Graduate Awards Competition and CSM Harmonized Scholarships

Rebekah DeVinney
Barsha Rimal
Judy Siu
November 9, 2021

The University of Calgary and the City of Calgary is located on the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in Southern Alberta, which includes the Blackfoot Confederacy (consisting of the Siksika, Piikani, and Kainai First Nations), as well as the Tsuut’ina First Nation, and the Stoney Nakoda (including the Chiniki, Bearsaw, and Wesley First Nations). The City of Calgary is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region III.
Housekeeping

• Please remain muted with video off unless you would like to ask a question.
• There will be breaks throughout the workshop for questions. You can use the chat or turn your video and mic.
• Slides will be emailed to all registrants and posted on the GSE website.
Introductions

• Rebekah DeVinney. Director, Scholarships GSE
• Barsha Rimal. Stipend and Scholarship Officer, GSE
• Judy Siu. Research Officer, Libin Cardiovascular Institute

• Poll
Outline

• Scholarships Awarded through GAC
• How to apply: focus on CSM Awards
• Application parts
• Tips and Tricks for a strong scholarship application
Scholarships offered in GAC
Awards Offered through GAC

• Open to all eligible U of C graduate students

  • Doctoral Entrance Scholarships
  • Izaak Walton Killam Doctoral Scholarships
  • Open Doctoral Scholarships
  • Alberta Innovates Graduate Student Scholarships
  • Special Awards
  • Some Indigenous Awards
  • Alberta Graduate Excellence Scholarship (AGES) - International
CSM Scholarship Harmonization

• Students fill out multiple applications for scholarships
  • Transcript requests
  • Letters of reference
  • Application content (proposal, accomplishments)

• Harmonization with GAC streamlines application process
  • One application for multiple awards
  • Institutional memory
    • Transcripts
    • Letters of reference (1 year)
    • Application contents
New for 2021: Scholarships offered through CSM and Institutes

• CSM Scholarship
• Achievers in Medical Science Doctoral
• Eleanor Mackie Doctoral
• WH Davies
• ACHRI Graduate Scholarship
• Libin Cardiovascular Institute Scholarships (12)
Getting started with your GAC application
What do you need to submit?

- Online application through Student Centre
  - Select Awards
  - 2 References
  - Academic History
  - Scholarship and Award History (up to 10)
  - Research Abstract (250 words) and Proposal (thesis) or Statement of Study (course-based) (800 words)
  - Bibliography (1000 words)
  - Presentations and Contributions (1000 words)
  - Leadership and Interpersonal Skills (800 words)
  - Allowable Inclusions (250 words)

- CSM Awards: GAC Harmonized Award Attachment
Where to Find Application?

my.ucalgary.ca -> Academic -> Student Centre
Selecting awards

Student Awards Application

The Program Application Deadline will display “TBD” until you select at least one award in your online application.

If your program deadline expires, you will be unable to edit or submit the application.
The definition of application status can be found here

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your existing applications</th>
<th>Award Year</th>
<th>Application Name</th>
<th>Application Number</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Program Application Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Graduate Award Competition</td>
<td>10005727</td>
<td>In Progress</td>
<td>Edit</td>
<td>View TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Graduate Award Competition</td>
<td>10000550</td>
<td>Submitted</td>
<td></td>
<td>View 25 Jan 2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Create New Application
To create a new application, select one of the links below:
Graduate Award Competition
Graduate Award Competition
Graduate Award Competition

UCID Number

Family Name

First Name

Current Academic Information

Your graduate program determines which awards you may be eligible for. For example, if you are planning to be registered in a doctoral program at the time the scholarship is paid, the application will identify the list of scholarships open to students in that doctoral program.

Program currently registered in: Graduate Studies. Doctoral

Degree: Doctor of Philosophy

Area of study: Chemistry

Start Term of degree: Fall 2020

Registration Status: Full-Time

Program you will be registered in at the time the scholarship is paid

If the program you are requesting funding for is the same as your current program, check the box below. If the program is not the same as your current program, complete the information for your future program. For example, if you are currently a master’s degree student and you are entering a doctoral program in the fall, enter your doctoral program information.

1. Same as current academic information

Start Term of degree: Fall 2020

Graduate Program: Graduate Studies. Master’s

Degree: Master of Strategic Studies

Area of study: Centre for Mil & Int Stud

Save
Award Selection – Graduate Award Competition

The following scholarships are open to students in the graduate degree program you are requesting funding for. You must meet the eligibility requirement of each award you apply for.

- **Open Doctoral Scholarships**
  - Minimum GPA of 3.5 or First Class Standing required. Selecting individual scholarships is not required. You will be considered for all scholarships within this category.
  - Click [here](#) for more information.

- **Alberta Innovates Graduate Student Scholarships**
  - Your research must fall within the descriptions of Information and Communications Technologies (ICT), or Advanced Materials and Manufacturing Technologies (AMM).
  - Click [here](#) for more information.

- **Cumming School Of Medicine Awards**
  - Click [here](#) for more information.

**Special Awards**
- You must meet the eligibility criteria for each individual award you apply for. Review the award terms of reference. If eligible, select the award and add it to your List of Special Awards Selected.
Graduate Award Competition

- **Open Doctoral Scholarships**
  - Minimum GPA of 3.5 or First Class Standing required. Selecting individual scholarships is not required, you will be considered for all scholarships within this category.
  - Click [here](#) for more information.

- **Alberta Innovates Graduate Student Scholarships**
  - Your research must fall within the descriptions of Information and Communications Technologies (ICT), or Advanced Materials and Manufacturing Technologies (AMM).
  - Click [here](#) for more information.

- **Cumming School Of Medicine Awards**
  - Click [here](#) for more information.
  - Click the button to open the Award List. Select the special awards you are applying for and add to your award list. The selected awards will appear under the List of Special Awards Selected.
  - You can delete the selected awards from the list, enter eligibility statement and attach the required supporting document. You must click "Save" button to save any edits you have made to the list of selected special awards.
  - You must provide the required eligibility Statement before submitting your application. If you are not able to attach the required supporting document before submitting your application. You will receive a checklist item. An application is not complete until the required supporting document is attached to the application.
  - Click to open award list to select

- **Special Awards**
  - You must meet the eligibility criteria for each individual award you apply for. Review the award terms of reference. If eligible, select the award and add it to your List of Special Awards Selected.

Save
Graduate Award Competition

Cumming School Of Medicine Awards

You can delete the selected awards from the list, enter eligibility statement and attach the required supporting document. You must click "Save" button to save any edits you have made to the list of selected special awards.

You must provide the required eligibility statement before submitting your application. If you are not able to attach the required supporting document before submitting your application, you will receive a checklist item. An application is not complete until the required supporting document is attached to the application.

List of Awards Selected

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award Name</th>
<th>Eligibility Statement</th>
<th>Supporting Document</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACHRI Graduate Scholarship</td>
<td>Add Eligibility Statement</td>
<td>Delete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumming School of Medicine Graduate Scholarship</td>
<td>Add Eligibility Statement</td>
<td>Delete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eleanor MacKe Doctoral Scholarship Women's Health</td>
<td>Add Eligibility Statement</td>
<td>Delete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Libin Cardiovascular Institute BRAIN CREATE Doctoral Scholarship</td>
<td>Add Eligibility Statement</td>
<td>Delete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Libin Cardiovascular Institute of Alberta Master's Scholarship</td>
<td>Add Eligibility Statement</td>
<td>Delete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William H. Davies Medical Research Scholarships</td>
<td>Add Eligibility Statement</td>
<td>Delete</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Special Awards

You must meet the eligibility criteria for each individual award you apply for. Review the award terms of reference. If eligible, select the award and add it to your List of Special Awards Selected.

Save
Cumming School of Medicine Graduate Scholarship

This scholarship was established to attract the best graduate students to the Cumming School of Medicine and train them to become leading researchers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donor</td>
<td>Cumming School of Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field of Study</td>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number</td>
<td>Variable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duration</td>
<td>Two years for master’s, four years for master’s transferring to doctoral, four years for doctoral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eligibility</td>
<td>Open to students registered full-time in a thesis-based graduate program in the Cumming School of Medicine and/or students registered full-time in a thesis-based program who are supervised by a Faculty member with a primary appointment in the Cumming School of Medicine. Students must be registered in their first year or in the first semester of their second year at time of the award start date. Applicants must complete a statement of eligibility (approximately 400 words) describing how they meet the eligibility criteria. Students are required to submit additional documentation, including a supervisor CV and training environment statement. Complete instructions on what is required can be found at <a href="https://cumming.ucalgary.ca/graduate/grad-students/scholarships">https://cumming.ucalgary.ca/graduate/grad-students/scholarships</a>. This scholarship will be matched each year by $10,000 from the recipient’s supervisor. Students funded through the Cumming School of Medicine Graduate Scholarship are required to apply for all provincial, national or international scholarships for which they are eligible. Students who win other awards will have their Cumming School of Medicine scholarship funding adjusted as follows: * Students winning one or more awards totaling up to $14,999 will have their funding adjusted for a combined total of $33,000 * Students winning one or more awards totaling between $15,000 and $29,999 will have their funding adjusted for a combined total of $35,000 * Students winning one or more awards totaling $30,000 or more will be provided with a $5,000 top-up. Students awarded a CISM scholarship are not eligible to hold a CISM Institute scholarship. A cost-sharing agreement will be made between the Cumming School and the supervisor, to maintain the value stated above.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizenship</td>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where Tenable</td>
<td>University of Calgary, Faculty of Graduate Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category</td>
<td>CISM-institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apply</td>
<td>Students should consult the Graduate Award Competition Guidelines at <a href="https://grad.ucalgary.ca/awardsopportunities/gp">https://grad.ucalgary.ca/awardsopportunities/gp</a> and complete the Graduate Award Scholarship application through the Student Centre.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deadline</td>
<td>Competition opens November 1. Deadlines vary by program. Contact your Graduate Program Administrator.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Graduate Award Competition

Cumming School Of Medicine Awards

You can delete the selected awards from the list, enter eligibility statement and attach the required supporting document. You must click "Save" button to save any edits you have made to the list of selected special awards.

You must provide the required eligibility Statement before submitting your application. If you are not able to attach the required supporting document before submitting your application. You will receive a checklist item. An application is not complete until the required supporting document is attached to the application.

List of Awards Selected

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<td>Add Eligibility Statement</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eleanor Mackie Doctoral Scholarship Women's Health</td>
<td>Add Eligibility Statement</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Libin Cardiovascular Institute of Alberta Master's Scholarship</td>
<td>Add Eligibility Statement</td>
<td>Delete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Libin Cardiovascular Institute of Alberta CREATE Doctoral Scholarship</td>
<td>Add Eligibility Statement</td>
<td>Delete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William H. Davies Medical Research Scholarships</td>
<td>Add Eligibility Statement</td>
<td>Delete</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Special Awards

You must meet the eligibility criteria for each individual award you apply for. Review the award terms of reference. If eligible, select the award and add it to your List of Special Awards Selected.

Save
Eligibility Statement

- ~400 words
- Page will look the same for each award, content will differ
- Information to enter will be in awards Terms of Reference or on websites
- All CSM awards have eligibility statements
  - Must fill something in for application to be complete
GAC Harmonized Award Attachment

- All CSM Awards require this attachment
  - GSE Website, scholarships page
  - ACHRI, Libin websites
  - Students and supervisors fill out sections
  - Only fill out ONCE for CSM awards

- Student information
  - Awards applied to
  - Attach Sex and Gender course certificate
    - https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/49347.html
  - Student saves form as **Last Name_First Name** before giving to supervisor

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**Part 1 – Student Information**

Students should fill in the following information and save the form as a PDF using the following format: Last Name_First Name.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Name:</th>
<th>UCID:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A few applicants are required to provide a certificate demonstrating that they have completed a CIHR Sex and Gender Module. Please attach your certificate to this document before sending it to your supervisor.

Check the awards that you are applying for:

- CUMMING School of Medicine Scholarship
- Achievers in Medical Science
- William H Dawes
- Eleanor Mackie
- ACHRI Graduate Scholarship
- Alberta Cardiovascular Institute Master’s Scholarship
- Alberta Cardiovascular Institute Brain CREATE Master’s Scholarship
- Alberta Cardiovascular Institute Master’s Scholarship in Women’s Cardiovascular Health
- Alberta Cardiovascular Institute Master’s Scholarship in Cardiovascular Health Promotion
- Alberta Cardiovascular Institute Doctoral Scholarship
- Alberta Cardiovascular Institute Brain CREATE Doctoral Scholarship
- Alberta Cardiovascular Institute Doctoral Scholarship in Women’s Cardiovascular Health
- Kettler Family Doctoral Scholarship in Vascular Biology
- Todd Anderson and Karen Anderson Graduate Scholarship in Cardiovascular Research
- Ann Gilles Graduate Scholarship in Cardiovascular Research
- Alvin Libin Graduate Scholarship in Cardiovascular Research
- Kenneth M. Stephenson Graduate Scholarship in Cardiovascular Research

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GAC Harmonized Award Attachment

- Supervisor information
  - Confirmation of funding commitment
  - Training Environment
  - Common CV CIHR Biosketch

- Supervisor sends attachment as a single PDF File to awardsgse@ucalgary.ca with subject line CSM-Supervisor
  - Subsequent years: submitted with GAC application

Supervisors of students applying to CSM awards will be in the pool for reviewers for the CSM Harmonized Scholarship Review Committee in the next competition year.
Deadlines

• GAC Online Application for all CSM programs: Jan 10, 2022 by 11:59 PM MST

• GAC Harmonized Award Attachment: Feb 15, 2022 by 11:59 PM MST
Award Eligibility
CSM and AIMS Doctoral Eligibility

• CSM Scholarship
  • In first year or first semester of second year at award start date (May)
  • M.Sc. and direct entry to Ph.D. in thesis based programs
  • Supervisor has a primary appointment in CSM
  • Citizenship is unrestricted
  • Eligibility statement: Supervisor affiliation and time in program

• Achievers in Medical Science Doctoral
  • First year direct entry to Ph.D.
  • Citizenship unrestricted
  • Students must be registered in a CSM graduate program
Eleanor Mackie Doctoral Scholarship in Women’s Health
And WH Davies Medical Research Scholarship

- **Eleanor Mackie**
  - Doctoral students in CSM graduate programs
  - Research area: Microbiology and Immunology pertaining to women’s health
  - Eligibility statement describing how research fits this mandate

- **WH Davies**
  - Full time students thesis based graduate programs
    - Students cannot hold more than $3,000 in award funding (includes monetary awards, scholarship, studentships, etc.) in Fall 2021-Winter 2022 academic year
    - Students must have a GPA equal to or higher than 3.3 (B+) over the graduate courses taken to date
  - Supervisor with primary appointment in CSM
  - Eligibility statement: supervisor affiliation
ACHRI Scholarship

• Open to students registered full-time in a graduate degree program (MSc & PhD) whose primary field of study is in Child Health and Wellness
• Must be under the supervision of ACHRI member
• Scholarship requires supervisor matching
• Eligibility statement (400 words) describing how their research supports child health and wellness
• Citizenship: Unrestricted

Contact: Julia Klein (jkllein@ucalgary.ca)
Libin Scholarships

• Must be registered in a Masters or Doctoral program within CSM
• Must be under supervision of a full Libin member
• All Libin scholarships require supervisor matching
  • Exception: Giving Day Awards
• Citizenship: Unrestricted
• Students can only hold one Libin scholarship at a time.
Libin Scholarships

• Libin Masters and Doctoral Graduate Scholarships
  • Eligibility Statement: Describe how research supports cardiovascular health

• Libin Masters and Doctoral Graduate Scholarships in Women's Cardiovascular Health
  • Eligibility Statement: Describe how research supports women’s cardiovascular health
Libin Scholarships

• Libin Cardiovascular Institute BRAIN CREATE Masters and Doctoral Scholarship
  • Eligibility Statement: Describe how research supports cardiovascular health and how it involves the development of neurotechnologies and have a potential commercial spinoff
  • Recipients must agree to BRAIN CREATE Terms of Reference
Libin Scholarships

• Giving Day Awards (open to Masters and Doctoral students)
  • Eligibility Statement: Describe how research supports cardiovascular health
    • Todd and Karen Anderson Graduate Scholarship in Cardiovascular Research
    • Alvin Libin Graduate Scholarship in Cardiovascular Research
    • Kenneth M. Stephenson Graduate Scholarship in Cardiovascular Research
    • Anne M. Gillis Graduate Scholarship in Cardiovascular Research
Libin Scholarships

• Libin MSc Graduate Scholarship in Cardiovascular Health Promotion
  • Must be under supervision of a full member of the LCI and the Person to Population (P2) research collaboration group, whose research focuses on Cardiovascular Health Promotion.
  • Eligibility Statement: Describe how research relates to cardiovascular health promotion
Libin Scholarships

• Kertland Family Doctoral Scholarship in Vascular Biology
  • Applicants must be pursuing basic vascular biology research into the mechanistic basis of vessel contraction, angiogenesis or arterial pathophysiology
  • At the time of application, students must be within 24 months of their initial registration.
  • Eligibility Statement: Describe how research meets the criteria above
Alberta Innovates, Killam and Open Doctoral

- You must meet the eligibility criteria for each award you are applying for.
  
  ➢ Terms of reference for the Entrance, Killam, Open Doctoral, and Special Awards can be found on the [Graduate Award Database](https://iac01.ucalgary.ca/FGSA/Public/PublicHome.aspx).

  ➢ Terms for the Alberta Innovates Graduate Student Scholarships can be found at [https://albertainnovates.ca/programs/graduate-student-scholarships/](https://albertainnovates.ca/programs/graduate-student-scholarships/)

- Eligibility for the Killam and Open Doctoral categories requires a first-class average, in the last two completed years of study (full-time equivalent). At the University of Calgary that is an **average of 3.5 or higher**.
Program Quotas

For the Entrance and Killam Doctoral Scholarship: Each graduate program is allocated a certain number of spots to forward applications

- Some programs are more transparent than others in this regards (e.g., will inform students that have been forwarded). Please speak with your program in late February/early March if you have not been told either way.

- All Open Doctoral, Special Awards and Alberta Innovates applications are forwarded to the competition, no Graduate Program quotas
References

- Fill out online form
- Names, email, organization
  - select notify: they will receive an email with instructions and deadline
- Ensure referee confirms receipt of email request
  - It may end up in the junk/spam folder!
- You both will receive an email when submitted
- If you recently applied to graduate school, may be able to use same references if less than 11 months old
Haley Alleson Vecchiarelli is applying for the 2019 Graduate Award Competition at the University of Calgary and has requested that you provide a scholarship reference. The deadline to provide the reference is 9 Jan 2019. E.g. Neuro grad program internal deadline (not universal)

In accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy act (FOIP), the student gives you, the referee, consent to disclose personal information required to evaluate the application for scholarship purposes.

To complete the reference for this student, please click on this link: Online Reference Form

WARNING: if you are a University of Calgary faculty member and are currently logged into PeopleSoft, you must either logout of PeopleSoft or open an new browser before completing the Online Reference Form.

How to write a strong academic reference.

Please comment on the student's ability and potential in three areas, Academic Excellence, Research Potential, Personal characteristics and interpersonal skills. See Selection Criteria and Indicators for more details.
References

Do not just ask someone for a reference. Be proactive and make it easy for your referee to write a good assessment:

- Provide the review criteria.
- Provide transcripts and a CV: highlight areas you wish to have covered in the assessment.
- Meet to discuss: what criteria do you think they should address?
- Be strategic in choosing your referees in terms of covering the criteria.
References

• It is always a good idea to use your supervisor. If you are a new student, use this as an opportunity to discuss your goals for the next few years with your supervisor.

• Have the references complement your application.

• Give your referees some time (2 weeks minimum, most references require more, a good rule is 3-4 weeks).

• Don’t be shy about sending a gentle reminder as deadline nears.
5 minute break
Writing a strong scholarship application
Scholarship parts

• Academic History
• Scholarship History
• Research Proposal or Statement of Study
• Presentations and Contributions
• Personal Characteristics and Interpersonal Skills
• Allowable Inclusions

• GAC Adjudication criteria
Academic History

• List **ALL** post-secondary institutions, whether or not you received a degree from those institutions

• Transcripts for all institutions will be uploaded by the Graduate Program Administrator in the program for which you are applying for funding.

• Ensure you delete all duplicate entries and add any missing degree data as required.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic History</th>
<th>Degree/Diploma</th>
<th>From Date</th>
<th>To Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shiraz University (SU)</td>
<td>Master of Inorganic Chemistry</td>
<td>2006/09/01</td>
<td>2009/09/30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arak University</td>
<td>Bachelor of Applied Chemistry</td>
<td>2001/01/01</td>
<td>2005/06/30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Scholarship History

• Up to 10 scholarships or awards you have received
  • Do not include: assistantships, supervisor funding, group awards or funding paid through grants
  • Balance between prestige, most recent and $ value

• Include dates in chronological order starting from the most recent to the oldest

• Annual value
  • If multi-year award, this is the amount per year
    • E.g. Vanier CGS is $50,000 / year
  • If one time payout, just list that
    • E.g. AGCA is $2,000
Scholarship History

- **Funding Source**
  - Federal
  - Non-profit
  - Other
  - Provincial
  - University

- **View/Edit Comment**
  - Use this section to provide context
    - E.g., Did you have to decline the second year of the award, but it is a multi-year award?
    - E.g., AGCA is awarded to 20 U Calgary graduate students (50 total provincially) each year for their leadership and commitment to service
Research Proposal or Statement of Study

• Title of research proposal or statement of study (254 characters, excluding spaces)

• Abstract (250 words)
  • Summary of whole thesis or statement of study
  • Should capture all major elements of your work

• Research proposal or statement of study (800 words)
  • Approximately 1.5-2 single spaced pages

• Bibliography and works cited (1000 words)
  • Format according to your discipline
Research proposal/statement of study

Your research proposal (thesis-based) or statement of study (course-based) should demonstrate evidence of solid and wide knowledge of the discipline and your ability to communicate it to a non-specialist audience.

Be aware the system will time out after 30 minutes of inactivity. Save often.

*Title of research proposal or statement of study (maximum 254 characters)

*Abstract of research proposal or statement of study (maximum 250 words)
Click to expand view

*Research proposal or statement of study (maximum 800 words)
Click to expand view

Bibliography and Works Cited

Follow the style generally used by your discipline. If you are uncertain which style to use, contact your supervisor or Graduate Program Administrator.
Research Proposal or Statement of Study

- What is new and important about your research or field of study?
- What is the key question your work addresses and how will it be answered?
- How does your work fit with institutional priorities? (Eyes High)
- What are estimated milestones and what does success look like?
- Write clearly
- What is the impact?
- Feasibility. What resources are available?
Research Proposal or Statement of Study

• Try the 30-second rule: can you explain your work to someone not in your field? Remember that many adjudicators come from disciplines other than your own.
  • Peers in unrelated fields are perfect audiences.
• Write clearly and avoid jargon. Aim for language that can be understood by the non-specialist but shows a familiarity with the specialist field.
  • Start strong and capture the reader’s attention.
  • Convince committee members that your studies are worth funding.
Research Proposal

• Research Proposal (Thesis-based)
  • What key question(s) your research will address? How will the question(s) be answered? Why is this the most appropriate way to explore the question? Justify the methodology.
  • Ensure your proposal is specific. An ambiguous or indefinite proposal will weaken your application.
  • The project must be feasible.
    • The project must be achievable within the time-frame allowed. Offer milestones if possible.
    • You may want to explain if your research has a contingency plan due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
Statement of Study

- Statement of Study (Course-based)
  - Explain your Topic of study or your course objectives, what you are studying?
  - Why did you choose this course?
  - What do you hope to gain from taking it?
  - How does this course of study compliment your career goals
Presentations & Contributions

• Publications, presentations, performances and other contributions
  • Highlight your academic accomplishments.

• **Provide as much background information as possible**
  • adjudicators outside of your discipline may not be aware of the **conferences** at which you have presented or the prominence of the **journal** in which you have been published.

• If there is not a specified format, follow the format most commonly used in your discipline.
Personal Characteristics and Interpersonal Skills

• Relevant:
  • Leadership
  • Work experience
  • Project management
  • Involvement in academic life
  • Volunteerism

• 800 words
Allowable Inclusions

• When appropriate, outline extraordinary circumstances that may have delayed or interrupted:
  • 1) your completion of degree(s)
  • 2) record or research achievement
  • 3) your research career

• Extraordinary circumstances include care of family members, illness, disability or other exceptional factor. Employment while completing your degree is not considered extraordinary.

• 250 words (less than one page)
Allowable Inclusions: COVID

• Everybody has been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.
• Write about COVID-19, particularly if the pandemic has delayed your research due to:
  • increased care-taking responsibilities
  • public health restrictions related to your research (e.g., travel restrictions or access to laboratory samples or clinical participants)
Adjudication and Selection Criteria
Adjudication

• GAC Online Application adjudicated for GAC awards (Killam, Open, Entrance, AI, Special Awards, Indigenous, AGES-International) by FGS
  • Adjudication criteria

• CSM Awards adjudicated separately
  • Adjudication criteria under development
  • Takes into consideration the Award Eligibility and GAC Harmonized Award Attachment
Selection Criteria

- **40 % Academic Excellence**
  - Transcripts
  - Awards
  - Reference assessments (x2)

- **40 % Research Potential**
  - Research proposal
  - Presentations and Contributions
  - Awards
  - Reference assessments (x2)

- **20% Personal Characteristics and Interpersonal Skills**
  - Leadership Statement
  - Reference assessments (x2)
Academic Excellence (40 %)

- As demonstrated by past academic results, transcripts, awards and distinctions
  - Academic record (first class average, 3.5)
  - Scholarships and awards held
  - Duration of previous studies
  - Type of program and courses pursued
  - Course load
  - Relative standing (if available)
Research Potential (40%)

- As demonstrated by the applicant’s research history, interest in discovery, proposed research, potential contribution to the advancement of knowledge in the field, and any anticipated outcomes
  - Quality and originality of contributions to research and development
  - Relevance of work experience and academic training to field of proposed research
  - Significance, feasibility, and merit of proposed research
  - Judgment and ability to think critically
  - Ability to apply skills and knowledge
  - Initiative, autonomy and independence
  - Research experience and achievements relative to expectations of someone with the candidate’s academic experience
Personal Characteristics and Interpersonal Skills (20%)

- As demonstrated by the applicant’s communication skills, past professional and relevant extracurricular interactions and collaborations
  - Work experience
  - Leadership experience
  - Project management including organizing conferences and meetings
  - The ability or potential to communicate and present theoretical, technical and/or scientific concepts clearly and logically in written and oral formats
  - Involvement in academic life
  - Volunteerism/community outreach
Top things the adjudicator wants to know

- What is this person going to do?
- Is the research feasible?
- What will be the outcomes and their impact? Is it new? Who will care?
- Do I have a picture of who this person is?
- Is this a good investment?

Scan Test:
- Have someone outside your field read you application quickly (scan it, ~ 5 minutes).
- What major point(s) do they take away from it? Is it what you wanted them to?
Top Reasons Good Students Don’t Get Funded

• A generic reference
  • The assessment is positive but gives no specifics and does not address criteria.
• Content, context and/or impact of research not clearly stated (“So what?”)
• Not following instructions (or stretching rules)
• Frustrating evaluators by making material hard to find
• Diluting genuinely important/impressive material by describing generic material at length
• Not addressing possible weaknesses in the application
How to create a strong scholarship application

• **Start early**
  • Writing a strong application takes time and planning. Make a schedule so that you can meet the competition deadlines and submit with confidence.

• **Know what you are applying for**
  • Read the terms of reference to confirm you meet the eligibility criteria and understand what is required to complete the application.
  • Check the TO DO LIST- is it complete?
Submitting your application
Before you submit…

• Review your application one last time, check for spelling, grammar, formatting or factual errors.
• Read the application instructions again
• Check the TO LIST- is it complete?
• You will increase your chance of success by following these tips and following the instructions exactly
• If you have questions: contact the
• Graduate Award Office (FGS) at gsaward@ucalgary.ca.
• GSE: awardsgse@ucalgary.ca
• Libin or ACHRI for their awards
Before you submit...

Student Awards Application

The Program Application Deadline will display "TBD" until you select at least one award in your online application.

If your program deadline expires, you will be unable to edit or submit the application.

The definition of application status can be found here.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Application Number</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Program Application Deadline</th>
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<td>In Progress</td>
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Create New Application

To create a new application, select one of the links below:

Graduate Award Competition
Resources

• Workshop slides emailed to all registrants and posted on GSE (and ACRHI and Libin) web pages
• Second workshop in early December—stay tuned!
• FGS runs workshops and Scholarship Cafes and Drop-in sessions
  • Dates TBA
  • https://grad.ucalgary.ca/awards/award-opportunities/graduate-award-competition
Contact information

- Sex and Gender Course module link
  - [https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/49347.html](https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/49347.html)

- GSE Scholarship Team
  - Rebekah DeVinney, Director, Scholarships
  - Barsha Rimal, Scholarship and Stipend Officer
  - awardsgse@ucalgary.ca

- Libin Cardiovascular Institute
  - Judy Siu, Research Officer
  - dsiu@ucalgary.ca

- Alberta Children’s Hospital Research Institute (ACHRI)
  - Julia Klenin-MacLock, Manager, Research and Training
  - jklenin@ucalgary.ca
Good luck on your application!!