

2020-21 Performance Objectives Outcomes Report

The Research Support Fund (RSF) Program assists UNB with the indirect costs associated with managing the research funded by the Tri-agency. The Incremental Projects Grants (IPG) funding is a stream of the RSF program that provides further support for the indirect costs of research. In 2020-21, the RSF and IPG funds allowed UNB to continue to grow its research competitiveness by investing in its research capacity and research support. The following are examples of RSF investments; they do not cover all expenditures supported by the RSF program. The IPG funding was invested into one project, research policy development.

The RSF investments were influenced by the pandemic as the university was closed and/or had restricted access for a large portion of 2020-21. Faculty and staff were working remotely, requiring more on-line tools and capabilities. Investments that would have been directed at research facilities, such as utilities, were redirected to research resources, such as online tools.

2020-21	Institutional Performance Objective	Performance Indicator	RSF Investment	Target Outcome	Reported Outcome
Research facilities	Maintain and where applicable enhance current research infrastructure	Number of faculty submitting research grant and award applications	Utility costs associated with research infrastructure	Increase previous years' figure	The number of faculty submitting applications was 215 compared to 243 in 2019-20.
Research resources	Improve efficiency in supporting UNB's research agenda	Number of grant and award applications processed	Library holdings critical to research and ITS tools such as Ellucian, Entrisik, etc.	Maintain or increase 2019-20 levels	The number of applications processed was 551 compared to 659 in 2019-20. The number of awards received was 375 compared to 458 in 2019-20.
Management and administration	Improve efficiency in supporting UNB's research agenda	Number of grant and award applications processed	Research services office	Maintain or increase 2019-20 levels	The number of applications processed was 551 compared to 659 in 2019-20. The number of awards received was 375 compared to 458 in 2019-20.
Regulatory requirements and accreditation	Maintain compliance with regulatory requirements / accreditations	Compliance	Certification programs for animal and human ethics, biosafety and radiation safety	N/A	Compliance

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Intellectual property	Increase in knowledge and technology transfer	Number of knowledge and technology transfers and industry engagement (Springboard metrics)	Member status with Springboard Atlantic Inc. in an effort to support the management of intellectual property and commercialization opportunities	Maintain 2019-20 levels	The number of knowledge and technology transfer files have slightly increased to 143 (filings, licenses, etc.) compared to 141 in 2019-20. Industry engagements were 218 compared to 261 in 2019-20.
Project #1: Innovation and commercialization activities	Research policy development	Updated and new research policy	Research policy analyst	N/A	Policy completed or under development: Conflict of Interest Declaration and Responsible Conduct in Research

Associated outcomes were lower than projected as the pandemic had an impact on research activities. A number of factors affected the target outcomes, such as but not limited to, the university being closed and/or having restricted access as mentioned above; field work significantly delayed and/or cancelled, and many agencies, such as Tri-Agency providing extensions to existing grants with funding. Even with new funding programs associated with the pandemic, the university submitted fewer applications and received fewer awards. However, research revenues for 2020-21 increased to \$55 million (projected, not confirmed) from a little over \$50 million in 2019-20.