Great-West Life offers two scholarships, valued at $5,000 each, for students in the Warren Centre for Actuarial Studies and Research at the University of Manitoba. In addition to the scholarship, recipients of the Great-West Life Actuarial Career Scholarship will participate in a four-month work placement, which will normally be in Winnipeg but placements may be available in London and Toronto, Ontario, at the request of the recipient and depending on availability. Recipients will be paid at standard rates for the student actuarial pool within Great-West Life for the work placement. The donor has agreed to renew their funding of the scholarships for a period of three years, beginning in 2016-2017 and ending in the 2018-2019 academic session, with the right to renew the commitment at the end of the term.

Each year, the scholarships will be offered to two undergraduate students who:

1. are Canadian Citizens or Permanent Residents eligible for employment in Canada;
2. have completed between 54 and 84 credit hours toward either a Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) or a Bachelor of Science (Honours) degree and plan to graduate at the conclusion of the next ensuing academic session;
3. are enrolled full-time (80% course load) in either (a) the I.H. Asper School of Business, in a Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) degree with a declared Major in Actuarial Mathematics or (b) the Faculty of Science, in a Bachelor of Science (Honours) degree with a declared Major in Actuarial Mathematics or Statistics - Actuarial Mathematics;
4. have achieved a minimum degree grade point average of 3.5;
5. have demonstrated leadership skills;
6. are committed to participating in a four-month work placement with Great-West Life within 12 months after the term in which the award recipient is selected.

Leadership skills may include initiative, goal setting, outcome achievement, decision making and problem solving, interpersonal skills and team work, persuasiveness, and verbal and written communication skills. Examples of leadership can include successfully driving issues to closure, influencing others, and resolving issues among peers or team members using communication, decision making and problem solving skills. Leadership abilities may have been demonstrated through participation in extra-curricular activities including volunteer or other community involvement, including sports, and/or previous work experience.

Candidates for the scholarships must submit an application that includes: (a) a current résumé; (b) a course plan demonstrating their plan to graduate at the conclusion of the next ensuing academic session; (c) a copy of their transcript(s); (d) a statement (maximum 500 words) (i) describing their leadership and project management skills, and how they have applied each of these in specific life situations, (ii) discussing their interest in a career in actuarial sciences, and (iii) indicating their commitment to participate in a four-month work experience opportunity with Great-West Life.

The scholarships are renewable, at the same value, provided that the recipients:

1. continue to be enrolled full-time (80% course load) in either (a) the I.H. Asper School of Business, in a Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) with a declared Major in Actuarial Mathematics or (b) the Faculty of Science, in a Bachelor of Science (Honours) with a declared Major in Actuarial Mathematics or Statistics - Actuarial Mathematics,*
2. have achieved a minimum degree grade point average of 3.5;
(3) have completed a four-month work placement with Great-West Life that has been assessed as satisfactory by the Selection Committee on the basis of reports on the placement experience required from both the student and Great-West Life;

(4) demonstrate their plans to graduate at the conclusion of the academic session in which the scholarship is tenable.

*If the recipient is eligible and has applied for graduation in December of the year the renewal is awarded, the recipient must be enrolled full-time (80% course load) in the Fall Term (September to December) of that year.

The selection committee will be named by the Dean of the I.H. Asper School of Business (or designate) and will include the Director of the Warren Centre for Actuarial Studies and at least one faculty member who has industry experience and practical knowledge of the leadership qualities required to excel in an actuarial science career.

Established: Senate, September 8, 2010
Revised:
    Senate, June 20, 2012
    Senate, April 2, 2014
    Senate, April 6, 2016