



Saskatchewan has a strong life sciences cluster, including national and international players with worldwide reputations.

Saskatchewan's Competitive Edge

- Life Science underpins many aspects of our daily lives whether through health and medicine or in applications in support of food production and agriculture, energy or environmental challenges and material sciences and other areas.
- [*The University of Saskatchewan \(U of S\)*](#) is a world leader in agricultural crop research, plant breeding as well as food processing. The University of Regina (U of R) has strengths in environment, informatics and health research, including a gerontology research centre.
- [*The Canadian Light Source*](#) – Canada's only synchrotron facility (Saskatoon) – is an important research and analytical tool supporting fundamental and applied life sciences, agriculture related imaging, as well as drug research and medical imaging. Saskatoon's adjacent Cyclotron facility enables labelled isotope imaging to also take place.
- [*The Saskatchewan Research Council \(SRC\)*](#) provides DNA testing and other industry services like custom DNA analytics and marker development.
- Industry activity in life sciences in Saskatchewan covers plant breeding, soil and microbial inoculants and stimulants, environmental sciences and fermentation, animal health technologies and of course human health applications and study.
- Innovation thrives in a dynamic hub like the [*Innovation Saskatchewan Research and Technology Parks*](#) in Saskatoon and Regina, where industry, academia and supporting interests and infrastructure come together. The Research and Technology Parks have emerged as one of North America's renowned research spaces for agricultural biosciences, vaccines and immunology and environmental science.
- [*The Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization \(VIDO\)*](#) is a world leader in developing vaccines and immunity-enhancing technologies against infectious diseases, and one of the largest BL3 facilities of its kind in North America allowing animal challenge studies.



- The [*Global Institute for Food Security \(GIFS\)*](#) brings a complete suite of technical services to researchers and organizations in diverse sectors to bridge the gaps between research, development, and commercialization.
- The FCC Breeding Acceleration Program at GIFS leverages expertise and technologies to help increase the rate of genetic gain in plant and livestock breeding programs. Combining the strengths of GIFS' engineering biology, sequencing, data management, analytics, and cell biology technologies, GIFS' Biomanufacturing Program is Canada's only biomanufacturing program dedicated to advancing innovative and sustainable agriculture and food.
- [*Saskatchewan Polytechnic*](#) has expanded its applied research capacity in manufacturing and biotechnology. It is home to the Digital Integration Centre of Excellence (DICE) and the Innovative Manufacturing Centre (IMC).

Innovation and Opportunity

Build on our Research Strength

- Nutrition, aging and health
- Health delivery and services research
- Neurosciences and chronic pain
- Cardiovascular and stroke research
- Infectious diseases, zoonosis and immunology
- Vaccine technology and rational drug design
- Disease diagnostic protocols
- Advanced biomedical imaging

Life Sciences in Saskatchewan

Ag Biotech – Setting the Pace

- Saskatchewan remains a key crop breeding centre for pulses, cereals and oilseeds in Western Canada and a global breeding hub for canola. Current efforts include applying genetic tools and using genomic information as well as assessing agronomic performance, utilizing imaging and data along with other tools to quickly yield best results and insights.
- The province is home to North America's largest legume and cereal microbial inoculant manufacturing base – with ongoing research and development of new products and bio-inoculants.
- Canada's agricultural genomics centre in Saskatoon is at the forefront of 'omics' research, including genomic plant-rhizosphere interactions analysis.
- The [Canadian National Wheat Cluster](#) which runs from 2023-2028, are integrating complementary areas of expertise in wheat breeding, genomics, biotechnology and pathology across a number of academic and government research centres with efforts aimed at ensuring profitability for producers and long-term sustainability of wheat production.
- The [Global Institute for Food Security \(GIFS\)](#) builds on Saskatchewan's existing strength in crop production, food systems and its natural advantages to support global food security initiatives. Using genomics and phenomics, accelerated breeding and infomatic data tools, the institute is open for business collaborations.

Opportunities for Growth

Join Saskatchewan to expand and build our strengths in:

- New crop varieties and crop development
- Application of AI and data use in life sciences
- Microbial bio-controls, bio-fertilizers and plant nutrient systems
- Bio-pharmaceuticals
- Animal health products, animal vaccines and food safety products

Work with us to develop and market emerging product areas:

- Biological water quality detection systems
- Cosmetics and skin care products
- Bio-actives and use of bio-industrial feedstock
- [Ag-West Bio](#) is the provincial sector organization funded to work with industry to advance life science market applications in agricultural, environmental, industrial, energy and bio-processing, and health and nutrition markets.

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Disclaimer: The information in this document is accurate as of August 2025; however, the Government of Saskatchewan accepts no liability for any actions taken as a result of the information contained herein.

The Bottom Line

- Saskatchewan offers a secure business friendly culture of innovation and a sensible regulatory environment for companies to thrive.
- The corporate capital tax for businesses has been eliminated.
- The corporate income tax rate for manufacturers in Saskatchewan can be as low as 10 per cent through our manufacturing and processing profits tax reduction incentive.
- The [Manufacturing and Processing Investment Tax Credit](#) for building, machinery equipment purchases for manufacturing and processing is a fully refundable 6 per cent tax credit.
- 100 per cent of eligible R&D expenses can be used against net income for calculating federal tax credits.
- Saskatchewan offers a 10 per cent provincial tax credit for scientific research and development expenditures.



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