



Government
— of —
Saskatchewan

Minister of Advanced Education

Legislative Building
Regina, Canada S4S 0B3

March 20, 2024

Cadmus Delorme, Chair
Board of Governors
University of Regina
University Secretariat Office
Room 510, Administration-Humanities Building
3737 Wascana Parkway
REGINA SK S4S 0A2

Dear Cadmus Delorme:

Saskatchewan's 2024-25 Budget provides record investments in our province's present and future, with a focus on education, health care, and the well-being of our communities. Our rapidly growing economy is attracting more people and creating more jobs, and our strong and innovative post-secondary sector is essential in supporting that growth. *Building the Workforce for a Growing Economy: The Saskatchewan Labour Market Strategy*, announced earlier this month, underscores our commitment to supporting a thriving, talented workforce.

This budget year marks the conclusion of the four-year multi-year funding agreement. Our government's multi-year funding commitment and your dedicated planning and improvement efforts have ensured that Saskatchewan's post-secondary sector remains financially sustainable and aligned with the priorities of *Saskatchewan's Growth Plan for the Next Decade of Growth 2020-2030*.

As we begin the collective work to establish a new agreement, we appreciate the discussions this past year regarding the importance of stable, predictable funding, as well as the growing pressure on budgets and financial sustainability efforts. We heard your concerns and are very pleased to provide a 2.2 per cent one-time increase to your 2024-25 operating grant. This positive adjustment to your funding will be reflected in an amendment to the current multi-year funding agreement. We appreciate your commitment to reporting on the progress and impact of your efforts and look forward to ongoing collaboration on the development of a new multi-year funding agreement.

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The 2024-25 Budget tabled today includes \$131,038,100 for the University of Regina for the period April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025. The attached appendices (Appendix 1 – Detailed Schedule of Funding, and Appendix 2 – Funding Details) provide additional details about government’s investment and its intended uses.

Budget investments in training are aligned to ensure Saskatchewan’s labour force can keep pace with the opportunities created by industry. The *Saskatchewan Labour Market Strategy* will provide a blueprint for post-secondary institutions and industry to prioritize investments in programs, services and initiatives that connect people to jobs, recognize skills and address labour needs for emerging sectors.

Continuing investments are identified in this budget, in support of *Health Human Resources Action Plan* opportunities for students to access critical health related education programs. We look forward to continued collaboration to ensure these expansions are successful.

Ministry officials will be in contact with representatives at your institution to discuss the following 2024-25 accountability requirements and due dates:

- **Agreement to Submit Required Multi-Year Funding Reporting** – due April 15, 2024 (as per Eligibility Criteria 1 in the *Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Multi-Year Operating Funding Memorandum of Understanding*);
- **Multi-Year Funding Accountability Reports** – due June 28, 2024, and January 31, 2025 (as per Eligibility Criteria 2 and 3 in the MOU);
- **Tuition Schedules** – due May 15, 2024 (as per Eligibility Criteria 2 in the MOU);
- **Revenue and Expenditure Reports** – due June 28, 2024; and
- **Performance Framework Report** – due June 28, 2024.

We appreciate the contributions from your institution as we work together to ensure a bright future for Saskatchewan, by providing our residents with the high-quality education and training they need and deserve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke, positioned above the name and title.

Gordon S. Wyant, K.C.
Minister of Advanced Education

Attachments

cc: Dr. Jeff Keshen, President and Vice-Chancellor, University of Regina
Dianne Ford, Vice-President, Administration, University of Regina
Rebecca Carter, Deputy Minister of Advanced Education

APPENDIX 1
Detailed Schedule of Funding
University of Regina

Funding Schedule April 1, 2024 - March 31, 2025

	2024-25 Funding	2023-24 Funding
<u>Operating Funding</u>		
Base Operating Grant	\$ 108,525,800	\$ 108,525,800
2.2% Increase (one-time)	2,388,000	—
Operating Grant as per MYF MOU*	\$ 110,913,800	\$ 108,525,800
<i>Health Human Resources Action Plan (see Appendix 2)</i>	4,307,400	2,186,900
Total Operating Funding	\$ 115,221,200	\$ 110,712,700
<u>Other Funding</u>		
Supplementary Funding - Facilities	922,000	1,005,000
French Language Funding (see Appendix 2)	—	1,001,000
Total Operating and Other Funding	\$ 116,143,200	\$ 112,718,700
<u>Capital Funding</u>		
Cooling Tower Replacement	6,300,000	—
Preventative Maintenance and Renewal	6,084,000	6,224,000
<i>Health Human Resources Action Plan (see Appendix 2)</i>	1,150,000	925,000
Student Health Centre Clinic	610,000	—
Total Capital Funding	\$ 14,144,000	\$ 7,149,000
<u>Saskatchewan Innovation and Opportunity Scholarship</u>		
Innovation Scholarships	383,900	383,900
Opportunity Scholarships	325,000	325,000
International Education Scholarships	42,000	42,000
Total Scholarship Funding	\$ 750,900	\$ 750,900
Total Funding	\$ 131,038,100	\$ 120,618,600

* MYF MOU = Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Multi-Year Operating Funding Memorandum of Understanding
2021-22 to 2024-25 Amendment

APPENDIX 2
Funding Details
University of Regina

Base Operating Funding

First Nations University of Canada Infrastructure

The 2024-25 base operating grant includes **\$494,200** to compensate the University of Regina for infrastructure costs associated with First Nations University of Canada. This includes a 2.2% increase (one-time). Funding has been provided since 2006-07 for services such as snow removal, library usage and access to fitness facilities. This funding remains in place until First Nations University of Canada begins paying for these costs directly.

Wascana Centre/Provincial Capital Commission

The 2024-25 base operating grant includes **\$259,400** as flow through funding for Wascana Centre administered by the Provincial Capital Commission.

Targeted Operating Funding

Health Human Resources Action Plan

To ensure a stable healthcare workforce across the province, the Government of Saskatchewan is funding a number of health care training initiatives and significant seat expansions for in-demand training programs. The 2024-25 Budget provides **\$4,307,400** targeted operating funding in support of the following:

Programs	Funding Purpose	2024-25	2023-24
Saskatchewan Collaborative Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Collaborative Nurse Practitioner Started 2022-23	Continues support of 62-seat expansion in Registered Nursing and 5-seat expansion in the Nurse Practitioner program	\$ 2,547,000	\$ 1,717,500
Saskatchewan Collaborative Bachelor of Science in Nursing Starting 2024-25	New 24-seat expansion in Registered Nursing	669,000	—
Clinical Psychology MSc/PhD	Continues support of the incremental expansion of 8 additional Clinical Psychology MSc seats and 20 additional PhD seats at full implementation	1,091,400	469,400
Total Health Human Resources Action Plan Funding		\$ 4,307,400	\$ 2,186,900

French Language Funding

The *Canada-Saskatchewan Agreement on Minority-Language Education and Second Official Language Instruction 2019-20 to 2022-23* (Agreement) expired on March 31, 2023 and was extended for one year (ending March 31, 2024). Negotiations to sign a new multi-year agreement are ongoing and French Language Funding levels for 2024-25 are not known.

Capital Funding

The 2024-25 Budget includes **\$6,084,000** in Preventative Maintenance and Renewal funding for the University of Regina. The base allocation plus any individual projects that have received approval and funding are shown below.

Base Preventative Maintenance and Renewal Allocation	\$ 5,324,000
Complete final phase three of the enhancement of the emergency power supply in four buildings (CKHS, Education, La Cité, and College West)	500,000
Partial funding to update LED light fixtures in high usage areas	260,000
Total Preventative Maintenance and Renewal Funding	\$ 6,084,000

The 2024-25 Budget includes **\$1,150,000** for expansion of the following programs as part of the *Health Human Resources Action Plan*.

Saskatchewan Collaborative Bachelor of Science in Nursing (62-seat expansion) and Collaborative Nurse Practitioner (5-seat expansion) Started 2022-23	Simulation, artificial intelligence, distance delivery technology, offices and support spaces for employees and students (U of R February 2022 and January 2023 proposals)	\$ 175,000
Saskatchewan Collaborative Bachelor of Science in Nursing (24-seat expansion) Starting 2024-25	Office set-up, two hi-flex classrooms in the Education Building (rooms 390 and 391), and hi-flex classroom equipment (U of R October 2023 proposal)	975,000
Total Health Human Resources Action Plan Funding		\$ 1,150,000¹

¹The \$1.15M nursing capital funding is intended to meet the requested needs for capital funding to deliver additional seats now. It is not to be used for a Collaborative Health Centre planned for the longer term.

The 2024-25 Budget also includes:

- **\$6,300,000** to replace three cooling towers in the Central Heating and Cooling Plant with four new towers; and
- **\$610,000** for expansion of the Student Health Centre clinic.

The Ministry of SaskBuilds and Procurement will work with post-secondary institutions on required reporting, including provision of reporting templates.

Saskatchewan Innovation and Opportunity Scholarship

The Ministry of Advanced Education will disburse Saskatchewan Innovation and Opportunity Scholarship payments in **October 2024**. Annual allocations are subject to budget appropriation and institution ability to match funds in the previous year. Reporting and fundraising progress will be revisited with institutions prior to the 2025-26 Budget.

By **June 28, 2024**, post-secondary institutions are to submit a letter to the Ministry of Advanced Education regarding scholarship priority areas (i.e., student categories and programs) for the upcoming year. By **July 31, 2024**, institutions are required to report actual (July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024) scholarship activity.