



2021-2022 Faculty of Education RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT SERVICES (RISS) PROGRAM Expense Eligibility Guidelines & Application Form

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The Faculty of Education's Research Infrastructure Support Services (RISS) program is designed to help Education faculty pursue **excellent research** as defined by the disciplines represented within the Departments and the School by supporting activities and expenses that are typically ineligible for support from other grant sources. RISS supports are limited to external grant matching, postdoctoral benefits, funds for pre-conference planning, matching for [UBC's SSHRC Bridge Funding Program](#) and funds to support community engagement for early stage research project planning.

The program is NOT designed to fund expenses related to primary research (e.g. data collection and/or analysis) or knowledge mobilization activities (e.g. on-site conference expenses, publication expenses, website development). It is expected that faculty will apply for (e.g.) Tri-Agency funds such as SSHRC Insight or Connection Grants, internally-adjudicated small SSHRC Explore Grants, or University publication funds to support such work.

APPLICATION DEADLINES

The Dean's Advisory Committee for Research (DACR), with representatives from Departments and the School of Kinesiology, adjudicates these grant applications three times per year. Completed RISS application forms must be emailed to [Robert Olaj](#) in ORE by 12 noon on Monday, **October 4, 2021**, Monday, **January 10, 2022**, and Monday, **April 4, 2022** to educ.ore@ubc.ca

ELIGIBILITY & BUDGET REQUIREMENTS

Education faculty in both the research and educational leadership stream, with tenure or tenure-track appointments as Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, or Professor, are eligible to apply to the program.

With **noted exceptions** below, RISS funding can be received by the **same PI only once per academic year (Sept-August)** and **only one request for funds may be made (ever) for the same activity or event** (even if the funds are to be used to support a different aspect of the previously funded event or initiative).

Applicants who have received funding in previous academic years must submit their RISS final report before, or simultaneously with, a new RISS submission.

BUDGET OVERVIEW

Request may be made for between \$500 and \$10,000, with **noted exceptions below**. Expenses must be well justified and budgets must clearly delineate how RISS funds will be spent, particularly if they are complementary to other sources of funding supporting the proposed initiative or event. The adjudication

committee is authorized to reduce funding requests that seem excessive for the stated project/activity or inadequately justified.

Graduate student salaries should be within Faculty norms (e.g., \$24-30/hr depending on tasks and status (MA/PhD/postdoc). The budget justification must include both a rationale for the rate requested and a detailed breakdown of the student's research activities in relation to the rate/hours requested.

EXTERNAL GRANT MATCHING

RISS provides up to a maximum \$10,000 in matching funds for an **external**, competitive research grant application where matching funds/contributions are expected (e.g. SSHRC Partnership Development Grants, SSHRC Partnership Grant, SSHRC Connection Grants). General annual RISS funding eligibility rules apply.

RISS matching funds are not available to support grants which have already been funded.

The RISS applicant must be the Principal Investigator/Applicant on the proposed external research grant. In the application's narrative description applicants must state the competition deadline of the external competition to which they are applying and must be successful in that competition round or the RISS commitment will be forfeited.

Applicants must also clearly explain in their budget justification how the RISS funds will be used in relation to the rest of their external grant budget and the RISS portion must be distinguishable from the other external grant application expenses.

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW BENEFITS

Faculty applicants are eligible to apply only **once** for **one year** of postdoctoral benefits funding for the same fellow and for only those fellowships funded through competitive **external sources** (e.g. Tri-Agency Postdoctoral Fellowships, Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship, MITACS Elevate) for which benefits are considered an ineligible expense. Postdoctoral fellowships funded through faculty members' own research grants are not eligible to have their benefits funded through the RISS program.

RISS will consider up to a maximum of 15% of salary for benefits (not to exceed \$10,000). Applicants are encouraged to consult their unit's finance staff for benefit estimates. UBC Human Resources has [a webpage that explains the benefits implications for postdoctoral fellowships](#) funded through various sources, and UBC Finance hosts a [Benefits Costs Calculator](#) to help estimate benefits costs.

UBC BRIDGE FUNDING

RISS provides up to \$2,500 to fund the 50% match required for [VPRI/SPARC's SSHRC Bridge Funding Program](#). Applicants must submit to ORE their VPRI Bridge application with their RISS application. General annual RISS funding eligibility rules apply—bridge funding can be applied for **once per year** for a total of two years in a row following an unsuccessful Tri-Agency submission, with the expectation that the new grant application will be resubmitted the cycle following the unsuccessful application.

PRE-CONFERENCE PLANNING

RISS provides up to \$10,000 to hire a graduate student to assist with the **pre-conference programming** activities associated with **national** and **international research-focused conferences**.

Eligible expenses include conference flyers, calls for proposals, vetting of conference submissions (organizing reviewers), website and program development, and communicating with invited presenters.

Not eligible are **operational expenses** related to running the conference (e.g. catering, room rental, audio-visual, speaker fees, travel for participants and on-site GRA or GAA coordinators) or **post-conference activities** (e.g. developing proceedings or other publications, developing/posting web content, other knowledge dissemination).

EARLY STAGE RESEARCH COLLABORATION/PLANNING

RISS provides up to \$10,000 for engagement activities that support the development of **early stage research collaborations** with **external community partners**. The RISS application must present **clearly defined outputs and deliverables** that aid in the development of **external research grant applications (the targeted grant program and timeline for submission must be specified)**. In addition to the community partners, it is expected that a group of scholars be involved, not just one investigator.

Eligible expenses include travel, accommodation and modest catering to bring external community partners to campus to discuss and develop a research grant application.

Applicants must make a compelling case for why in-person gatherings are critical for the success of the early-stage engagement and, similarly, why current conferencing technologies (like ZOOM) are not appropriate for this purpose.

Not eligible are direct research expenses related to data collection, analysis and dissemination (including expenses related to running workshops, conferences, symposia, training, etc.). It is expected that these expenses will be covered by external grant applications.



2021-2022 Research Infrastructure Support Services (RISS)

Application Form

Email applications to Robert Olaj in ORE robert.olaj@ubc.ca

Applicant's Name	Academic Rank	Department/School	Email
Competition Cycle	RISS Support Category	Have you applied for RISS funding in the past? If yes, have you submitted your final report for those funds?	
Total budget requested (\$500-\$10,000) \$			
Describe the activity noting: 1) Your leadership role 2) How the RISS funds will help you pursue excellent research 3) A timeline for your activities			

Budget and Budget Justification

Keeping in mind the RISS Expense Eligibility Guidelines described above, provide a numeric budget that shows how RISS funds will be spent on specific expenses. Also, provide a *narrative justification of each expense* in relation to the objectives and scope of the activity. Take special care to delineate exactly how RISS funds will be spent, particularly if they are complimentary to other sources of funding supporting the proposed initiative or event.

Applicants seeking funds to hire students should make clear the rate of pay, number of hours worked per week, number of weeks required and a description of what the student will be doing.

The adjudication committee is authorized to reduce funding requests that seem excessive for the stated project/activity or inadequately justified.

4000 character limit