

Fall 2023
Canada Graduate Scholarship Program-
Masters (CGS-M)
Competition Information for Staff



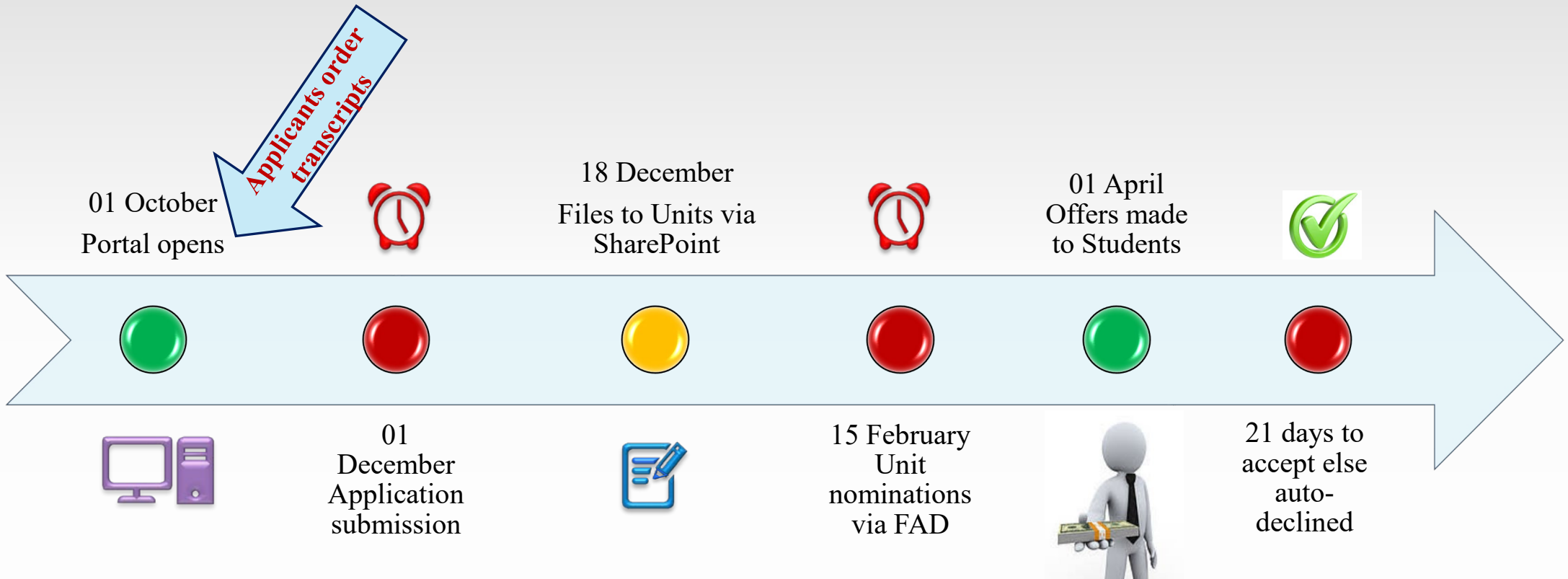
Important Disclaimer! What is said (or not said) at this info session does not supersede the material contained in the agencies' guidelines or application packages.



Presentation Overview

- Timeline & Deadline Dates
- Quotas
- Roles & Responsibilities (Unit vs GPS)
- New 2023
- Applicant and Program of Study Eligibility
- Selection Criteria
- Elements of application and required documents
- Transcripts & GPA Calculation
- Post-Award Information
- Resources
- Q & A

CGS Master's Award - Timeline



McGill Quota

- The allocation for McGill for **Fall 2023**
 - CIHR - 82
 - NSERC - 48
 - SSHRC – 79

Academic Unit Quota

Academic Units are required by McGill to rank their applicants and recommend the top applicants for funding, based on their Master's enrollment in an ELIGIBLE program of study as follows:

Eligible Master's Enrollment per Academic Unit	SSHRC	NSERC	CIHR
Less than 20	4	2	2
21-40	8	4	4
41-60	10	6	6
61 and more	12	8	8

Reminder Fall 2023

Indigenous Scholars Awards and Supplements

SSHRC and **NSERC** are continuing a funding opportunity to further strengthen their support for First nations, Inuit, and Métis students at the master's level.

- Funding: \$17,500 plus a \$5,000 supplement (for 12 months, non-renewable)
- Eligibility: All applicants who self-identify as First nations, Inuit or Métis are eligible
- Process: An integrated module within the CGS M application through which applicants will self-identify as First nations, Inuit or Métis via a two-factor process, including a personal statement.

Reminder Fall 2023

Black student researchers

The Government of Canada has deployed additional funds to increase direct support for Black student researchers.

CGS M applicants who self-identify as Black and provide consent in their application to be considered for funds designated for specific groups, may be able to receive this funding through a scholarship as part of this initiative. Each agency has a limited number of additional CGS M awards reserved for this initiative.

For more information, consult [the Frequently asked questions about the new Black scholars funding web page.](#)

Reminder Fall 2023

Black student researchers

- Canada Graduate Scholarships – Master’s (CGS M) program: **20 new** awards per agency per year.
- CGS M program: After the fall deadline of the regular application process, all applicants will be asked to provide self-identification information via a questionnaire. Applicants who self-identify as Black and provide their consent to be considered for funds targeted towards specific groups will be eligible.

Applicant Eligibility Requirements

- be a Canadian citizen, a permanent resident of Canada or or a *Protected Person under subsection 95(2) of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (Canada) as of the application deadline date;
- be enrolled in, have applied for, or will apply for full-time admission to an [eligible](#) graduate program at the master's or doctoral level at a Canadian institution with a CGS M allocation.
- respect the internal (academic unit) deadline to apply for admission for intended program of study.
 - Unit deadline may be moved earlier in order to nominate for CGSM
- GPS will verify on Slate the admission status of each applicant
 - **To be forwarded to GPS Committee** – Admission application minimum status “in review”
 - **To be offered an award** – Admission application minimum status “offer extended”

Applicant Eligibility Requirements

- 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 funding is being requested.
 - master's program; or
 - direct-entry doctoral program
 - combined master's-doctoral program for which they are requesting funding; or
 - master's program that was or will be fast-tracked to a doctoral program
 - or **between 4 and 12 months** of full-time study in an eligible master's program for which the degree requirements will be completed before activation of the award at that same institution, allowing it to be activated during the first 12 months of the subsequent doctoral program for which funding is requested

Applicant Eligibility Requirements

- **CANNOT** have previously held a CGS M;
- 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); and
- 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)
- Applicants are not eligible to receive or accept a CGS M offer from an institution where they are not currently enrolled in, or have not applied for admission to, in an eligible program of study.

****note** – may **NOT** apply to both Master and Doctoral level in the same year (SSHRC, CIHR, NSERC)

Applicant Eligibility Requirements

Have achieved a first-class average, as determined by the host university, in each of the last two years of study (full-time equivalent) CGPA

- CHIR CGPA 3.70

- NSERC CGPA 3.70

- SSHRC CGPA

- Humanities 3.70, *(includes History), Fine Arts (Music, Art History), Literature, Education*
- Social Studies 3.60, *(Other than Education and Law)*
- Law 3.40 *(BCL, LLB)*



Program of study Eligibility Requirements

An eligible graduate program must have a **significant research component**.

- A **significant research component** is considered to be original, autonomous research that leads to the completion of a thesis, major research project, dissertation, scholarly publication, performance, recital and/or exhibit that is merit/expert reviewed at the institutional level as a requirement for completion of the program.
- Non-Thesis Master's programs that are based only on course work that DO NOT include a significant research component are not eligible.
- Clinically-oriented programs of study, including clinical psychology are eligible programs if they have a demonstrated and significant research component as described above.

Program of study Eligibility Requirements (cont'd.)

Field of Research and Subject Matter Eligibility

- CIHR, NSERC and SSHRC support and promote high-quality research in a wide variety of disciplines and areas. This includes research that bridges two or more disciplines or that requires the skills of several disciplines.
- Applicants are asked in the CGS M application to categorize their proposed “field of research”- i.e., health (CIHR), natural sciences and engineering (NSERC), social sciences and humanities (SSHRC). However, universities are responsible for approving this categorization, and may override it if appropriate. This distinction is important because a university can only award these scholarships according to the agency-specific CGS M allocations they receive. **GPS counts on Academic Units to identify possible applicant errors in the selection of research category.**

Program of study Eligibility Requirements (cont'd.)

Field of Research and Subject Matter Eligibility

- Applications deemed by a host university to have been labeled incorrectly will be re-labeled. Universities must ensure that agency-specific scholarships are awarded to applications eligible under each agency's research subject matter guidelines (refer to [Selecting the Appropriate Federal Granting Agency](#)). **GPS counts on Academic Units to identify possible applicant errors in this selection.**
- Applicants are urged to contact the graduate studies office of the Academic Unit where they intend to apply for admission, or where they are currently, or will be, registered in an eligible program of study for further guidance on subject matter eligibility.

Selection Criteria

Selection Criteria

The merit review of CGS M applications will be carried out by universities with an allocation, and will be based on the following evaluation criteria:

Criteria	Description	Weight
Academic Excellence	<p>As demonstrated by past academic results, transcripts, awards and distinctions.</p> <hr/> <p><i>Indicators of Academic Excellence:</i> <i>Academic record (first class average), Scholarships and awards held, Duration of previous studies, Type of program and courses pursued, Course load, Relative standing (if available)</i></p>	50%
Research Potential	<p>As demonstrated by the applicant's research history, his/her interest in discovery, the proposed research, its potential contribution to the advancement of knowledge in the field, and any anticipated outcomes.</p> <hr/> <p><i>Indicators of Research Potential:</i> <i>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, autonomy and independence, Research experience and achievements relative to expectations of someone with the candidate's academic experience</i></p>	30%
Criteria	Description	Weight
Personal Characteristics and Interpersonal Skills	<p>As demonstrated by the applicant's past professional and relevant extracurricular interactions and collaborations.</p> <hr/> <p><i>Indicators of Personal Characteristics and Interpersonal Skills:</i> <i>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</i></p>	20%

Transcripts

- Applicants are responsible for uploading their own transcripts.
- Be diligent; ensure **all** transcripts from **all** universities are listed in the CCV, are present, and ****official** (see next slide)**
 - Make sure transfer credits are supported by official transcripts
- If an applicant has just begun at University this Fall, this **FALL 2023** transcripts are also required even though no grades appear;
 - **McGill PDF versions of OFFICIAL e-transcripts are acceptable (have “copy” all over it)**

WITHOUT EXCEPTION - Applications received by GPS and deemed incomplete will not be considered.



GPA – “Last two years of full-time study” or equivalent: Defining Reference Periods

Note: Many international and some non-thesis programs may have enough credits for one or both reference periods so undergraduate grades may not be needed to calculate required GPA.

When you have this situation...	the Last Reference Period is:	and the Second Last Reference Period is:
Applicant has 2 or more terms of Graduate studies with grades	Graduate Record (CPGA with weighted courses) to date <i>This means ALL Master's and Doctoral study combined, including multiple Master's degrees or previous attempts at PhD level</i>	Last year of full-time undergraduate study or equivalent (min. 24 graded credits). <i>Terms cannot be dissected.</i>
Applicant has no graduate grades OR Applicant has only 1 term of graduate grades Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> graduate applicants with only research and no graded credits applicants in first term of Graduate studies direct-entry from undergraduate (never enrolled in Masters) applicant in final year of undergraduate studies 	Last year of full-time undergraduate study or equivalent (min. 24 graded credits). Include any graduate grades in this reference period. <i>Terms cannot be dissected</i>	Second last year of full-time undergraduate study or equivalent (min. 24 graded credits). <i>Terms cannot be dissected.</i>

Calculating CGPA

- To calculate a foreign GPA, use Transcript key: If you do not have an institutional-equivalent grading scale, please use the grading scale available at [World Education Services](#) for the country from which the international transcript comes
- GPA calculations cover last 2 years of full-time studies, and must include:
 - Last 1 year of full-time undergraduate (*may be 2 years if not enough graduate terms*)
 - Graduate to date (must have two terms completed with graded courses)
 - Note that one year is equal to minimum 24 credits

[Click here for help](#)

Cumulative grade point average (CGPA)

$$CGPA = \frac{\sum (SGPA) \times (Credits\ in\ a\ semester)}{\sum (Total\ Credits\ of\ all\ semesters)}$$

Complete application package

Every application package must contain the following:

- Application Form: the following information should be verified
 - Field of Research is appropriate
 - McGill's Faculty and Academic Unit/Division name
 - Research Proposal uploaded by student
 - **One page Proposal**
 - **One page Bibliography / Citations**
 - ALL **official** transcripts that have been uploaded by student (verify with CCV)
 - Two letters of reference
 - Canadian Common CV
 - CCV must be validated for the correct funding agency.



GPS will forward .pdf copies of applications together with list of applicants' email addresses to Units in Mid December

Notification of Results

- Institutions will establish a list of applicants to whom awards will be offered as of April 1. The offers of awards will be made using the [Research Portal](#), where applicants will **have 21 days to Accept, Defer, or Decline** the offers.
- Institutions may make subsequent offers should some of the offers be declined, until they have no awards remaining, but before January 31 of the following year.
- It is the **responsibility of the applicant to verify the Research Portal for results of the competition.**
- Applicants may accept only one CGS M offer. If they accept an offer, they will be deemed to have declined any other pending offers (if applicable), and they will not be eligible to receive further offers.
- Applicants are not eligible to receive or accept a CGS M offer from an institution where they are not currently *enrolled in* nor have *applied for admission to* an eligible program of study.

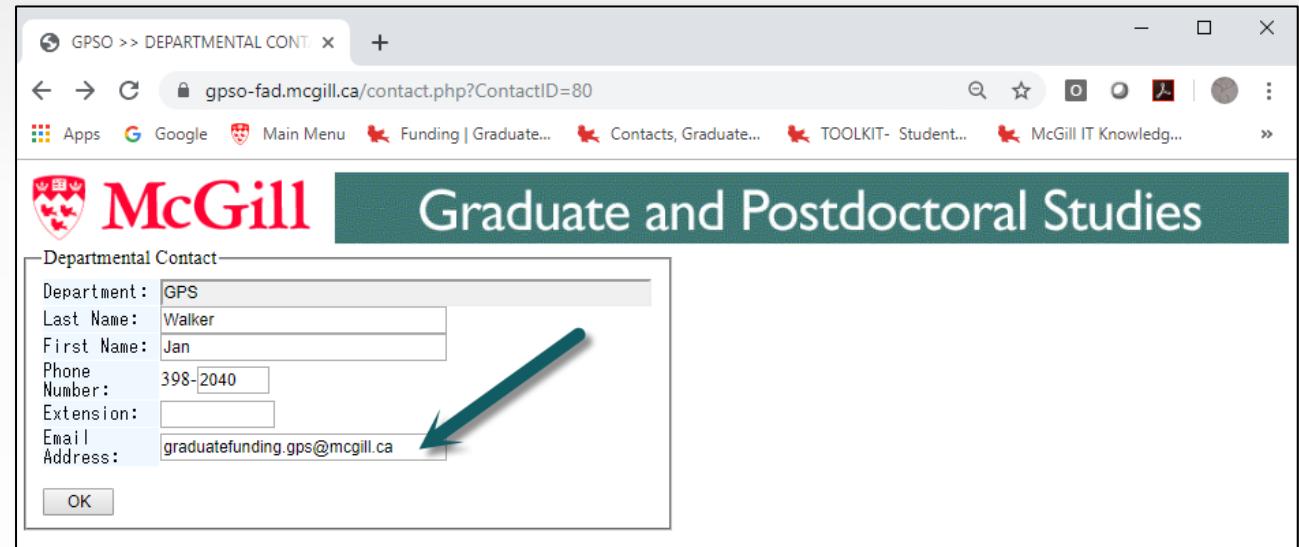


What to submit to GPS by 15 February 2024

- Via [FAD](#): list of recommended **and** non-recommended applicants
 - Please be sure the email in FAD is monitored even when you are away (vacation, LOA, sick day, etc.)

You are required to enter discipline codes for NSERC. Choose the one most appropriate from the lists found on our webpage.

CHIR-Select the THEME found in the application page 2 below summary of proposal



Departmental Contact

Department:	GPS
Last Name:	Walker
First Name:	Jan
Phone Number:	398-2040
Extension:	
Email Address:	graduatefunding.gps@mcgill.ca

OK

- SELECT the correct AGENCY
- GPS **DOES NOT** require copies of applications

Post-Award Process - Award & Payment activation

<http://www.mcgill.ca/gps/funding/students-postdocs/accepting-maintaining-awards>

- Student must be registered full-time
- Student must have been “unconditionally” admitted into the program for which funding was awarded – **No warnings or holds from Admissions**
- Submit all required documents forms to GPS
 - Tri-Agency Graduate Award Payment Request Form (McGill form)
 - Canada Graduate Scholarship-Master’s (CGS M) Form A
 - Copy of proof of Canadian Citizenship or Permanent Residency
 - Agency’s Notice of Award (accessible to student from Research Portal)
 - **Official Transcripts
- Up to date Canadian banking information on Minerva
- Up to date mailing address on Minerva

Receiving Funds

Applicants must read and understand the [Tri-Agency Research Training Award Holder’s Guide](#)

CGS MASTER'S Reminders

- **Once applications are submitted on Research Portal, GPS does not have access to return applications for corrections or edits;**
- **Applications with proposal or bibliography over the one-page requirement will be deemed inadmissible.**
- **Applications with missing transcripts will be deemed incomplete.**
- **CGS M award holders who finish their master's before the end of their award are permitted to carry it into a PhD program (at the same institution) even when there is a gap in registration between the end of their master's and the start (8 months) of their PhD;**

Helpful Resources

GPS Funding web page: <http://www.mcgill.ca/gps/funding/fac-staff>

GPC – [Tools and resources](#)

Funding Competition Guidelines

Funding Competition Toolkit

- Competition set-up template
- Application review tips etc.
- GPA calculation



Helpful Resources

NSERC Website:

- http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/Index_eng.asp
- [Frequently Asked Questions for University](#)

Technical Support:

- Check how to use the [Research Portal](#)
- Review the [instructions available in the application](#)
- Online Services Helpdesk:
 - webapp@nserc-crsng.gc.ca or 613-995-4273.
 - Include your e-mail address and telephone number

The Team

GPS-Graduate Funding contact
graduatefunding.gps@mcgill.ca

Jan, Diala, & Labi

www.mcgill.ca/GPS/funding



Questions, comments, or ideas?