

Update

June 2025



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John R. Evans Leaders Fund: 2026–29 allocations

\$270 million is available for the 2026–29 John R. Evans Leaders Fund (JELF) allocation. Individual allocations were sent by email to each institution on June 6. This three-year cycle will begin with the submission of proposals to the February 2026 intake, for funding decisions made in the period of April 2026 to March 2029.

We have added a new feature in the CFI Awards Management System (CAMS) to help view 2026–29 allocations. In the report repository section, you can download a report with the details of your allocation. This report will also display a list of transactions (e.g., borrowing) made to your JELF allocation. Note that you can still view active 2023–26 allocations in CAMS.

If you have any questions regarding your JELF allocation, please contact your Senior Programs Officer.

College Fund call for proposals

On June 3, colleges were informed that the CFI has launched the 2025 competition of the College Fund. The **call for proposals** is posted on the CFI website and the proposal forms are available through CAMS. Proposals are due by September 17. Funding decisions will be made at the March 2026 meeting of the CFI Board of Directors.

The CFI joins the ORCID Canada Consortium

The CFI is proud to join the ORCID Canada Consortium (ORCID-CA).

ORCID (Open Researcher and Contributor ID) produces unique, persistent identifiers that researchers can use with multiple organizations to compile the outputs of their research activities.

This is part of an effort to reduce the administrative burden for the research community in relation to data collection. Integrating persistent unique identifiers also facilitates the ongoing transition toward open science.

Starting in 2026, researchers will be able to link their ORCID persistent identifier to their profile in CAMS, which will allow the two platforms to exchange information. For instance, by registering their ORCID profile in CAMS, researchers will be able to transfer the biographical information in their ORCID profile directly into CFI proposals.

To learn more about how the CFI's support of ORCID-CA fits into Canada's persistent identifiers strategy, visit the Canadian Research Knowledge Network's **Developing a Canadian PID Strategy: Results and Next Steps** page.

Deadline imminent: Infrastructure operational status questions and project progress reports

Project progress reports (PPRs) must be submitted in CAMS by June 30. If your institution has pending responses to the operational status question, please ensure that researchers provide a response promptly so that PPRs of operational projects can be completed and submitted before the deadline. Failure to provide a response to the operational status question by the deadline will result in the project being deemed not operational during the 2024–25 fiscal year. The PPRs are a key source of information for the CFI. They are used to manage projects, assess the impact of investments and inform annual outcome reporting. We rely on receiving your PPRs by the deadline to ensure the accuracy of our internal and external reporting. The CFI will withhold all institutional payments when an institution does not comply with performance reporting requirements for any of its awards. To see which projects have outstanding reporting requirements, check the "Project progress reports (PPRs)" section in your CAMS dashboard.

New CAMS password policy

To enhance CAMS security, a new CAMS password policy will come into effect on July 14. All CAMS users will be asked to refresh their password the next time they log in after this change has been applied. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

News from the Navigator

Get involved and showcase your lab in action!

- As of April 1, research labs at any institution eligible for CFI funding can be included in our national online directory. With almost 860 labs located across Canada already featured, the Navigator is the most comprehensive tool of its kind, helping researchers connect with potential collaborators and partners across sectors.
- If you have a story about a connection, project or long-term collaboration that began through the Navigator, we'd love to hear about it! Your experience could be featured in *CanadianSME* magazine, celebrating how research is powering innovation across Canada. Share your story with us at navigator@innovation.ca.

Learn more at listyourlab.innovation.ca

New stories and podcasts about research at your institutions

We regularly promote stories about the research projects we fund. Check out our latest:

Tracking nutrients from the soil to your supper plate

By understanding how crops take up nutrients from the soil, the **University of Manitoba's** agronomy soil fertility expert Xiaopeng Gao aims to help farmers produce bigger yields of better grains — and do it more sustainably.

Wildlife ecology done “in a good way”

University of Guelph researcher Jesse Popp works alongside Indigenous communities to understand their most pressing questions about biodiversity and the plants and animals on the Land.

Jan Rainey is untangling the mysteries of spider silks

A **Dalhousie University** researcher is looking to create synthetic versions of spider's silk that have the potential to help heal damaged nerves and damaged hearts.

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