Tri-Agency Canada Graduate Scholarships – Doctoral (CGS-D) and Doctoral Awards

Please leave your microphone on mute and your camera off to save bandwidth during this session.

The session will begin shortly – see you soon!

Sara Sealey
Awards Officer
Faculty of Graduate Studies

University of Manitoba
For this session...

• Introduction, presentation, followed by Q & A

• The chat will not be monitored during the presentation – kindly do not use the chat feature during the presentation 😊

• When Q & A begins, please simply type your name into the chat if you have a question – do not type in your question; when you are recognized by name, kindly unmute your microphone and ask your question aloud to the audience
NSERC, SSHRC, and CIHR CGS-D – Background:

- 2019: Tri-Agencies “harmonized” the CGS-D requirements; same requirements across all three Agencies for the CGS-D; deadlines harmonized;

- While the requirements are harmonized, each Agency still has their own application form, procedure, and online application system – all are very similar;

- Each Agency offers the CGS-D and Agency specific doctoral awards as follows:
  - SSHRC CGS-D & SSHRC Doctoral
  - NSERC CGS-D & PGS-D (Post-Graduate Scholarships – Doctoral)
  - CIHR CGS-D & Doctoral Foreign Study Award

- CGS-D: always valued at $35,000 per year for 3 years – all Agencies

- SSHRC Doctoral: $20,000 per year for 1-4 years

- NSERC PGS-D: $21,000 per year for 1-3 years

- If awarded, the top tier applicants for each Agency are offered a CGS-D: the next tier applicants are offered a PGS-D (for NSERC) or SSHRC Doctoral; others may be listed as alternates
CGS-D Eligibility Requirements:

- Applicants must be Canadian citizens or Permanent Residents of Canada – NEW in 2012 – Protected persons under the Refugee Act also eligible – ie: must have official Refugee status in Canada

- CGS-D: must not have completed more than 24 months of doctoral study as of December 31st, 2021

- NOTE: months of study are calculated from the date upon which an applicant is officially registered in a doctoral degree program – ie: if you started in a Master’s program and subsequently transfer to a PhD (without completion of a Master’s degree), the “counting” starts at the time of your official transfer to the doctoral program

- CGS-D: place of tenure must be a Canadian institution

- PGS-D or Doctoral: can be taken to an institution outside of Canada

- You only need to submit one application to be considered for both the CGS-D and Agency specific doctoral awards; if successful though, only one award – either CGS-D or Doctoral award – will be awarded as they cannot be held simultaneously

- CGS-D website for full requirements:

**University of Manitoba internal deadline: Friday, October 1st, 2021**
Subject Matter Eligibility – what it is, why it matters, and why you should care…

- Applicants are responsible for ensuring they apply to the Agency that is best aligned with their research subject matter; you want to apply to the right Agency!

- Some research may cross over two disciplines – for example, some research in Psychology may fall under SSHRC but also could fall under CIHR or NSERC depending on the nature of the research – eg) is it related to Health outcomes?

- Applicants cannot submit applications to two Agencies “just in case” – would be deemed ineligible – you have to pick one, and submit a single application to the Agency that’s mandate that aligns with your research;

- Note: It’s okay to apply to Vanier in the same year as CGS-D 😊 - Vanier is separate

- If it’s not straightforward, chat with your advisor for advice – they can help!

- Review the information on “Selecting the Appropriate Federal Granting Agency at the following link:
How does the CGS-D Competition work?

- Applicants submit applications by the internal deadline – October 1st, 2021
- Each institution is required to have an internal process to review the applications to select those applicants deemed most meritorious to be forwarded to the Agencies – this determines applications forwarded for further consideration at the national level
- Each institution is given a “quota” for each Agency – dictates # of applications forwarded to national level for further consideration
- Indigenous applications can be forwarded above and beyond this quota; Indigenous applicants are required to indicate this in/on the application form online to be considered above and beyond the quota – if you are an Indigenous student who wishes to be considered as such please indicate this in the application where it asks
- After deadline, FGS Awards prepares applications for internal selection committee review; each Agency has own sub-committee of faculty and each committee also contains 1 student rep.
- We must submit our recommendations to SSHRC by end of November 2021; you will be notified of a decision on your application (ie: recommended or not recommended to SSHRC) regardless of the outcome – this may happen late Nov or early Dec
- If you are recommended, the Agency will then inform you of the official decision – usually in late April or early May 2022 – note: SSHRC sometimes still uses “snail mail” for this – ensure your correct home address or mailing address is on your application!!!!
CGS-D Selection Criteria:

- 50% Research Ability and Potential and 50% Relevant experience and achievements obtained within and beyond academia - directly from CGS-D website!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research ability and potential</th>
<th>Indicators of research ability and potential:</th>
<th>50%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>○ quality of research proposal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ specific, focused and feasible research question(s) and objective(s)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ clear description of the proposed methodology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ significance and expected contributions to research</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>○ relevant training, such as academic training, lived experience and traditional teachings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>○ research experience and achievements relative to the applicant’s stage of study, lived experience and knowledge systems</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>○ 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.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>○ demonstration of sound judgment and ability to think critically</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>○ 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</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>○ enthusiasm for research, originality, initiative, autonomy, relevant community involvement and outreach</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>○ ability or potential to communicate theoretical, technical and/or scientific concepts clearly and logically in written and oral formats</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Relevant experience and achievements obtained within and beyond academia

Indicators of relevant experience and achievements obtained within and beyond academia:

- 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
  - participating in 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
What does a complete CGS-D application look like?

@stalecooper via @thedisertationcoach on Instagram

please attach CV, cover letter, research statement, statement of research plans, diversity statement, statement on statements (<2 pages), teaching statement, list of allergies, drawing of a turtle, in 500 words or less, answer whether the post in postmodern is the same as the pos

@stalecooper via @thedisertationcoach on Instagram
What does a complete CGS-D application look like?

- Application form data – filled in online
- Research proposal & bibliography – max. 2 pages for proposal, max 5 page bibliography (PDF upload of a single document containing these items)
- Program information – please select U of M so that they know you are applying from an institution with a quota!* - NSERC – option “c”
- Areas of Study – dictates the selection committee that will review your app if forwarded to national level
- Research Contributions, Relevant Experience and Activities – upload (max. two pages for SSHRC and NSERC only– single PDF document – Covid-19 information can be put in here if relevant)
- Transcripts – upload single PDF document - more on this in a bit!
- References – Invitation sent to referee to complete letter of appraisal online via system…
References – selecting your referees:

Have you had a chance to complete that reference I sent you 2 months ago?

Which reference?

@thedissertationcoach on Instagram with edits by me
References – selecting your referees:

- Should be academic – the nature of this award is academic; should not be a friend or colleague or another student – should ideally have 1 reference from your current advisor or supervisor, and another reference also from another professor who can speak to your academics and research related achievements

- You will be asked to input the referee’s information into the application portal, including their email address; the portal will send them an email with a live link asking them to click it to go and complete the reference form; they do not upload a letter – there are boxes for their responses to specific questions

- Note to SSHRC applicants for referees: system times out after 20 mins of no activity – thus why you may want to recommend they use Word to type, and copy and paste into the reference boxes -

- Give them lots of time to complete the reference – as much as possible

- I have been informed you will receive a notification from the system when the referee submits – if it’s getting close to deadline you may want to follow up with them with a separate “friendly reminder” email; option to create soft deadline
Upload: Research Proposal & Bibliography

@tropigalia on Twitter via @thedissertationcoach on Instagram

You can be academically rigorous and sophisticated and STILL permit readers an experience where they don’t have to guess or squint at what you’re trying to say.

11:12 AM · 2021-05-01 · Twitter for iPhone
Upload: Research Proposal & Bibliography

- Uploaded to the application portal by applicant
- 2 pages maximum for research proposal; 5 pages maximum for bibliography (do not have to use all 5 pages but they are there if you need)

- Proposal should…

Provide a detailed yet concise description of your proposed research project for the period during which you are to hold the award. Be as specific as possible. Provide background information to position your proposed research within the context of the current knowledge in the field. State the significance and impacts of the proposed research to a field or fields covered by your Agency. State the objectives and hypothesis, and outline the experimental or theoretical approach to be taken (citing literature pertinent to the proposal) and the methods and procedures to be used.

- No jargon – remember the person reviewing your app will not be directly from your area/sub area of research

- Don’t use up the 5 page bibliography if you don’t need; relevant citations only

- Explain Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) considerations if applicable

- Show your passion for your research!!!
Upload: Contributions and Statements

- NSERC and SSHRC: Uploaded to the application portal by applicant – maximum 2 pages – review application instructions for allowable included items
- CIHR – you don’t have this as it is covered by the CCV piece in the CIHR app;
- NSERC and SSHRC: If you deem appropriate – “special circumstances” can be outlined here – including impacts to research by the Covid-19 pandemic – this is the only place to “put” this info – should not be put into proposal – but note it must be contained within the 2 page limit!
- CIHR: here is what they say – I will double check with the Agency…

c. Section entitled "Employment", Sub-Section entitled "Leaves of Absence and Impact on Research"

- Applicants must describe any special considerations that have had an effect on their performance or productivity. They must include any considerations that may have resulted in delays in disseminating their research results, such as health problems, family responsibilities, disabilities or other circumstances (for example, the time necessary to complete a monograph, file a patent, or commercialize an industrial process or product). Applicants must explain any gaps in the chronology of their experience.
- If there are none, leave this section blank.
Tips for written sections/uploads for CGS-D application:

- Get feedback – advisor, senior graduate student, friends from department, other departments!!!

- Proofread for spelling and grammar! Have others proofread – ask for honest feedback!!!! Take a break and walk away for a bit, then come back to it and check again!
Tips for written sections/uploads for CGS-D application:

- Academic Learning Centre (ALC) has various resources online such as PDFs and video tutorials, individual tutoring, and workshops!
  
  - [https://umanitoba.ca/student-supports/academic-supports/academic-learning](https://umanitoba.ca/student-supports/academic-supports/academic-learning)

- GradSteps Workshops – through FGS with ALC!
  
  - [https://umanitoba.ca/graduate-studies/student-experience/graduate-student-workshops](https://umanitoba.ca/graduate-studies/student-experience/graduate-student-workshops)
Transcripts – aka “can’t you just use the ones I submitted for my admission?”

Short answer…

Long answer: This is a national award competition and they require official transcripts; keep in mind if you are forwarded to the national level, they will not have access to your admission documents, nor can we give away those documents as they are critical to student’s internal files.
Transcripts – Requirements:

- Copies of OFFICIAL transcripts for each post-secondary institution you have attended; can be sent hard copy of by secure email

- For institutions/universities within Canada and the USA “Domestic”: you are required to provide scanned copies of the official transcripts you have ordered from the respective institutions – even if you are a new U of M student, and this is your first term ever studying at the U of M here, you will need to order and include a current U of M official transcript that shows your current registration in your program; keep the envelopes!!!!

- For institutions outside of Canada and the USA “International transcripts”: you may visit your home department administrator and have them create certified copies of your transcripts from your admission file – again, this is for International institutions only (does not include USA). Ensure the staff there include one copy of the “legend” on the back or anything of that sort. They should indicate on the document “certified from original” and the date and their signature.

- WEB COPIES AND UNOFFICIAL PRINT OUTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AND POTENTIALY A STUDENT COULD BE DEEMED INELIGIBLE FOR NOT PROVIDING ALL OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS/CERTIFIED COPIES AS OUTLINED ABOVE
Transcripts – Requirements – cont’d:

SSHRC and CIHR: Once you have gathered all your official transcripts/certified copies you will need to create a PDF scan of all the transcripts – with all transcripts scanned into a single PDF file:

- Scan in all pages of your transcript(s) – at the end of each transcript/institution please scan in a copy of a the legend/transcript key that is usually found on the back of the transcript

- Ex: if undergrad from U Sask – should have all pages of U Sask transcript, and then at end of that, have 1 page of the scan of the transcript key from the back of the transcript – same with U of M

- You can open your official transcripts to scan them – just keep the envelopes! Pro-tip of the day 😊: Staple the envelope to each transcript after you have created the scan so that the envelope won’t be lost – this is our FGS procedure and ensures the transcript envelope is always kept with the transcript!

NSERC: you will see a spot to enter my name as the contact for this application for your transcripts – enter charlie.barber@umanitoba.ca and system will email Charlie – they will upload and you will receive a notification when it’s uploaded – final check and responsibility relies with the applicant 😊
Transcripts – Easy Guide:

1) Write down all the universities you have attended including ones where you may have attended even just for one course – if you are a new University of Manitoba student this year, do not forget to include U of M on your list.

2) For each of those institutions – write down the country the university resides in.

3) For the institutions in Canada or the USA – contact each institution to have transcripts sent to you (if you are applying to SSHRC or CIHR) or to us in Graduate Studies (if you are applying to NSERC) either by mail or email – to:

   Charlie Barber – email: charlie.barber@umanitoba.ca

   or by mail:

   Charlie Barber
   Faculty of Graduate Studies
   University of Manitoba
   500 University Centre
   Winnipeg, MB R3T 2N2
   Canada

4) For institutions outside of the USA and Canada – contact your home department and ask them to make certified copies of your transcripts from these countries from your admission file.
My application is complete – what now?

- Submit by Friday, October 1\textsuperscript{st}, at 11:59 pm!!!!
- CIHR – the system will shut off at midnight
- SSHRC and NSERC – their systems do not allow for me to input this deadline – but I will see the time your application was submitted – if it is on October 2\textsuperscript{nd}, at any time of day, you will unfortunately be considered late
- You will be notified of a decision early December to let you know the result of your application and if you were forwarded for consideration at the national level; you will receive a result regardless of the outcome
- Once you submit – relax! You did it!!!! 😊
Important Links:

Tri-Agency CGS-D website – main page:

Each Agency has their own application portal and instructions for completing an application:

CIHR: ResearchNET and instructions
NSERC: Online System and instructions
SSHRC: Online System and instructions

Selecting the appropriate federal granting Agency – to review each Agency’s mandate:
https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/063.nsf/eng/h_FEE7261A.html

NSERC applicants – for transcript upload, please indicate my colleague, Charlie Barber:
charlie.barber@umanitoba.ca

CGS-D questions – please direct to charlie./barber@umanitoba.ca