

**Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR)
Saint Mary's University Accessibility Research Fund – 2025**

This grant program is available for application using the process and details provided on the following pages.

The deadline for applications is **APRIL 25, 2025**. Please submit applications to the **Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research's Brightspace assignment folder under SMU Accessibility Research Fund 2025**. For any questions or clarifications regarding the information provided here, contact SMU Research Grants Officer, Marlene Ramos: rgo@smu.ca.

This program is open to any Full-Time Faculty member who holds an appointment as **tenured, tenure track, or probationary tenure track**; in addition, Full-Time Faculty members appointed as **Lecturer** or **Senior Lecturer**, or appointed to a **Limited Term Full Time appointment** for durations *longer than 12 months*, are also eligible (provided the appointment extends more than 12 months beyond the application deadline).

Note that these grants will necessarily be competitive in nature, depending on the number of applications and amount of funds available to be awarded.

Details of the Saint Mary's University Accessibility Research Fund program:

- may request grants between **\$7,000 - \$15,000**
- this Fund is provided by the *philanthropic support of Fred Smithers* – with a goal of examining and exploring accessibility-related challenges, with the hopes that: this knowledge can create a more universally accessible and inclusive environment; and, research supported through this Fund will further establish SMU as a leader in services and supports for students with diverse needs
- funding priority will be given to those faculty who show a clear plan to hire students who identify as having a disability
- researchers may take up to three years to complete the research project and may apply for funding more than once
- researchers who already hold a prior grant from the Accessibility Research Fund will be required to provide a Progress Report on that prior grant at-or-before the time of application.



HOW TO APPLY:

Create an application document (Word, or PDF) following the guidelines below. This application document should be submitted to the **Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research's Brightspace assignment folder** under *SMU Accessibility Research Fund 2025* by end of day Friday, April 25, 2025.

The application document can be **free-form, should be no more than 4 pages in length, and include *all* of the components** given in the list below. **Separate document(s) providing a publication list** should also be attached/uploaded (see last point below):

- **Name(s)**: all faculty members, and their departments, that are part of the application; other SMU staff may be included; identify which faculty member will "hold" the grant.
 - *If any of the faculty members are still holding an existing FGSR Accessibility Research Fund grant, and have not previously provided a Progress Report, that Report(s) must be included and uploaded as a separate document.*
- **Total Amount (\$) Requested**
- **Estimated Completion Date of Project**
- **Confirm need, or not, of REB or ACC approval**: if the research involves humans as research subjects, consult www.smu.ca/research/research-ethics-board.html to determine if REB approval required; similarly, if the research involves animals, consult www.smu.ca/fgsr/fgsr-animal-care-committee.html to determine if ACC approval required.
- **Research Objectives and Methodology**: (*the bulk of the application*)
 - State in non-technical terminology the objective(s) of the proposed research, and provide an outline of the method by which the objective(s) will be reached. Describe any work related to the project that has already been completed
- **Other External Research Funding**: list/discuss all other sources of external research funding available to the faculty member(s) submitting the proposal, and how such funds are either able to be used in conjunction with the requested project, or how they are not appropriate or able to be used for the requested project. Assessment priority is given to clear added value or impact should the grant be awarded, beyond what is possible with access to existing funds.



Saint Mary's University

- **Potential for Development into Future Additional Funding:** Please explain how, if funded, you may envision that this grant/project may be able to leverage other sources of new funding, and/or give a plan for applying for future external research support to carry on or expand this research.
- **Summary of Proposed Expenditures:** provide planned breakdown between categories of (for example): personnel costs (including student assistant/interns, research travel expenses, materials/supplies/services (specify), equipment purchase or rental (specify), or other.

Finally, also include as a separate document(s) a listing of publications over the last three (3) years (including those submitted) for all faculty members on the application. This document(s) is separate from the free-form application document which will contain all the above points (and so these are not part of the 4-page limit on the application).