Digital Research Alliance of Canada - 2025 Resource Allocation Competition

Sponsor

Digital Research Alliance of Canada

For More Information

For questions, please contact allocations@tech.alliancecan.ca [1]. Further contact information can be found in the Resource Allocation Competition Application Guide [2].

Description

On September 26, 2023, the Alliance Federation launched its annual Resource Allocation Competition (RAC), a peer-reviewed process to grant priority access to compute, storage and cloud resources beyond what can be obtained via the Rapid Access Service [3].

The Resource Allocation Competition (RAC) enables faculty members and their research groups to access compute, storage and cloud resources beyond what can be obtained via the Rapid Access Service (RAS).

Refer to the Resource Allocation Competition Application Guide [4] for details on entry and eligibility.

Eligibility

To be eligible to submit an application to any of the Resource Allocation Competitions, Principal Investigators (PI) and Co-PIs must:

1. Be a faculty member at a Canadian academic institution, and
2. Have an active Alliance account with an Academic Principal Investigator role (Faculty, Adjunct Faculty or Librarian).

To apply to the RAC, you must be registered in CCDB. For registration instructions, please see the CCDB Registration page [5]. You must apply with your primary, most up-to-date position. If you recently moved to a different institution and have not yet applied for a new faculty role in the CCDB, please do so **before** submitting your RAC application.

Users with an Academic PI position may:

- Apply as PI for only one RRG application at a time (either through the full application process or the Fast Track one) but can be involved in multiple RRG submissions as a participant; and
- Be the PI for one RPP application per competition round and be involved in other RPP applications as a Co-PI.

To determine which process is right for a specific project, please see the registration guide [6].

Funding Availability

RAC is guided by the following principles:

- All applications are given fair consideration through both a peer-review and a technical review;
- Resources are awarded based on the appropriateness of the computational resources requested to achieve the project's objectives and the likelihood that these resources will be efficiently used, rather than on the evaluation of a complete research program; and
- The challenges arising from the shortage of resources and other constraints within the system are shared among all applicants.

Resources provided by the Federation are limited and for this reason, requests for allocations are scaled every year based on the overall score of the application and the supply and demand. A scaling function is applied to compute requests to provide a means by which decisions on RAC allocations in a context of insufficient capacity can be made. Visit the Past RAC results page [7] for more details about the scaling function and other stats from previous years.

In this call for proposals, you will be able to request access to:

- General-purpose systems
- Large shared memory systems
- General-purpose computing on graphics processing units
- Storage
- Cloud

Deadlines

If College-level review is required, your College will communicate its earlier internal deadlines.

Type	Date
External Deadline	Wednesday, October 30, 2024 - 11:59pm

How to Apply

Applications must be submitted electronically using the online application form provided on the CCDB portal [8]. An application template is available in the Resource Allocation Competition Application Guide [2].

Researchers requiring compute, storage and cloud resources to meet their goals should apply through the RRG (Resources for Research Groups) process. For projects primarily needing persistent instances in the cloud to provide a service through a platform or a portal, apply through the RPP (Research Platforms and Portals) application process. If you are not sure about which application process is best for your project, please email allocations@tech.alliancecan.ca [1].

It is extremely important that the online application form includes a request for every resource (CPU, GPU, storage or cloud) that your project needs on each cluster.

If applying for the first time, it is strongly encouraged that you schedule a pre-submission consultation before October 30, 2024. Consultations can be scheduled by emailing allocations@tech.alliancecan.ca [9].

You must apply with your primary, most up-to-date position. An up-to-date Canadian Common CV (CCV) is required for the peer-review process.

Information For Co-applicants

In the context of this competition, a Co-PI is any Canadian faculty with an Alliance Academic PI role that is actively involved in the computational project. The PI and any Co-PI must upload an updated CCV with the application.

International investigators or colleagues without an Alliance account can be listed as collaborators in the Resource Management section of the application document.
For Questions, please contact
Office of Research

Ailsa Kay, Manager, Strategic Research Programs
Research Services Office
ailsakay@uoguelph.ca [10]
Alert Classifications**Category:**
Funding Opportunities and Sponsor News

Disciplines:
Health and Life Sciences
Humanities
Information and Communications Technology
Physical Sciences and Engineering
Social Sciences

**Source
URL:**https://www.uoguelph.ca/research/alerts/content/digital-research-alliance-canada-2025-resource-allocation-competition

Links

[1] mailto:allocations@tech.alliancecan.ca

[2] https://alliancecan.ca/en/services/advanced-research-computing/accessing-resources/resource-allocation-competition/resource-allocation-competition-application-guide#heading-submission-procedures-and-deadlines

[3] https://alliancecan.ca/en/services/advanced-research-computing/accessing-resources/rapid-access-service

[4] https://alliancecan.ca/en/services/advanced-research-computing/accessing-resources/resource-allocation-competition/resource-allocation-competition-application-guide

[5] https://alliancecan.ca/en/services/advanced-research-computing/account-management/apply-account

[6] https://alliancecan.ca/en/services/advanced-research-computing/accessing-resources/resource-allocation-competition/resource-allocation-competition-application-guide#eligibility

[7] https://alliancecan.ca/en/services/advanced-research-computing/accessing-resources/resource-allocation-competition/competition-results

[8] https://ccdb.alliancecan.ca/security/login

[9] mailto:allocations@tech.alliancencan.ca

[10] mailto:ailsakay@uoguelph.ca