



Schedule of Amendments	
June 20 2026	Approved

Overview

The purpose of this policy is to establish a clear expectation for all funding recipients regarding the use of OCA funding for research initiatives.

Rationale

OCA is a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to advancing the chiropractic profession in Ontario. One of the important ways OCA does this is through its long-term commitment to funding researchers and research organizations within the chiropractic ecosystem, for example, CCRF CCG, University of Guelph and numerous individual researchers over the years.

Each year, as part of the operating plan process, funds are allocated to various research priorities. An important role of the board is to ensure that the funds allocated are used in the best way possible to optimize the benefit of the research for the mission of the OCA.

Currently all research grants/funds distributed by OCA are from membership dues. With the growth in Aspire, over time, more funds can be allocated from non-dues revenue. This is a strategic goal of the OCA and Aspire.

To maximize the percentage of funding that goes directly to research initiatives to benefit the profession, it is the policy of the Ontario Chiropractic Association that indirect costs associated with funded research may not exceed 10% of the total value of the research agreement.

For the purposes of this policy, indirect costs refer to institutional infrastructure and operational expenses that support research but are not directly attributable to a specific project.

These costs may include but are not limited to utilities such as heating and lighting; information technology and network services; ethics review and compliance; facilities management for research animals; environmental and safety compliance; and any administrative costs.

The OCA contributes in other ways to the advancement of research:

- The Research Incentive Program offers reduced membership fees for researchers and practitioners who contribute to research.
- Use of Aspire Practice Management and Electronic Health Record can be offered as an in-kind contribution to the operational cost of data collection for a project.
- The Aspire data set is an important and growing resource for research initiatives.