

Frequently Asked Questions about Chairs & Professorships

Chairs and Professorships enhance the academic environment and reputation of the University of Manitoba by helping to attract and retain top academics, specialists and scholars. These types of appointments allow for a concentration on research, scholarship and creative works. Appointees also teach and conduct public lectures.



James Davie,
Margaret Sellers Chair in Cell Biology

What is a Chair?

A Chair is funded from sources outside the university's regular operating budget. It covers the full salary and benefits of the incumbent and an appropriate level of unrestricted research/scholarly support.

What is a Professorship?

A Professorship is partially funded from sources outside the university's regular operating budget. It normally covers at least 20 per cent of the salary and benefits of the incumbent and an appropriate level of unrestricted research/scholarly support.

How are appointments made?

Appointments are usually made on a term basis and appointees are recognized specialists in their fields of study.

Are Chairs and Professorships funded annually or through endowments?

Chairs or Professorships can be funded either annually for a period of no less than five years, or they can be funded in perpetuity through the establishment of an endowment.

Can Chairs or Professorships be named?

Yes. Naming a Chair or Professorship is a way of honouring an individual, family, foundation or a respectable commercial or business unit. The final decision on naming Chairs and Professorships rests with the University of Manitoba's Board of Governors.

How much is needed to fund a named Chair or Professorship?

The funding required for Chairs varies from faculty to faculty. Named Chairs require an endowed gift ranging from \$2 million to \$4 million. Professorships can be named with an endowed gift of \$500,000 to \$1 million.

