

Research Support Fund Program Public Acknowledgement

Definition of the indirect costs of research

Concordia University defines “Indirect Costs” as costs which cannot be associated specifically with a particular research program or other activity. Indirect costs include the provision and maintenance of physical space and facilities, library services, financial services, computing services, furniture, departmental services (including secretarial), heating, cooling, insurance and like costs.

Description of the Research Support Fund Program

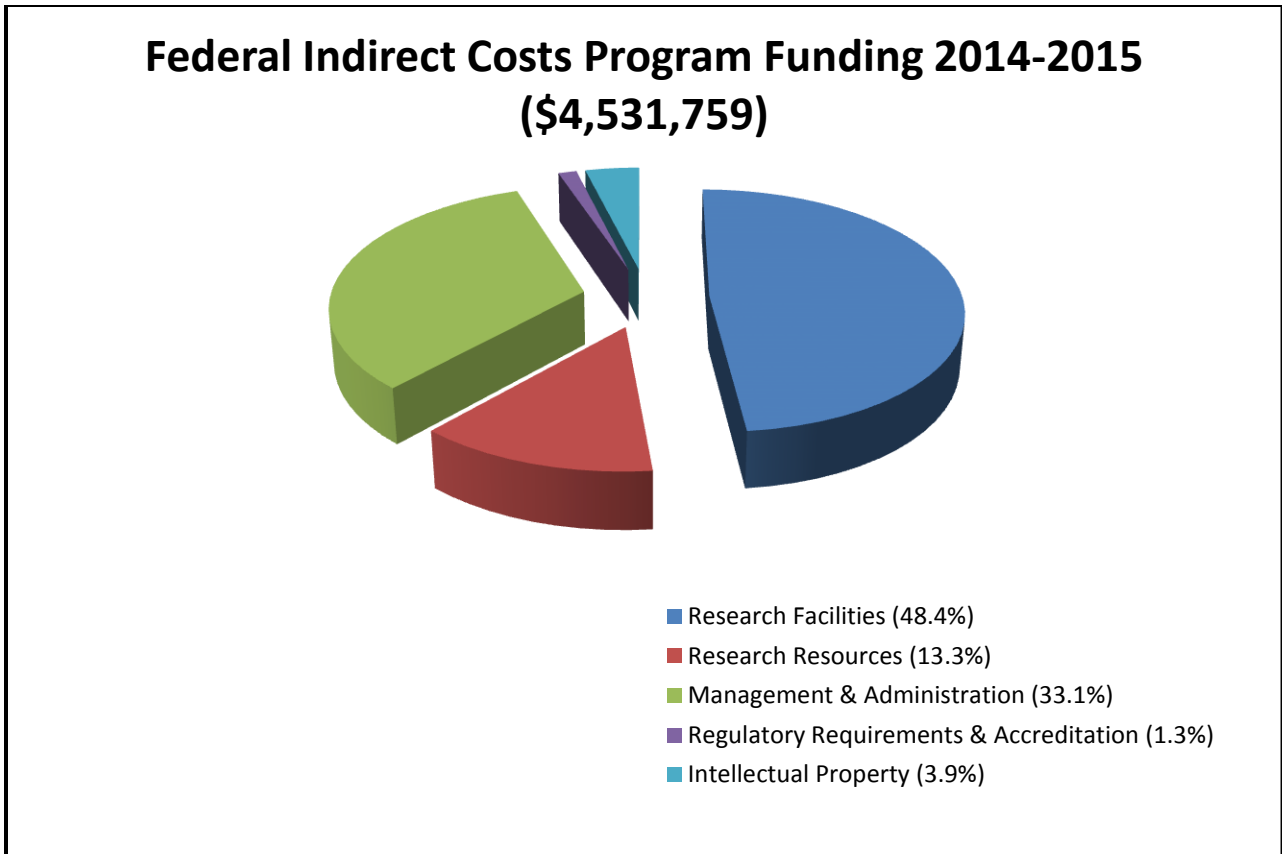
Information about the Research Support Fund Program can be accessed here:
http://www.rs-fsr.gc.ca/about-au_sujet/index-eng.aspx

Allocation of Research Support Fund Program funding at Concordia University

The Research Support Fund Program distributes indirect costs expenditures in five categories:

- [Research facilities](#)
- [Research resources](#)
- [Management and administration of an institution's research enterprise](#)
- [Regulatory requirements and accreditation](#)
- [Intellectual property](#)

In 2014-2015, Concordia University received a grant of \$4,531,759 under the old *Federal Indirect Costs* Program. The internal allocation model for indirect costs funding that has been in place at Concordia University in recent years can be summarized as follows: Faculties (20%); Office of the Vice-President of Research and Graduate Studies (25%); Facilities (20%); animal care, libraries, information technology services, and centralized research services (20%); other research administration (such as finance) (15%). The funding is then used to cover eligible expenditures in all five categories mentioned above. The actual expenditure breakdown per category for 2014-2015 was as follows:



General Impacts of the Research Support Fund Program at Concordia University

The Research Support Fund Program is of vital importance to Concordia University as other sources of funding that target these indirect costs of research are scarce. Funding through the Program has been important in increasing our ability to respond more efficiently to the demands arising from our growth in research capacity. For example, a portion of the 2014-2015 funding was used to help support Concordia University’s research units program, which benefits a wide range of researchers by supporting team and interdisciplinary research endeavours and infrastructures. As Concordia continues to increase and diversify its sources of funding, the demands on resources to support research will continue to escalate.

It is critical that Concordia provide renovations, upgrades and on-going infrastructure support in order to be able to conduct research that is relevant to the well-being and prosperity of Canadians and Canada. As such, our ability to continue providing high quality cost-effective administrative research support, in the context of our increasing research capacity, is more important than ever. To do so, we must be able to cover the full range of indirect costs.

Simply put, if there is inadequate research space, insufficient administrative and technical personnel, and outdated facilities, Concordia will be seriously disadvantaged in its efforts to attract and retain researchers (and graduate students) who are experts and leaders in their fields.