Canada Graduate Scholarship – Masters
NSERC

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Canada Graduate Scholarship – Masters CGSM

• 17,500 for 12 months

• Funding towards completion of a master’s degree

• 2 chances to apply:
  • Final year of undergraduate degree
  • Within first 12 months of master’s degree
Eligibility – Applicant Criteria

• be a Canadian citizen or a permanent resident of Canada;

• be enrolled in, have applied for, or will apply for full-time admission to an eligible graduate program at the master’s level at a Canadian institution with a CGS M allocation; (eligible programs must have a significant research component)

• respect the internal deadline to apply for admission for your intended program of study. Contact the Faculty of Graduate Studies (or its equivalent) at the selected Canadian institution(s) for more detailed information;
Eligibility – Applicant Criteria

• have completed, as of December 31 of the year of application, between zero and 12 months of full-time studies (or full-time equivalent) in the program for which you are requesting funding, which may be:
  • a master’s program;
  • a doctoral program that you are entering without having ever been enrolled in a master’s program (i.e., direct-entry);
  • a combined master’s-doctoral program;
  • a master’s program that will transition to an eligible doctoral program, either before or after award activation, (normally May, or Sept. 2019) with no master’s degree conferred (i.e., fast-track); or
  • a master’s program for which the degree requirements will be completed before the end of the award, allowing the award to continue into an eligible doctoral program; or

• between four and 12 months of full-time study (or full-time equivalent) in a master’s program for which the degree requirements will be completed before activation of the award (normally May or Sept. 2019) allowing it to be activated during the subsequent doctoral program for which you are requesting funding (CIHR and NSERC only);
Eligibility – Applicant Criteria

• not have previously held a CGSM. For CIHR and NSERC, scholarship support for graduate studies (master’s and doctoral) is limited to a lifetime maximum of four years (48 months) of full-time equivalency. If you have received the maximum support toward your graduate-level studies by any of the three federal granting agencies, you may not be eligible to apply for a CGSM;

• have achieved a first-class average, as determined by the host institution, in each of the last two completed years of study (full-time equivalent);

• submit a maximum of one scholarship application per academic year to either CIHR, NSERC or SSHRC (the Research Portal will allow the application to be submitted to up to three institutions but only one research council).
Eligibility – Subject Matter

There are three federal research councils:

• Natural Sciences & Engineering Research Council (NSERC)
• Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)
• Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC)

- You need to apply to the correct council which is determined by the subject matter of your research
- If you are not sure which council, talk to a Scholarship Officer
- You will indicate the council you are applying to in the Research Portal (application)
Selection Criteria

Academic excellence (50%)

- Academic record (first-class average)
- Scholarships and awards
- Duration of previous studies
- Type of program and courses pursued
- Course load
- Relative standing (if available)
Selection Criteria

Research Potential (30%)

• 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 and autonomy
• Research experience and achievements relative to expectations of someone with the candidate’s academic experience
Selection Criteria

Personal Characteristics & Interpersonal Skills (20%)

• Work experience
• Leadership experience
• Project management including organizing conferences and meetings
• The ability or potential to communicate theoretical, technical and/or scientific concepts clearly and logically in written and oral formats
• Involvement in academic life
• Volunteerism/community outreach
The Process

UVic receives an allocation of awards to give per research council

- NSERC – 17 CGSM
- SSHRC – 32 CGSM
- CIHR – 4 CGSM

Don’t select the council with the most awards; not a numbers game
Select the council that matches your research subject matter
The Process

• Students complete the application by December 1, 2018
• Scholarship officers in the Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS) extract applications from the Research Portal, check completeness and eligibility, incomplete or ineligible applications are removed
• Departments review applications and select the top candidates as their department nominees & send a ranked list to FGS
• Nominee applications are reviewed by a multidisciplinary committee of UVic faculty who score applications
• Award offers are made via the Research Portal on April 1, 2019
• Students may not be informed of their status before April 1, 2019
• Students have 3 weeks to accept or decline award offers
• Can only accept an award from one institution, and you attend that institution
How to Apply


• Complete the Canadian Common CV (CCV) [https://ccv-cvc.ca/](https://ccv-cvc.ca/)

• Write your Outline of Proposed Research (1 Page - attachment)

• Prepare you bibliography & citations (1 Page - attachment)

• Order official copies of all university level transcripts – DO THIS NOW you will be scanning and uploading these

• Find your referees and provide them with information about you, once they agree enter their info in the Research Portal application
How to Apply

• New this year, a personal profile related to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

• Applicants are obliged to complete this section, it is not used in the review and selection process and you may chose – I prefer not to answer

• This section should come up first once you create a login and then log onto the Research Portal
Welcome to the Research Portal

Account

The Research Portal is intended for use only by individuals participating in the preparation of applications/nominations for funding from the Canada Research Chairs, the Research Support Fund, and other programs of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), in the administration of awards, and in the merit review of applications.

Before using the Research Portal, you must read the Terms and conditions and Transparency (see below). When you login and use this system, it means that you understand these policies and conditions and you consent to the use of your personal information for administrative purposes.

Notice: Maintenance Window

This system will normally be unavailable to users Saturdays from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. (eastern), as well as on the second Wednesday of each month from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. (eastern).
Select Canada Graduate Scholarship Master’s Program
Application – Research Portal
List for a Complete Application

Use the following list to make sure your Application for the CGSM is complete

✓ The completed application form - 3 sections Identification, Activity Details, Summary of Proposal (different from outline of proposed research)

✓ An outline of proposed research (one page max, plus one page for citations) you create in Word and attach as a PDF

✓ CCV (to be completed on the Canadian Common CV online system)

✓ Two letters of reference (to be uploaded online by referees before December 1st)

✓ Official transcripts from all postsecondary institutions attended, including UVic (scanned into one PDF, including the legend and uploaded) applications with administrative or unofficial transcripts will be considered ineligible and removed from the competition
References

• Each application must be accompanied by two referee assessments.
• These must be completed by persons capable of making an informed assessment and cannot be completed by a proposed supervisor unless that person is, or has been, your academic supervisor.
• If you are currently in a master’s degree and you have a supervisor they should be one of your referees.
• The other referee should be a previous instructor, preferably someone you taught in within the last year or two.
Referees – What you need to do

- Contact your proposed referees to ensure they are willing to complete a report for you
- In the Research Portal in the section, *Invitations* enter the name and contact information of your referees
- Once the information is saved, an email will be sent to them with instructions for completing the assessment
- Contact your references to inform them that you have sent them a report to complete
- Your application will remain incomplete until both reports have been submitted – ask them to complete assessment by Nov. 26th
Referees – What you need to do

Provide your referees with the following:

- a copy of your list of research contributions
- a copy of your Outline of Proposed Research
- a one-page resume of awards, conferences, etc.
- a summary of the CGSM selection criteria
Transcripts/Proof of Registration

• All transcript MUST BE OFFICIAL UP-TO-DATE COPIES
• Including your UVic transcript, even if you have not completed courses yet
• Official transcripts are defined as transcripts issued by the Registrar’s Office; transcripts from other sources, such as those printed from the student’s account on the institution’s website, are not official
• Order transcripts to be sent to you, you will be opening them, scanning them and uploading them
Transcripts/Proof of Registration

Presentation Standards for Transcripts

Transcripts must be scanned in accordance with the following presentation standards and uploaded by the applicant in the appropriate section of the application:

• Scanned together as a single document.
• Include 1 copy of the legend (reverse of each transcript). Do not scan the legend multiple times.
• PDF file (.pdf extension); unprotected.
• Maximum file size of 10 mb (black and white recommended).
• Page size 8 ½ in. x 11 in. (216 mm x 279 mm) or A4 (210 mm x 297 mm).
• Transcripts must be uploaded in portrait orientation.
• If you have transcripts written in a language other than English or French, you must provide a certified English or French translation.
Canadian Common CV - CCV

Applicants are required to complete a Canadian Common CV (CCV) and attach it to the application in the Research Portal.

There is a tutorial online with screenshots to help you access and complete the CCV - [http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/CCV_CGSM-CVC_BESCM_eng.asp](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/CCV_CGSM-CVC_BESCM_eng.asp)

Next to sections, click to get a description of what to include.

Strongly suggest you review the tutorial.
Comments on the CCV

- CCV has a series of sections you will be required to complete
- Some sections may not be relevant to you, if you don’t have anything to enter in a section leave it blank
- Include as much as you can – this is the place where you can share information about yourself to help you get 20/20 on that last part of the selection criteria
- Make sure you record your confirmation number and attach the latest version of your CCV to your application in the Research Portal
- Chose the right version of the CCV – CV/Funding/ Funding Source drop down CGS-Masters, CCV Type – CGS-Masters
Canadian Common CV – CCV – Main Sections

• Personal Information – name, address, etc.
• Education – you must have at least one entry in this section
• Recognitions – prizes (monetary and non-monetary), awards, scholarships, things you were given in recognition of achievement
• Employment – academic work, non-academic work, affiliations,
• Research Funding History – not scholarships, example, a JCURA or USRA
• Presentations – conferences, guest speaker, public presentations
• Publications – multiple categories of publications
• Artistic Contributions – Fine Arts applicants especially
• Intellectual Property – patents for example may apply to engineering applicants
Reviewers will take into consideration special circumstances that may have affected applicants’ research, professional career, record of academic or research achievement, or completion of degrees. Relevant circumstances might include:

- administrative responsibilities
- maternity/parental leave or childrearing,
- Illness, accident or disability,
- cultural or community responsibilities
- socio-economic context

Specify the dates for any delays or interruptions, and be very matter of fact without sounding like you are trying to gain sympathy.
Outline of Proposed Research - Attachment

The Outline of Proposed Research is a document you will create and attach to your application – maximum 1 page plus 1 page for Bibliography & Citations

File Standards:
• PDF format
• Maximum file size is 3 Mb

Presentation Standards:
• Text must be single-spaced, with no more than six lines per inch.
• The acceptable font is Times New Roman (regular, minimum 12-pt.) or a comparable font.
• Condensed type is not acceptable.
• Set margins at a minimum of 1.87 cm (3/4 of an inch) all around.
• Use a left-justified, standard page layout.
• Include your name in the page header on every page.
Outline of Proposed Research – 1 page

• Provide a detailed, concise description of your research project for the period during which you will hold the award
• Provide enough background to place your research in context in your field of study
• State the significance of your research to field(s), and if applicable beyond (industry, health, social benefits)
• State your objective, methods, and procedures to be used
• Write your proposal in clear, plain language and avoid jargon. Your application will be reviewed by a selection committee covering a broad discipline category.
Bibliography & Citations

• Demonstrate that you are aware of the foundational works in your area of research/study
• Demonstrate that you are aware of current works in your area of research/study
• Follow the same presentation standards required for the Outline of Proposed Research (font, spacing, margins etc.)
• Citation format is not specified so use the format generally accepted in your discipline
Use the resources available

• Read all the instructions carefully

• If you are not sure, contact a Scholarship Officer (Kathy or Yvonne) – your department secretary, graduate advisor and supervisor may not have most up to date information

• Meet with the NSERC coach for help with your Outline of Proposed Research

• Ask friends or family to read your Outline when they are tired and don’t want to and to put a red X next to any line they need to read twice, this will be a good indicator of sentences you still need to work on
Use the Resources Available

• Scholarship Officers, Kathy McCarthy fgsaward@uvic.ca and Yvonne Rondeau scholoff@uvic.ca
• NSERC Coach Dr. Steve Perlman stevep@uvic.ca
• NSERC Website – Application instructions, policy on subject matter eligibility, award holders guide
• Graduate Advisor in your academic unit