Graduate Science Education

Scholarships

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Sept 6, 2018
GSE Scholarship Team

- Tara Beattie: Associate Dean, GSE
- Rebekah DeVinney: Assistant Dean, GSE
- Dallas Callaway: Scholarship and Stipend Officer
- Erin Degelman: Graduate student scholarship lead
Fall Semester
- Cumming School of Medicine Entrance Award (PhD, MSc)
- Tri-council (CIHR, NSERC, SSHRC) doctoral
- Canada Graduate Scholarship-Masters
- Indigenous Awards
- Alberta Innovates-Heath Solutions (PhD, MSc)

Winter Semester
- Graduate Awards Competition (multiple awards)
- Alberta Innovates Graduate Student Scholarships
- Vanier
Tri-Council Awards

- **Tri-Council Doctoral**
  - Oct 1 Deadline

- **Canadian Graduate Scholarship-Masters**
  - Dec 1 Deadline

- **Three granting agencies**
  - CIHR: Health-related research
  - NSERC: Basic sciences that are NOT health related
  - SSHRC: Social sciences

- **Open to Canadian Citizens/permanent residents**

- **Top tier awards**—very competitive but worth applying for if criteria are met
  - Time in program
  - First class marks (>3.5) in last two years

- **CIHR also offers travel awards for presentations at conferences**
- Supports world-class doctoral students. Top tier award
  - Academic excellence
  - Research potential
  - Leadership
- Students submit a Preliminary Assessment Form to FGS
  - Selected students receive application support through FGS
Indigenous Awards

- Indigenous Graduate Award (IGA)
  - Open to Alberta residents who are Status or Non-status Indian/First Nations, Metis or Inuit
  - Doctoral and masters awards
  - Oct 16 deadline for 2018 competition
  - Workshop for these awards on Sept 19, 9:30-10:30
    - Earth Sciences 1010C (FGS office)
Graduate Awards Competition (GAC)

- **Doctoral awards**
  - Izaak Walton Killam
  - Open Doctoral
  - First class average (3.5 GPA in last 2 years)
  - Citizenship unrestricted

- **Special awards and bursaries**
  - Donor funded to support a particular area of interest
  - Students must demonstrate financial need for bursaries

- **Deadlines in early winter**
  - Program-specific internal deadlines
Graduate Student Scholarships
  — Thesis based research related to Information and Communication Technologies, nanotechnology, or Omics
  — Doesn’t support medical or health related research
  — Doctoral and Masters awards
  — Early Feb deadlines (application same as GAC awards)

Health
  — Doctoral and Masters awards
  — Supports health-related research
  — Deadlines in early Fall
- Provincial award. Restricted to Canadian citizens/permanent residents
- Doctoral and Masters awards
- Award values vary
  - Up to $10,800 for MSc
  - Up to $15,000 for PhD
- Program nominated awards (GAC awards application)
- Applicants to Tri-council competitions automatically considered
  - Top applicants not funded
Eligible for GAC and Alberta Innovates, Vanier awards
Many program and special awards unrestricted
Country-specific awards
  — Science without Borders (Brazil, entrance award)
  — China Scholarship Council
International student travel awards
  — Presentations at international and national competitions
More information here: https://grad.ucalgary.ca/awards/international_students
Program Specific and Other Awards

- **Program Specific Awards**
  - Vary by program
  - Travel, thesis, publication and entrance awards
  - Talk to your Graduate Program Administrator or Program Director for more information

- **MITACS Accelerate**
  - Industry partnership funding for students
  - U of C site information: [https://www.ucalgary.ca/research/researchers/apply-grants/grants-external/mitacs](https://www.ucalgary.ca/research/researchers/apply-grants/grants-external/mitacs)
Dallas Callaway, MA
- Office: HSC G349A (8:30am-4:30pm M-F)
- Email(s): dacallaw@ucalgary.ca; awardsgse@ucalgary.ca; gseproj@ucalgary.ca
- Phone: 403-210-6687

Scholarship Support
- Advertise major scholarship and award programs to CSM graduate students and supervisors
- Administer a subset of GSE scholarship programs
- Assist CSM graduate students locate and apply for international, national, provincial, regional, and institutional scholarships and awards (e.g., interpret and navigate application guidelines and processes; collect Associate Dean, GSE signature)
- Develop and coordinate the GSE Scholarship Internal Peer Review (IPR) service
- Develop and maintain the GSE Scholarships and Awards IPR and Support Hub

Stipend Support
- Set up, revise, terminate all CSM graduate student stipend payments
GSE-Administered Scholarships and Awards

- **Cumming School of Medicine Graduate Scholarship**
  - Deadline: October 1
  - Value: $30,000/annum for two (MSc) or four (PhD) years
    - $20K (CSM) and $10K (supervisor match)
  - Eligibility: 1st year or 1st semester 2nd year only, used as top-up if hold other external funding, international students eligible

- **Achievers in Medical Science Awards**
  - AIMS Doctoral: Concurrent and commensurate with CSM Graduate Scholarship
  - AIMS Leaders in Medicine: TBD

- **Eleanor Mackie Doctoral Scholarship in Women’s Health**
  - Deadline: November 15
  - Value: $28,000 for one year
  - Eligibility: F/T doctoral student, research in immunology/microbiology which pertains to women’s health, may not hold with other external funding, international students eligible

- **Kertland Family Doctoral Scholarship in Vascular Biology**
  - Deadline: November 15/May 15
  - Value: $25,000/annum for two years
    - $12.5K (Kertland) and $12.5K (supervisor matching)
  - Eligibility: F/T doctoral student, supervised by full/associate LCIA member, within first 24-months of PhD start, research in basic vascular biology, may not hold with other external funding, international students eligible

- **William H. Davies Medical Research Scholarship**
  - Deadline: November 15
  - Value: $3,000-$11,000 for one year depending on qualifications/experience/program
  - Eligibility: F/T MSc or PhD student; international students eligible
Locating Scholarships and Awards

- **FGS Graduate Awards Database**
  - Searchable (e.g., award name, category, keyword, degree type, citizenship, registration status) repository for major funding programs to which University of Calgary graduate students may apply.

- **COS Pivot**
  - Searchable database enabling anyone with UC login credentials to access the most comprehensive global source of funding.
  - Ideal for locating smaller, niche scholarships and awards.
  - Save searches, have search results auto-emailed to you at regular intervals, tracking funding opportunities and application details.
How to Apply

- General
  - If award is listed in Graduate Awards Database, follow indicated application guidelines

- External Awards
  - If unlisted in Graduate Awards Database, follow sponsor application guidelines

- Awards requiring Associate Dean, GSE signature
  - Email application package to awardsgse@ucalgary.ca or drop-off hardcopy at HSC G349A drop box (n.b., specify sponsor deadline/time, instructions for return of fully-executed forms)
  - ***GSE maintains a 4 business day internal deadline in advance of the sponsor submission deadline***

- GSE-administered Scholarships and Awards
  - Complete application form including all requested attachments (e.g., CV)
  - Email application as single PDF to awardsgse@ucalgary.ca by indicated deadline
  - Confidential reference letters may be emailed to awardsgse@ucalgary.ca by the indicated deadline
  - Program terms of reference, FAQs, application forms, and application checklists will be posted to the GSE Scholarship and Financial Support webpage
How to create a strong application

- Decide what you are applying for
  - Read the terms of reference to confirm eligibility
  - Deadlines: are there internal deadlines along with the agency deadline

- Start early
  - Find out what you need to complete your application
  - Research proposal, CV, personal statement

- Transcripts
  - Include transcripts from all postsecondary institutions attended, even if no marks assigned
  - Make sure to request them early enough
The Application: Writing your proposal

- You need to capture a reviewer’s attention and leave them with an understanding of your work
  - What is new and important about your research?
  - What is the key question your work addresses and how will you answer it?
  - How does your work fit with institutional/agency funding priorities
  - What does success look like for your proposed work

- Write clearly, your application will likely be reviewed by individuals outside of your discipline
The application: Publications and research contributions

- Papers, published abstracts, presentations, reports ...
- Provide as much background material as possible
  - Your contribution to the work
  - Significance of work
  - Prominence of journal or conference
  - Prestige of awards
Letters of reference

- Choose your referees wisely. They should know you well enough to write a positive, detailed letter.
- Ask early, give your referees time to write the letter.
- Give them details:
  - About the award: scoring criteria, terms of reference, deadlines
  - Your research proposal and goals
  - Presentations and publications
  - Academic and other accomplishments
- Your referees can strengthen your application by providing corroborating support for your accomplishments and helping mitigate weaknesses.
- Remember to thank your referees!
Before you submit

- Follow the instructions to the letter!
  - Page limits
  - Margins, fonts, spacing
- Triple check your application
  - Spelling, grammar, formatting
  - Factual Errors
- Have it reviewed internally
  - Supervisor or someone close to your project
  - “Arms-length”, non-expert in your field
Take advantage of resources available to help you write the best application

FGS
- Workshops: https://www.ucalgary.ca/mygradskills/workshops
- Scholarship café
- https://grad.ucalgary.ca/awards
Apply for everything!
  — GPA, publications is not the only aspect of the application
  — Applies pressure to formulate your research proposal in concise terms
  — Don’t wait until you think you are the most competitive to submit your first application

Use all available resources
  — Supervisor, postdoc, peers
  — Workshops, seminar
  — GSE Support at Doctoral Level — Peer mentoring, internal peer review

GSE Scholarship Survey
Support Contacts

- Scholarship and Stipend Officer
  (awardsgse@ucalgary.ca)
  - Interpretation of eligibility criteria and application components
  - Assistance and trouble-shooting with application forms and documents as well as Canadian Common CV

- Student Support Lead – Erin Degelman
  - emstebne@ucalgary.ca
Workshop on Sept 6, 2-4 pm, Theatre 3
Internal peer review by postdocs
Peer Mentoring Small Groups
Sample applications on Desire 2 Learn (D2L) site

If you are direct entry to PhD and did not receive an email about this, contact me at rdevinnee@ucalgary.ca