Transcript

CGRS-M: Learn about the scholarship

[Introduction]

Welcome to the CGRS-M: Learn about the scholarship, a 10 minute recording presented by the Faculty of Graduate Studies. Play the audio recording for each slide by selecting the icon in the lower right corner of the screen; or, in the menu select Slide Show, then From Beginning for a continuous recording.

This is the first in a 2-part presentation. Part 2: Application advice and support will be provided during the online and in-person workshops in October 2025.

# Accessibility Statement

For a copy of these slides and a transcript of this recording please visit the Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS) [Canada Graduate Research Scholarship – Master’s](https://www.uvic.ca/graduatestudies/finances/search-funding/award-pages/canada-graduate-scholarships---masters.php) website. Content is available in Microsoft PowerPoint, Microsoft Word, and other formats upon request.

If you experience accessibility barriers with this presentation, please contact Lisa Pender, Scholarship Officer at lpender@uvic.ca.

# What you will learn

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

* What is the Canada Graduate Research Scholarship – Master’s (CGRS-M)?
* 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 CGRS-M program material as your primary source of information.

# What is the CGRS-M?

The Canada Graduate Research Scholarship – Master’s (referred to as the CGRS-M) is a scholarship provided by Canada’s research councils: the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (known as NSERC), the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (known as SSHRC), 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-M is $27,000 for one year.

The purpose of the CGRS-M is to support highly qualified students to develop research skills. The financial support is intended to allow scholarship recipients to focus on their graduate program. The scholarship is based on indicators of excellence set out in the selection criteria. It is not based on financial need.

In addition to the funding provided, another reason why students may choose to apply for this scholarship is the impact of having a competitive award in your academic experience.

# Am I eligible?

* The CGRS-M is open to Canadian citizens, Permanent Residents, and Protected Persons (as defined by the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act).
* Your master’s program must include a significant research component that leads to the completion of a thesis, dissertation, major research project, scholarly publication, performance, recital or exhibit that is merit-reviewed at the institutional level. If you are unsure if your program meets this requirement, consult with the Graduate Advisor in your department.
* You must have a first-class GPA in your last two years of study, which is a 7.0 on UVic’s 9.0 scale. Some exceptions may be available. If you intend to hold your CGRS-M award at UVic and your GPA is below 7.0, you should consult with the Graduate Advisor in your department. If you plan to hold your CGRS-M at another institution, you should contact that institution for more information.
* You must have completed no more than twelve months of full-time study in your master’s program as of December 31st of the year of application. Most students apply for the scholarship during the last year of their undergraduate degree (in which case they would have zero months of study in their master’s program as of December 31, 2025); or, in the first year of their master’s degree (for example, if you begin your master’s in September 2025, you will have 4 months of study as of December 31st).
* The table on this slide lists three other scenarios in which a student may be eligible. You may also be eligible if you:
	+ Enrolled in a doctoral program directly from a bachelor’s program;
	+ Will begin in a master’s program, then transfer to a doctoral program without receiving a master’s degree; or,
	+ You will complete your master’s and continue to a doctoral program before the end of your 1-year award period.

There are other scenarios for eligibility. If you have questions about your eligibility, please consult the CGRS-M website and contact FGS.

# How do I apply?

The CGRS-M is a web-based form in the Research Portal. Register, select CGRS-M from the available options, and follow the CGRS-M [instructions for completing an application](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/ResearchPortal-PortailDeRecherche/Instructions-Instructions/CGS_M-BESC_M_eng.asp).

Select the [appropriate research council](https://science.gc.ca/site/science/en/interagency-research-funding/policies-and-guidelines/selecting-appropriate-federal-granting-agency): NSERC, SSHRC, or CIHR.

You may indicate up to three institutions where you plan to apply for admission to a master’s program.

Follow the [instructions for completing a Canadian Common CV](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/CCV_CGSM-CVC_BESCM_eng.asp): this is a standardized format for an academic CV, or resume. There are different versions of the Common CV, so ensure you select the version for the CGRS-M.

You will need two letters of reference: these are referred to as Reference Assessments and you can find detailed information in the instructions for completing an application.

# When is the deadline?

The table on this slide provides a timeline of the CGRS-M process, beginning with the online portal opening for applications in September 2025, and ending with successful applicants receiving their scholarship payments as early as May 2026.

The CGRS-M Research Portal opens for applications on September 3, 2025.

FGS will hold application workshops in October (details are available on our website):

* Our online workshop will be held Tuesday, October 7 from 2:30pm to 4:00pm. A Zoom link to join the workshop is available on our website.
* Our in-person workshop will be held Thursday, October 9 from 12:30pm to 2:00pm in the Jamie Cassels Centre, Senate Chambers.

The deadline is December 1st each year, or the next business day if that falls on a weekend. Additionally, you must submit your application before the Research Portal closes at 8:00pm Eastern Time which is 5:00pm Pacific Time. The deadline to submit your application is set by the research councils which means that UVic has no ability to provide an extension.

During the UVic campus review of applications January to March 2026, each department will nominate their top-ranked applications to move forward to review by a campus-wide multi-disciplinary committee. Successful applicants will receive an offer via the Research Portal on April 1, 2026.

If you selected other institutions in your application, each institution will receive and review your application. This means you could receive more than one offer. You may accept only one offer, and you must hold the scholarship at the institution that provided the offer.

Successful applicants can choose to begin receiving scholarship payments on either May 1 or September 1, 2026, or January 1, 2027.

# What are my next steps?

1. Consult with your academic supervisor or the Graduate Advisor in your program, and begin drafting your Outline of Proposed Research and identifying your qualifications for the Canadian Common CV.
2. Set a schedule that allows time for feedback from a CGRS-M coach. Coaches are UVic faculty members who are available to provide application advice and written feedback. Their contact information is available on our website.
3. Contact your referees (one should be your academic supervisor). Provide them with your draft application, CV, and CGRS-M instructions for referees.
4. Review the selection criteria: learn how your application will be evaluated.
5. Plan to attend the FGS application workshops where you can meet your coaches, receive important application advice, and have your questions answered. Workshop details are available on our website.

# Contacts and resources

If you have questions, please contact Lisa Pender, Scholarship Officer, by email at lpender@uvic.ca, by telephone at (250) 721-6167, or visit the Jamie Cassels Centre, room A207.

Visit the UVic CGRS-M website where you can find contact information for the UVic coaches, workshop dates and important information about transcript requirements.

As part of your application your will upload your transcripts to the CGRS-M Research Portal. It’s very important that your transcripts meet the requirements or your application may be ineligible. Transcript requirements vary at each institution so if you will be indicating more than one institution in your application, you should consult the transcript requirements at each institution. FGS scholarship officers can assist you to ensure your transcript package is complete.

Tri-Agency resources on the CGRS-M program website include the selection criteria, application instructions, referee instructions, links to tutorial videos, and contact information for technical support.

This concludes the presentation. Thank you.