importance and relevance of questions being addressed;
- the potential theoretical contribution to an understanding of criminal behaviour and other justice-related phenomena;

- the potential practical contribution to the criminal justice system and its member agencies and stakeholders, including incarcerated persons and victims;
- forensic topics relevant to Saskatchewan and/or the Prairie region;
- plans to ensure effective knowledge translation;
- the soundness and practicality of the proposal; and
- the potential value for money.

Preference will be given to new applicants to facilitate their development of a research program in the field of criminal justice, including, but not limited to, police, courts, corrections, and crime prevention. Limited term appointments and sessional instructors are welcome to apply for an award but must complete the project during the duration of their contract and should note that preference will be given to tenure-stream or tenured applicants.

The proposal must include (in a single PDF):

1. Title of the research project;
2. Brief summary of the research (up to 5 pages) presented in accordance with the following topics: background issue(s), synopsis of relevant research, rationale for the research, research question(s), methodology, data analysis, other agency/organization involvement/approval, and potential implications/impact of the research;
3. Proposed budget for the research with justification of expenses, a statement of request specifying the amount of financial resources that are being requested, and a disclosure about any other potential or existing sources of funding;
4. Projected timeframe in which the research will be completed;
5. Dissemination or communication plan;
6. Brief biographies of the principal investigator and all co-investigators (up to one half page per person);
7. References;
8. Documentation that supplements the research summary may be included in Appendices (e.g., sample questionnaires, focus group questions, survey instruments, interview protocols, solicitation announcements, consent forms, correspondence with criminal justice agencies and stakeholders).

Submissions must be signed by the applicant, any co-applicants and their respective Department Heads (if applicable), and Deans. A copy of the ethics application and Research Ethics Board approval is not required with the submission, but per University policy, will be required before funding is released.

Grant applications are reviewed by an independent Faculty Research Grant Committee, made up of at least two anonymous volunteer members from the Centre's affiliated faculty and contributors.

Successful applicants must abide by the policies and regulations of the University of Saskatchewan regarding the use of research funds. In addition, award recipients will be required to submit an annual summary of their expenditures in order for the Centre to meet its own external reporting requirements. Grant funds may not be used to provide honoraria or release time stipends for the Principal Investigator or Co-investigators. Granting of the award does not imply support from CSC. Furthermore, if the approved project requires access to CSC data or to CSC staff or offenders under CSC jurisdiction, the project must be granted approvals through the CSC research process for external projects.

Eligible expenses:

- Travel directly associated with the research
- Research dissemination travel (maximum allowable \$1,000)
- Materials and supplies
- Salary and mandatory benefits for undergraduate or graduate students or non-student research assistants
- Equipment rental
- Postage and long-distance telephone expenses
- Printing
- Specialized computing software
- Fees paid to research subjects (e.g., honorariums) where ethically approved.

Any unexpended funds at the completion of the research must be returned to the Centre and will be added to the funds available in subsequent grant competitions.

The term of the grant will be in accordance with the applicant's request or as negotiated with the Awards Committee. It is anticipated that most grants will be for one year, although awards may be granted for a longer period if approved by the Executive Committee. The term may be extended only upon written request to and approval by the Executive Committee of the Forensic Centre. If changes to the budget beyond a single budget line are deemed necessary after the funds are awarded, a written request to and approval by the Executive Committee will be required. If the application is unsuccessful, every attempt will be made to provide feedback as to why the grant application was unsuccessful and areas where it can be improved for future resubmission.

Upon completion of the research, grant recipients must prepare and submit to the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science and Justice Studies a Poster and a *maximum 3-page summary* of the research, including rationale, research question(s) addressed, methodology used, findings, conclusions and implications for policy and/or practice, to be posted on the Centre's website. Researchers are also requested to submit to the Centre for its records a copy of any technical report or research publication produced from this research. Support from the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science and Justice Studies must be acknowledged in any publication unless written notice to the contrary is given.

If you have any questions, please contact: 306-966-2687 or
forensic.centre@usask.ca

Applications should be sent as one PDF to: forensic.centre@usask.ca

Applications will be accepted on an ongoing basis until January 15, 2027, or until this year's funding is exhausted.