

CFI JELF Competition Timelines 2026

- Formal internal process for JELF applications begins 16 weeks prior to the external CFI deadline.
- Applicants must meet with their ADR for application approval well in advance of engaging with the Office of Research Services (ORS) for formal proposal development.
- Details of Western's JELF processes and procedures can be found in our [JELF Guidelines](#).

February 17, 2026 Competition	
Before October 16	ADR informs ORS of support for application
October 20-24	Kick-off meeting with Procurement/ORS
Thursday November 13	Equipment list/quotes deadline to Procurement
Thursday November 27	1st draft deadline to ORS
Monday, January 5	Core Planning Group deadline
Monday, February 9	Final internal submission to ORS
Tuesday, February 17	ORS submit to CFI (external deadline)
Thursday, March 5	Provincial forms deadline to ORS
June 2026	CFI decisions
July 2026	Award Finalization meeting with IRPO Post-Award, Procurement and Research Finance
February-March 2027	Anticipated ORF-RI decisions
March 2027	ORS submits Award Finalization Form to CFI (external deadline) *Note: ORF decision must be received from the Ministry, before we can move forward with award finalization with CFI
April 2027	Ready to Spend meeting with Research Finance; Equipment purchasing begins (once CFI Award Agreement and funds are received)
December 2028	Construction/renovation start deadline (if applicable)

June 15, 2026 Competition	
Before February 12	ADR informs ORS of support for application
February 18-25	Kick-off meeting with Procurement/ORS
Thursday March 29	Equipment list/quotes deadline to Procurement
Thursday, April 2	1st draft deadline to ORS
Friday, May 1	Core Planning Group deadline
Monday, June 8	Final internal submission to ORS
Monday, June 15	ORS submit to CFI (external deadline)
Tuesday, July 7	Provincial forms deadline to ORS
November 2026	CFI decisions

January 2027	Award Finalization meeting with IRPO Post-Award, Procurement and Research Finance
July – August 2027	Anticipated ORF-RI decisions
August 2027	ORS submits Award Finalization Form to CFI (external deadline) *Note: ORF decision must be received from the Ministry, before we can move forward with award finalization with CFI
September 2027	Ready to Spend meeting with Research Finance; Equipment purchasing begins (once CFI Award Agreement and funds are received)
May 2028	Construction/renovation start deadline (if applicable)

October 15, 2026 Competition	
Before June 11	ADR informs ORS of support for application
June 17-24	Kick-off meeting with Procurement/ORS
Thursday, July 16	Equipment list/quotes deadline to Procurement
Thursday, July 30	1st draft deadline to ORS
Thursday, August 27	Core Planning Group deadline
Thursday, October 8	Final internal submission to ORS
Thursday, October 15	ORS submit to CFI (external deadline)
Thursday, November 5	Provincial forms deadline to ORS
March 2027	CFI decisions
April 2027	Award Finalization meeting with IRPO Post-Award, Procurement and Research Finance
November – December 2027	Anticipated ORF-RI decisions
December 2027	ORS submits Award Finalization Form to CFI (external deadline) *Note: ORF decision must be received from the Ministry, before we can move forward with award finalization with CFI
January 2028	Ready to Spend meeting with Research Finance; Equipment purchasing begins (once CFI Award Agreement and funds are received)
September 2028	Construction/renovation start deadline (if applicable)