

# Audio Transcript: SSHRC CGRS-D, Part 1

## [Introduction]

Welcome to the SSHRC CGRS-D: Learn about the scholarship, a 5-minute recording presented by the Faculty of Graduate Studies.

Play the audio for each slide by selecting the speaker icon in the lower right corner of the screen; or in the menu select *Slide Show*, **and** *From Beginning* for continuous audio.

This is the first in a 2-part presentation.

**Part 2: Application advice and support** will be provided during the August online and September in-person workshops.

## Accessibility Statement

For a copy of these slides and a transcript of this recording (including hyperlinks), please visit the Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS)

[Canada Graduate Research Scholarship – Doctoral](#) website.

Content is available in Microsoft PowerPoint, Microsoft Word, and other formats upon request.

If you experience accessibility barriers with this presentation please contact Kathy McCarthy, Scholarship Officer, by email at [fgsaward@uvic.ca](mailto:fgsaward@uvic.ca) or by telephone at (250) 472-5402.

## Learning outcomes

At the end of this presentation, students will be able to answer the following questions:

- What is the SSHRC CGRS-D?
- Am I eligible?
- How do I apply?
- When is the deadline?
- What are my next steps?

While every effort has been made to provide accurate information, please refer to the SSHRC program materials as your primary source of information.

## What is the SSHRC CGRS-D?

The Canada Graduate Research Scholarship – Doctoral is a scholarship provided by Canada's research councils:

- the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (known as SSHRC),
- the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (known as NSERC),
- and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (known as CIHR).

Together, these research councils are often referred to as the Tri-Agencies or the Tri-Councils.

The value of the CGRS-D is \$40,000 dollars per year for up to three years.

The purpose of the CGRS-D is to support research excellence so that scholarship recipients may focus on their doctoral studies. The scholarship is based on indicators of excellence set out in the selection criteria.

It is not based on financial need.

## Am I eligible?

Eligibility for the CGRS-D has changed as of the Fall 2025 competition.

The program was *formerly* known as the **CGS-D** and was open only to domestic students.

For fall 2025, the program is open to both domestic and international students.

In order to be eligible, international students must be registered in a doctoral program at the time of application.

SSHRC advises that a study permit is not required in order to apply:

*this means* that international students at UVic who are beginning their program remotely while waiting for their study permit are eligible to apply.

Your doctoral program must include a significant research component that leads to the completion of a thesis, dissertation, or major research project.

Another significant change to the program this year is the eligibility window to apply has extended from two years to three. You must have completed no more than **thirty-six months** of full-time study in your doctoral program as of December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year of application (2025).

Master's students who intend to transfer to a doctoral program (with no master's degree conferred) are also eligible to apply in the fall 2025 competition, provided they will be registered in a doctoral program no later than January 1, 2027.

One last change to the program is that you may apply to the CGRS-D

a maximum of three times. This new limitation begins with the fall 2025 competition: applications submitted earlier under the former CGS-D program do not count.

## How do I apply?

You may submit ONE application per year to ONE research council.

Begin by [selecting the appropriate research council](#) –

SSHRC, NSERC or CIHR – according to the guidelines provided in the link.

If your area of research overlaps with two or more research councils it is important to seek advice, as applications submitted to the incorrect research council may be rejected as ineligible, and you will not be permitted to re-submit your application to another research council in that competition.

If your research relates to health, when you follow the link, scroll down to find specific guidelines for health research. Consult with your academic supervisor or contact FGS to learn how you may request advice from SSHRC.

Review the [Where should I submit my application?](#) flowchart to confirm that you should submit your application to the UVic competition.

The image on this slide is a partial screenshot of the flowchart that includes a series of *yes/no questions* to identify the correct submission process for your application. If you are a current UVic student, or if you were registered at UVic in the 2025 calendar year, you need to submit your application to the UVic competition. This is true even if you intend to hold your award at a different institution.

The CGRS-D application is a web-based form in the [SSHRC On-line system](#).

**Register** then initiate your application -- following the SSHRC Applicant instructions.

*How do you indicate that you are applying to the UVic competition?*

When you initiate your application in the SSHRC On-line system, at the beginning of the application you will be asked to select an option that reflects your current registration status: you will select the option that indicates you are **currently registered at a Canadian institution with a SSHRC quota**, then select University of Victoria from the menu.

## When is the deadline?

The table on this slide provides a timeline of the CGRS-D process, beginning with the WEB APPLICATION On-line system opening for applicants in summer 2025, and ending with successful applicants receiving their scholarship payments as early as May 2026.

**The SSHRC online system opens for applications July 9th.**

FGS will host TWO application workshops:

- online in August and
- in-person in the first week of September.

Applicants are welcome to attend one or both.

The deadline to submit your application is **NOON** (Pacific time), **SEPTEMBER 24<sup>th</sup>**.

This is the deadline for applicants in the UVic competition.

While you are reviewing information on the SSHRC website you may see a reference to a *separate deadline* of October 17. This deadline is **NOT applicable for UVic students**, it is meant for applicants who have followed the *yes/no* decision tree on the previous page and determined that they should submit their application directly to SSHRC.

Applications are reviewed and scored by a committee of social sciences and humanities researchers on campus, with top-scoring applications forwarded to the national competition in late November. UVic is an institution with an SSHRC quota, meaning that SSHRC sets a maximum number of applications that we may forward to the national competition.

SSHRC will announce results of the competition in late-April 2026.

Successful applicants can choose to activate their award and begin receiving scholarship payments on either May 1<sup>st</sup>, or September 1st, 2026, or January 1st, 2027. SSHRC also provides options to defer a start date under certain circumstances.

## What are my next steps?

1. Consult with your academic supervisor and BEGIN drafting your **Outline of Proposed Research** (a 2-page document) and **Research Contributions and Statements** (also a 2-page document) following the application instructions carefully.

These are two important components of your application.

Set a schedule that allows time for feedback from a SSHRC coach.

Coaches are UVic faculty members who are available to review and provide written feedback on these two critical sections of your application.

2. Contact your referees. You are permitted to invite just two academics to complete the required **Letter of Appraisal** forms.

One of these must be completed by your PhD supervisor *if* you are already enrolled as a doctoral student.

If you are a Master's student applying for this funding, then your M.A. supervisor must serve as one of your referees.

Provide both referees with a draft of your application and the SSHRC instructions for referees.

If you would like advice about choosing your second referee, please consult with your academic supervisor, FGS or a UVic SSHRC coach.

3. Review the selection criteria - learn how your application will be evaluated.

4. Plan to attend the FGS application workshops where you can meet your SSHRC coaches, receive application advice, hear from a current successful award recipient, and have your questions answered. Dates for the online and in-person workshop will be posted on our website.

## Contacts and resources

If you have questions, please contact Kathy McCarthy, Scholarship Officer, by email at [fgsaward@uvic.ca](mailto:fgsaward@uvic.ca), by telephone at (250) 472-5402, or in-person. The FGS office is located in the Jamie Cassels Centre, room A207.

Visit the FGS CGRS-D website where you can find contact information for the SSHRC coaches, information session dates, the UVic deadline and other helpful information.

Part 2: Application advice and support slides and recording will also be available on that site by the middle of August.

SSHRC resources on the CGRS-D program website include the selection criteria, application instructions, referee instructions and contact information for technical support.

This concludes the presentation. Thank you.