CIHR

Frederick Banting and Charles Best Canada Graduate Scholarship (CGSD) Doctoral Program 2019

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Types of Awards

The **Frederick Banting and Charles Best Canada Graduate Scholarships Doctoral Awards (CGS-D)** program provides special recognition and support to students who are pursuing a doctoral degree in a health-related field in Canada.

The **Doctoral Foreign Study Award (DFSA)** provides special recognition and support to students who are pursuing a doctoral degree in a health-related field abroad.

- Applicants apply to the CIHR Doctoral Research Awards competition and top-ranked applicants are awarded a CGS-D or DFSA depending on the proposed primary location of study.

All applicants are expected to have an exceptionally high potential for future research achievement and productivity.
Overarching Research Themes

- Biomedical
- Clinical
- Health systems services
- Social, cultural, environmental and population health
CIHR Research Priority Area - 2019

Funds are available to encourage and support applications in specific areas that are aligned with CIHR's research priority areas and mandates. 2019 research priority areas:

- HIV/AIDS and/or STBBI
- Canada Graduate Scholarship to honor Nelson Mandela
- Infection and Immunity

Further information can be found on the CIHR website:
https://www.researchnet-recherchenet.ca/rnr16/viewOpportunityDetails.do?progCd=10992&language=E&org=CIHR#hiv

*To be considered select Priority Announcement/Funding Pool title from the list you will find in the application as described in the application instructions
Equity, Diversity & Inclusiveness - EDI

All of the councils emphasize EDI - so if you can speak to how your research touches on EDI, do so.

The CIHR website states:

“Through its Equity Strategy, CIHR is committed to ensuring that its programs and peer review processes result in the fair and impartial treatment of all participants.

Effective May 15, 2018, application participants for all CIHR programs must complete the **Equity and Diversity Questionnaire** before the application can be submitted” We believe that collecting data on these important equity dimensions will allow us to monitor the equity performance of our funding programs and will inform evidence-based policy solutions designed to increase equity, diversity and inclusion among all those involved in the research enterprise”.

All of the questions are mandatory but have a “I prefer not to answer” option. The website contains a ‘how to” video and information about this questionnaire:

[http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/50959.html](http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/50959.html)

*Reviewers do not see your EDI Questionnaire*
Selection Criteria - New in 2019

Applications will be scored on two broad categories:

- Research ability and potential - 50%
- Relevant experience and achievements obtained within and beyond academia – 50%
Eligibility

The Nominated Principal Applicant (you) must be a trainee and maintain such status throughout the award duration.

NOTE: Only students engaged in a full-time doctoral program that has a significant research component are eligible to apply. An eligible program of study must require that 75% of the students' time be devoted to research training.

Joint doctoral programs with a professional degree (e.g. MD/PhD, MBA/PhD, DVM/PhD, etc.) and clinically-oriented doctoral programs (e.g. PhD in Clinical Psychology) are eligible if they have a significant autonomous research component as described above.

A primary supervisor must be identified on the application. An additional supervisor may be added.

The program is open to Canadian citizens and permanent residents of Canada at the time of application.

The maximum duration of award funding from all federal sources to undertake graduate studies is four years, including at the Master's level.
Eligibility

- be a Canadian citizen or a permanent resident of Canada, as of the application deadline date;

- have completed no more than 24 months of full-time study in their doctoral program by December 31 of the year of application (no more than 36 months if transferred directly from Bachelors to a PhD or enrolled in a joint program, e.g., MD/PhD, MA/PhD);

- submit only one doctoral award application in a given academic year. Nominations to the Vanier CGS program do not count towards this limit;

- not have already received a doctoral-level scholarship or fellowship from CIHR, NSERC or SSHRC.
The Application & Nomination Overview

NEW AS OF 2019!

CIHR now has a quota system - UVic may nominate 4 students for CIHR Doctoral Funding

You must complete and **Submit** your application no later than **Wednesday October 2, 2019** to be included in the UVic Internal Competition

Before starting your application carefully read the [Doctoral Research Awards – Application Instructions](#)

The application is done in two parts; Application, Attachments and Identification of Sponsors in [ResearchNet](#)

The Canadian Common CV done on the [Common CV website](#)

Be sure to select UVic as the Institution Paid - as long as you do this, once your application is complete and you Submit, UVic Scholarship Officers (SLO) will be able to access and review your application

October 3-16 SLO check applications and will return to applicants via ResearchNet if changes are required

October 17 – 23 Academic units review applications and may remove any they deem non-competitive

October 24 – Nov 18 - UVic internal adjudication

November 21 – UVic must submit final 4 nominees
Submission of UVic Nominees & Signature Pages

- UVic submits final nominees’ applications electronically,
- You will be notified of the outcome of the UVic competition by email from FGS and will also receive an automated email via ResearchNet indicating whether or not your application has been forwarded to CIHR for the federal award
- This e-approval process means you do not need to get any Institutional Signatures – however you do need your supervisor to sign a Signature Page which you must attach to your application before submitting by October 2
Indigenous Nominations Over Quota

UVic may submit, over and above the assigned quota (4) the application of any Indigenous applicant whose application is competitive.

Applicants who wish to self-declare as an Indigenous applicant may do so by contacting Yvonne Rondeau, UVic SLO at scholoff@uvic.ca
Applicants are to:

- Describe their professional, academic and extracurricular experiences/achievements and how it will contribute to their training success.
- Describe how the training they expect to acquire will contribute to their productivity and to the research goals they hope to achieve.
- Describe how their expected training strives to foster impacts within and beyond the research environment and will contribute to the Canadian research ecosystem during and beyond the tenure of the award.
- Indicate why they decided upon the proposed training location and what they expect to learn from the training experience.
- If registered in a joint doctoral program (e.g. MD/PhD, DVM/PhD) or a clinically-oriented doctoral program, they must provide a description of how their program contains a significant research component.
- **Maximum 2 pages** (remember to adhere to presentation standards for attachments)
The research project summary is the most important part of the application. The research project summary should be completed in collaboration with the proposed supervisor(s) and clearly describe the applicant's role on the project.

Applicants and their supervisor(s) should ensure that it provides:
- a concise account of the subject matter,
- an overview of each part of the research plan,
- specific project aims and the methodology.
- the significance of the project.

Details - Maximum 1 page, including references. Figures and tables are not accepted. Be sure to adhere to the presentation standards.
A well-laid out proposal says to a committee “this person knows what they are talking about and they have taken as much care with their proposal as we are now doing.”

Make yours one they will want to read!

Ensure you convey what you are proposing is relevant, unique, and will benefit the health of Canadians.
The “What” of your Research

- Present research plans coherently and in a logical and connected order.
- **Always** state the central problem of your work and why it is important.
- Describe tools, techniques, methods and timelines.
- If you are critiquing existing models or approaches in the literature,
  - do so lucidly, without partisanship, and
  - demonstrate clearly why your approach is better.
Indicators of Research ability & potential

- Quality of research proposal
  - specific, focused and feasible research question(s) and objective(s)
    - clear description of the proposed methodology
    - significance and expected contributions to research
  - Relevant training, such as academic training, lived experience and traditional teachings
  - Research experience and achievements relative to the applicant's stage of study, lived experience and knowledge systems
  - Quality of contributions and extent to which they advance the field of research. Contributions may include: publications, patents, reports, posters, abstracts, monographs, presentations, creative outputs, knowledge translation outputs, community products, etc.
  - Demonstration of sound judgment and ability to think critically
  - Demonstration of responsible and ethical research conduct, including honest and thoughtful inquiry, rigorous analysis, commitment to safety and to the dissemination of research results and adherence to the use of professional standards
  - Enthusiasm for research, originality, initiative, autonomy, relevant community involvement and outreach
  - The ability or potential to communicate theoretical, technical and/or scientific concepts clearly and logically in written and oral formats
Application - Identify Sponsors (AKA Referees)

As of Fall 2019 you need two sponsors only

Sponsor assessments should come from people under whom the applicant has trained and/or who have had a good opportunity to assess their potential for research.

- Applicants must enter the sponsors' names within their application and press on "Click and Send Sponsor Request". Sponsors will then receive two emails:
  - To notify them of a request to complete a sponsor assessment, and;
  - To provide sponsors with a link to complete and submit the electronic form. The deadline for submission is indicated within the form.

- The assessment form must be completed and submitted online by the sponsors 48 hours prior to the CIHR or the institution internal deadline (whichever comes first) and be written in English or French. Once an assessment is submitted, it will automatically be attached to the application.

**NOTE**: It is the applicant's responsibility to follow up with sponsors to ensure the assessments are submitted prior to the deadline date and therefore ensure the application completeness. Only after both sponsors submit their assessments will this task be marked as complete in your ResearchNet Application Task List. Applicants do not have access to the content of the assessment submitted by sponsors. However, applicants may follow the status of the assessments submission directly under this section.

**ASK YOUR SPONSORS TO COMPLETE THE ASSESSMENTS NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 30**
Choose sponsors that know you well enough to be able to assess your potential and to provide specific examples of how you match each characteristic on the sponsor assessment form.

- You could help your sponsor prepare their letter by providing examples that match the evaluation criteria or by giving them a one page summary of your academic, work and volunteer highlights.

- Give your sponsors a copy of the selection criteria and ask them to try to address as many of the indicators as possible.

- Sponsors must submit their assessments before the UVic internal deadline date. Remember - you need to make sure this happens!

Worth Repeating - ASK YOUR SPONSORS TO COMPLETE THE ASSESSMENTS NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 30.
You must complete the Canadian Common CV – separate website from ResearchNet

https://ccv-cvc.ca/indexresearcher-eng.frm

Under "CV", select "Funding", then select “CIHR” and the appropriate CV type “CIHR Academic” from the dropdowns. Then click "Load".
Indicators of Relevant experience and achievements obtained within and beyond academic

- Scholarships, awards and distinctions (amount, duration and prestige)

Academic record:

- Transcripts
- Duration of previous studies
- Program requirements and courses pursued
- Course load
- Relative standing in program (if available)

Professional, academic and extracurricular activities as well as collaborations with supervisors, colleagues, peers, students and members of the community, such as:

- teaching, mentoring, supervising and/or coaching
- managing projects
- participating in science and/or research promotion
- community outreach, volunteer work and/or civic engagement
- chairing committees and/or organizing conferences and meetings

- participating in departmental or institutional organizations, associations, societies and/or clubs
Review Process and Evaluation

Federal CIHR Review Process

- For information on CIHR’s peer review principles, see the Peer Review section of CIHR’s website.

- Applications will be peer-reviewed in a single CIHR Doctoral Research Awards competition. A ranking list will be generated and CIHR will fund CGS-D and DFSA applications, from top down in order of ranking, to the limit of the funds of each pool.

- Applications that receive a rating below 3.5 will not be funded.

- UVic and federal review committees will be interdisciplinary and the federal committee may have non-academic reviewers.

- Committees get tired and impatient with complex obscure language, typos, poorly laid-out proposals with grammar and spelling errors, and incomplete information. Use an editor.
So, to recap

Review the website carefully and examine all instructions to familiarize yourself with the application process before applying.

Applicants and their supervisor(s) must make sure they have

- a ResearchNet account
- a CIHR PIN in ResearchNet
- a Common CV account

Applicants and supervisor(s) should each only have one ResearchNet account. If you have already accessed ResearchNet, do not register for a new account.
Planning for Success

✓ Grades matter!
✓ Reference/Sponsor Letters are very, very important – choose wisely
✓ Emphasize publications, research experience, professional experience
✓ A strong training environment where you will get exposure to research and have research networking and mentoring opportunities is essential
Working with your “Coach”

Seek advice ASAP (due date looming)

• The coach’s role is provide positive criticism on your research proposal, not to guide you in the selection of a topic or help you find a supervisor.

• Ideas to help with clarity, comprehensiveness and ‘capturing the interest’ of your reviewers

• Not a guarantee that you will get the grant!
Help and Resources

1. **Questions about the application process??**
   Faculty of Graduate Studies
   - Yvonne Rondeau:  [scholoff@uvic.ca](mailto:scholoff@uvic.ca)
   - Kathy McCarthy  [fgsaward@uvic.ca](mailto:fgsaward@uvic.ca)

2. **Questions/guidance with your research proposal content**
   Dr. Patricia MacKenzie:  [patmack@uvic.ca](mailto:patmack@uvic.ca)

Access CIHR Doctoral PPT presentation:
[FGS Finances –External Awards Page](#)
go to the CIHR/NSERC/SSHRC – Doctoral Scholarships tab
Thank You
Questions?