Federal Research Support Fund – 2014-15

Definition of the Indirect Costs of Research

Indirect Costs (IDCs) are real costs attributable to SRC activities. IDCs are those costs incurred at the University that are necessary for maintaining an environment and infrastructure that support research. IDCs are incurred at faculty and departmental levels for purposes common to all research projects, programs, or activities of the University, but which cannot be identified and charged directly to individual projects, programs, or activities with a reasonable degree of accuracy, and/or without an inordinate amount of accounting.

IDCs include but are not limited to:

- Faculty salaries and benefits, where these are not charged directly to a research contract or grant.

- Building construction, maintenance, and depreciation costs (including costs of renovations required for specific laboratories, heating, cooling, and lights).

- Maintenance, upgrading, and depreciation of equipment that enable faculty to undertake SRC activities.

- University, Faculty, and departmental/school administration such as payroll, human resources, accounting, purchasing and accounts receivable, insurance/risk management, occupational health and safety, legal costs, etc.

- Library and other research resources, including maintenance of online search capabilities and databases.

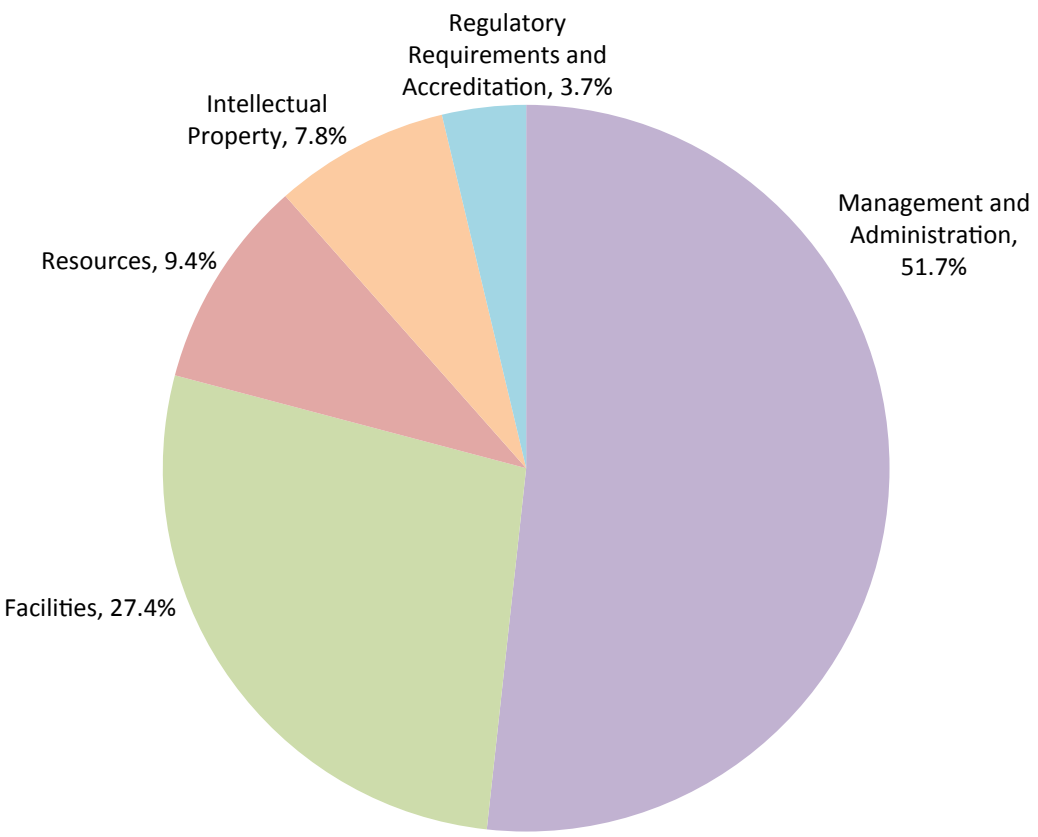
- Central computing services.

- Financing (e.g., payment of salaries for students or research technicians, purchase of materials and supplies prior to the billing and receipt of revenue from a sponsor).

- Intellectual property assessment, advice, and protection.

The description of the Research Support Fund (RSF) can be found here. [http://www.rsf-fsr.gc.ca/home-accueil-eng.aspx]

Allocation of RSF Grant



Impacts of the RSF

Below are some specific examples of how the funds were used. In general, the renovations have increased our capacity to undertake leading-edge scholarly, research, and creative (SRC) activities, as can be seen from the results associated with various labs. The projects are also linked to the themes that have been identified in the development for our strategic SRC plan. The renovations made possible by this grant also support our growing graduate training mission.

Canada, like other countries, is struggling to manage the rising costs of maintaining an accessible, high-quality health care system. The need to transform this aging system has motivated the establishment of a partnership between Ryerson University (RU) and St. Michael's Hospital (SMH). The Institute for Biomedical Engineering, Science and Technology (iBEST) will bring together researchers, clinicians and students, incorporating RU's engineering strengths and SMH's biomedical research and clinical expertise to develop and commercialize new medical devices and technologies. The contribution of the Federal Indirect Costs grant to the establishment of the Institute will result to involve about 12 Ryerson researchers and approximately 50 Ryerson graduate students on an annual basis, providing them exposure to new teaching practices and skills, expanding experiential opportunities for students, and promoting further industry-sponsored research by leveraging SMH partners and therefore allowing RU to increase its SRC funding.

Ryerson has undergone tremendous growth in the size of its student body, both in graduate and undergraduate numbers, as well as substantial growth in its SRC enterprises. This, coupled with space constraints, resulted in the movement of Research and Innovation, Financial Services, the School of Graduate Studies, and Human Resources to off-campus locations. The RSF has been used to cover part of the lease payments for the Research and Innovation, Financial Services, School of Graduate Studies, and Human Resources offices. The Office of the Vice President, Research and Innovation has also grown in response to the increase in Ryerson's SRC dollars. Since 2009/10, grant funding has almost doubled.