GRADUATE ENHANCEMENT OF TRI-AGENCY STIPENDS (GETS) PROGRAM
GUIDELINES:

Effective May 19th, 2020: The Faculty of Graduate Awards Team is currently experiencing delays as a result of the increased workload during the Covid-19 pandemic. The GETS program application assessments and inquiries will experience delays over the next few months. GETS applications may take up to 6 weeks in turnaround time for review and approval. The Faculty of Graduate Studies Awards Team highly appreciates the cooperation, patience, and understanding from faculty/PI’s during this unexpectedly busy time.

Outline

• $10,500 per year is allocated to each eligible Tri-Agency grant on a fiscal year (April 1 to March 31) basis for the duration of the grant.

• This funding:
  o may not be carried forward; the maximum funding available per year from GETS is $10,500 per grant (note: the annual maximum of $10,500 per grant also applies to team grants);
  o may only be used when matched dollar for dollar by an eligible Tri-Agency grant;
  o must be used exclusively to support graduate students;
  o may be used for both stipends and research assistant appointments for graduate students
    ▪ Student Research Assistant appointments on a fixed schedule (not variable hours or derived schedule) are eligible for GETS funding in the interim;¹
    and
  o may be used to support multiple students; however, the minimum stipend or appointment is $5,000 (i.e., $2,500 from the GETS program).

• Stipends or appointments are subject to the following limitations:
  o The maximum allocation from GETS per student is $10,500 per year for a PhD student, and $8,750 per year for a Master’s student.
  o Maximum duration of award: 2 years (Master's) and 4 years (PhD).
  o Students may be funded only within the first 2 years of full-time study at the Master's level, and within the first 4 years at the PhD level; as such, the maximum amount that Master’s students can receive over the course of their program is $17,500 and the maximum amount that PhD students can receive over the course of their program is $42,000.
  o Students who transfer to a PhD program without completing a Master's program are eligible for 5 years of funding (eligible for PhD level funding only once their program transfer has been finalized).
    o Students are eligible to receive a maximum of five years of GETS funding (Master's and PhD combined).

¹ We anticipate an increase in the number of GETS application with the expansion of eligible support to research assistant appointments. As such, eligibility is limited to fixed schedule appointments, to ensure that there are sufficient funds to cover the expansion. Furthermore, the administrative process involved with variable hours and derived schedule appointments is not conducive with the matching nature of the program. We are exploring potential solutions to this matter in the event that there are funds available to extend eligibility to these appointments.
The types of grants* that are eligible for GETS support are indicated in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Grant Type</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SSHRC</td>
<td>Insight / Insight-Development Partnership / Partnership-Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSERC</td>
<td>Discovery, Alliance, CREATE</td>
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<tr>
<td>CIHR</td>
<td>Project / New Investigator / Early Career Priority Driven (e.g. Catalyst, Operating, Team, Network)</td>
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</tbody>
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*Grant types eligible for GETS funding have been reviewed and approved by the Vice-President (Research and International), Dr. Digvir Jayas.

Limits on duration of funding:
- Master’s student: first two (2) years of the student’s graduate program
- Doctoral student: first four (4) years of the student’s graduate program
- A student that transfers to a doctoral program without completing a Master’s: first five (5) years based on admission to the Master’s program; 3 years beyond Master’s
- Total duration of support for any graduate student may not exceed five (5) years

“Matching” funds will be provided on a fiscal year-by-year basis and are subject to availability.

Full-time and part-time graduate students are eligible for support.

A complete application is required, per student/per grant, in order for a request for GETS funding to be considered. If eligible, fiscal funds must be spent in the fiscal competition year applied for.

A student must be registered and in good standing, with no admission provisions if they are recently admitted, before commencing GETS support. Funds can be committed in advance for a student that has been offered admission but has not yet started their graduate program; however, note that the GETS portion of the funding will not be paid to the student until they are registered and all admission provisions and holds have been cleared from their student account.

Each principal investigator (PI) must complete a GETS application form (located on the FGS website) in order to obtain funds and each must provide a FOP from which the (new) Tri-Agency grant funds will be paid to the student. GETS funds will be paid to students by the Faculty of Graduate Studies. The PI’s Tri-Agency’s grant must be valid at the same time as the requested funding duration dates.

Grantees who wish to apply for GETS funding to support students who are already in a graduate program must have a funding start date within two months of the application submission date.

*Revised for clarity: December 2019, January 2020, May 2020*