What is the Resource Allocation Competition (RAC)?
The Resource Allocation Competition (RAC) is a highly competitive event open to researchers from all disciplines across Canada who are looking to access Compute Canada’s storage and computing resources. Successful applicants will be awarded an allocation of computing and storage resources, which are highly sought after since resources are limited.

How do I apply for the Resource Allocation Competition (RAC)?
Here are a few steps to complete a successful application.

1. **Create a Compute Canada Database account**
   Visit https://ccdb.computecanada.ca/ to register a new account, or login to your account to access the application.

2. **Discover which category you wish to apply to:**
   - **RPP**
     Applicants looking to create or support a research platform or portal to share data across a collective.
   - **RRG**
     Individual or small research groups in need of compute or storage resources.
   - **Fast Track**
     For applicants who already have an allocation. Those eligible will have received a letter.

3. **Book a consultation with IST’s Research Computing Group**
   We can help uncover your technical needs and assist in building your application.
   To book a consult, email Kamil of IST’s Research Computing Group at kamil@ualberta.ca

4. **Prepare your application**
   Applications address your scientific and scholarly pursuits, the technical feasibility of your request for Compute Canada’s data resources, and your CCV (if required).

5. **Submit your application**
   Visit https://ccdb.computecanada.ca/ to fill out and submit your application.

6. **Competition winners are announced**
   Awarded resources will be available for use in April 2020.

Need more information? Flip to see more FAQs.
FAQs

What RAC dates do I need to be aware of?

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Process</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>Finish Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fast Track Submission</td>
<td>September 24, 2019</td>
<td>October 24, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>RPP &amp; RRG Submissions</td>
<td>September 24, 2019</td>
<td>November 7, 2019</td>
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<td>Winners announced</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Late March 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Awarded resources released</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>April 2020</td>
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Why should I consult with IST’s Research Support Group before applying?

IST’s Research Computing Group works hand-in-hand with Compute Canada and the RAC Committee to validate that resource requests will be successful. With their help in understanding and crafting the technical section of your application, you can rest assured that what you have submitted will meet the technical requirements of the application.

How will my application be evaluated

All applications will be evaluated for both technical feasibility and scientific excellence. A technical evaluation reviews requests for resources to ensure that what is requested is feasible. Additionally, one of our eight peer-review committees will evaluate the scholarly pursuits that will be undertaken with the resources that have been requested.

Want to learn more about RAC and the evaluation process? Please visit:
https://www.computecanada.ca/resource-allocation-competitions/faq/

Can I use Compute Canada’s computing resources if I do not apply for RAC?

Yes, but the resources you have access to are limited. Anyone with a Compute Canada account has access to the Rapid Access Service (RAS). This service is not a guaranteed allocation of computational resources but a shared pool of unallocated resources.

Learn more about the RAC competition at:
https://www.computecanada.ca/research-portal/accessing-resources/resource-allocation-competitions/