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Since 2003 the Research Support Fund Program, formerly the Indirect Costs Program, provides Canadian universities and their affiliated research hospitals and institutes with annual funding to help pay for a portion of the hidden or "indirect" costs of research. Examples of such costs include lighting and heating for research space, salaries for staff that provide technical or administrative research support, training costs for workplace health and safety, and the administrative costs associated with getting a patent for an invention.

According to government criteria,

