November 15, 2021

University of Calgary CHREB Administration Fee for Industry Sponsored Protocols

The CHREB administration fee structure for industry sponsored research remained unchanged at the University of Calgary for well over a decade. During this period, the volume of research undertaken at the Institution increased dramatically. Moreover, the cost of ethics administration increased and the regulatory environment became much more complex.

To accommodate this increased workload and to align with other provincial REB’s, the University of Calgary revised its fee structure in May, 2014 for the review of industry sponsored or for-profit organization sponsored research.

Fee Criteria: Research Sponsored by Industry or For-Profit Organizations

The CHREB administration fee applies to research that receives its funding from an industry sponsor (i.e. pharmaceutical/medical devices company) or other for-profit organization. The administration fee for ethics review at the CHREB is $5,000.00 Canadian. The fee covers the initial ethics review of a new project and all subsequent REB activities such as amendments, annual renewals, and ongoing monitoring. As such, it is a service fee that is unrelated to the speed of review.

Where the application is for a study falling under the provincial reciprocity agreement and the University of Calgary is a secondary site (i.e., the primary ethics review has been undertaken at another REB in Alberta) the fee is $2,000.00 if the study is submitted via the REB Exchange (rebexchange.ca). This covers all post approval monitoring and review activities. For a participating site that is submitted separately (without REB Exchange), the review fee will be $5,000.00 Canadian.

For industry sponsored projects with a budget of $10,000.00 or less, a reduced ethics fee of $2,500.00 will be applied.

The fee is payable regardless of the approval status of the initial ethics application.

Specifically, the fee applies to:

1. Research that receives its funding wholly or in part from an industry sponsor (i.e. pharmaceutical/medical devices company) or an agent thereof
2. Research that receives a grant-in-aid from an industry sponsor where the sponsor may sublicense or share the data back from the researcher

Fee Waiver Criteria

The following types of funding are excluded from the fee requirement:

1. Studies authored, initiated and conducted by a researcher from the University of Calgary where the intellectual property rests with the researcher, the researcher owns and can alter the research protocol without influence from the funder, and the funder is not a for-profit organization.
2. Grant funded studies from a public, charitable or not-for-profit organization, for example, CIHR, NIH or a disease-specific foundation
3. Tri-Agency partnership grants involving matching funds from an industry partner
4. University of Calgary internal grants
5. Unfunded studies

Please direct questions related to the CHREB administration fee to chreb@ucalgary.ca