



Call for Research Grant Applications

Special Directed Call - 2025

The McDowell Foundation is inviting PreK-12 teachers and other educators to submit an application to a directed call for research in memory of Fred Herron.

A legacy teacher, educational leader, and friend of the Foundation, Fred Herron was instrumental in the development of the McDowell Foundation over 30 years ago. Since his passing in October 2024, the McDowell Foundation has been grateful to receive numerous donations to honour his memory.

Research grants of up to \$5,000 per project will be awarded. Research projects should be completed within three to six months of receiving the funding. For this directed call, there will be a single application process. Applications can be accessed through the website at mcdowellfoundation.ca/grants.

The McDowell Foundation provides research grants to explore new and innovative ways to best meet the educational needs of students in Saskatchewan. These projects will enable educators to identify and develop strategies and tools to support Saskatchewan students to become better informed, try different approaches to many different classroom situations, and to clearly define specific strategies that will benefit students.

Suggested Topics of Inquiry

Topic areas for this Special Directed Call may include:

- Mathematics
- Science
- Environmental Sciences
- Classroom Complexity

Or a combination of the above themes.

A completed Notice of Intent shall include the names of the applicants, place of employment, a brief description of the project (100-200 words), and research experience (new, novice, or skilled).

Additional Information

The application should be emailed to mcdowell@stf.sk.ca by May 30, 2025.

For additional information, please contact the Foundation at mcdowell@stf.sk.ca or go to the website at: mcdowellfoundation.ca.

Eligibility

McDowell Foundation grants support publicly funded educators, staff in public institutions of higher education, and other professionals or organizations involved in PreK-12 education. The Foundation defines publicly funded public education to include:

- Schools that are governed by an elected board and receive full per-pupil operating grants from a provincial government.
- Associate or alternate schools in Saskatchewan.
- Historical high schools in Saskatchewan.
- Schools operated by First Nations Bands with funding from the federal government.

Common Items Funded

- Release time for teachers and non-teaching school-based personnel to collaborate on the study, plan activities, analyze results, write a report, and share results at Foundation-sponsored events.
- Transcription, secretarial, technical, data entry, computer assistance, and professional services directly related to the study.
- Travel, accommodations, and expenses to meetings directly related to the study at Foundation-sponsored events. Electronic meetings and conference calls are encouraged.
- Purchase or rental based on lesser cost of materials, supplies, equipment, new technology, videos, video production, or software directly related to the study if the items are not provided by the place of employment.
- Study team meeting and event costs, gifts to Elders, meetings for parents or community members, and child care for the meetings. Use of school facilities is encouraged.

Restrictions

The McDowell Foundation is a charitable, non-profit organization and is therefore not able to sponsor projects that have as their goal the development of commercially viable products or programs from which the researcher(s) may benefit financially.

Funding

Directed Call Foundation grants may be up to \$5,000 per research project. Budget items must be directly related to the costs of carrying out the study. In developing your grant proposal, please refer to the list of items commonly funded and not funded.

Common Items Not Funded

- Tuition fees for researchers enrolled in university graduate or undergraduate programs, post-doctorate salary, other educational program fees, or salary while on leave from employment.
- Activities such as curriculum, program, or instructional material development; piloting of teaching materials or methods; and the evaluation of programs, methods, and materials unless identified as necessary for the study.
- Class trips or learning activities are not eligible unless clearly identified as a direct and integral part of the research being conducted.
- Class sets of learning materials, technology, or software for students unless clearly identified as a direct and integral part of the research being conducted.
- The cost of printing and binding theses.
- Classes, workshops, or courses designed to increase research skills.