

Total Research Support Fund Funding for Fiscal 2025-2026:
\$10,204,272

Eligible expense category	Institutional performance objectives	Indicator	Output	Outcomes reported at year-end
Research Facilities: \$5,185,723	Maintain state-of-the-art research infrastructure. Create centralized resources for the researchcommunity.	Creation of research facilities. Reduction in deferred maintenance. More efficient operations.	Creation and maintenance of core research facilities, which serve scholars, students and trainees.	Funds were used to sustain, upgrade and expand research facilities across campus through renovations, infrastructure improvements and modernization of equipment to enhance safety, compliance and operational reliability. Western also launched its first six institutional core research facilities, providing faculty, students and trainees with shared access to specialized equipment, technologies, expertise and training across key areas of research strength. An agreement with McMaster University further expanded access to 13 research facilities, reducing financial barriers and supporting inter-institutional collaboration. Together, these investments reduced deferred maintenance and strengthened access to modern, shared research resources, fostering collaboration, innovation and Western's ability to attract and retain leading researchers and trainees.

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Research Resources: \$2,309,198	Provide researchers with comprehensive support, tools and resources for Research Data Management planning and Implementation.	Ability to support both STEM and Social Science Arts & Humanities (SSAH) with Research Data Management plans for their research programs.	Ongoing refinement of an institutional research data management strategy and research data management planning template.	Western continued to strengthen its research data and analytics infrastructure through investments in bibliometric and research data management (RDM) systems. Building on the ongoing use of InCites to provide researchers and leaders with data-driven insights to measure research outcomes and impact, Western advanced its institutional RDM strategy by refining standardized planning templates and developing tailored guidance for both STEM and SSAH disciplines. These initiatives increased faculty uptake of RDM tools, enhanced compliance with Tri-Agency policy requirements, and supported improved data stewardship across the research lifecycle.

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Management & Administration of an Institution's Research Enterprise: \$4,672,641	Provide high-quality, timely, efficient services that lessen time burden of research administration for university researchers.	Increased researcher productivity.	Salary support for research administration, accounting professionals and IT services to facilitate administrative activities.	Western continues to use RSF funding to sustain a professional, service-oriented research administration environment. This support contributed to the launch of centralized research project management services through Western Research, providing researchers with experienced administrative support for large-scale and complex research projects. The service reduces the need for researchers to recruit term-limited, part-time project managers and complements the existing administrative and operational supports available through central units, faculties and departments.
	At the faculty level, provide scholars with assistance for proposal writing, finance, grants management and human resources management.	Number of faculty-based research officers.	Salary support for faculty-based research officers.	This year, faculties and research institutes employed approximately 20 research support professionals who provide dedicated assistance to scholars and researchers to manage their research programs effectively. Through continued investments of RSF funds, these skilled staff strengthen Western's research enterprise by providing expertise in grant administration, financial management and project coordination.

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Regulatory Requirements and Accreditation: \$862,619	Regulatory compliance with animal care and human ethics.	Improved turnaround times and minimized delays in research start-up for faculty, staff and students, while continuing to adhere to provincial, federal and international guidelines.	Financial support for research ethics personnel.	Western continues to use RSF funding to support compliance with regulatory and accreditation requirements for animal care and human research ethics.
	Animal ethics: Ensure there is sufficient administrative personnel to support the Animal Care Committee and its function.	Maintain accreditation with federal standards administered by the Canadian Council on Animal Care and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness		This investment supports research specialists, administrative personnel, training and resources for effective ethical oversight and regulatory adherence. Following an April 2025 external review of human research ethics operations, RSF-supported resources were used to implement recommendations to increase efficiency and effectiveness.
	Human Ethics: Ensure there is sufficient administrative personnel to support research ethics boards and their function.			

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Intellectual Property: \$833,623	Support commercialization and entrepreneurship-related activities, including programming, events, spinoff and SME company support, technology licensing, patent filings and maintenance, marketing, agreements with external parties and direct-to-market sales.	Maintenance and growth in number of active licenses/options/commercialization agreements to established or spinoff companies, or through direct-to-market sales.	Salary support for highly-qualified business development managers and administrative support, events and programming, various matchmaking and partnership platforms, databases and direct-to-market sales activities.	Western's Technology Transfer Office remains one of the top performers in Canada, advancing research commercialization and industry engagements across disciplines. RSF supported staff specializing in business development, administrative support, communications and mobilization. As a result, the institution enhanced its ability to accelerate technology transfer, foster startup creation and generate lasting economic and societal benefits.