2024-2025
Competition Information Session for APPLICANTS

Canada Graduate Scholarships-Master's Program

Presentation Agenda

- Award Overview
  - Introduction of the CGS Master's Program
  - Award Values and Duration
  - New initiative for Fall 2022
- Applicant Eligibility
- Program Eligibility
- Application Requirements
  - References
  - Transcripts
  - Consent forms
- Selection Criteria
- Timeline & Deadlines
- Result Announcements
- Resources
- Next steps
- Final Words

Award Overview

Canada Graduate Scholarship Master's Program (CGSM)

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Applicant Eligibility Requirements

- be a Canadian citizen or a permanent resident of Canada or a *Protected Person under subsection 95(2) of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (Canada) as of the application deadline date
  *(select "Refugee" under Citizenship in the CCV)

- 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. **Note:** Applicants who are not currently enrolled in their intended graduate program must submit an application for admission by the deadline set by the academic unit.

****Please check with the academic unit for admission deadline. For students applying for funding to CGSM an earlier admission deadline may be established by the unit.**

Applicant Eligibility

- 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 master's program for which applicant is requesting funding; **or**

  - the doctoral program for which funding is requested if you were admitted into a doctoral program directly from your bachelor's program (were never registered in a master's program, or is registered in a combined Master's-PhD program); **or**

  - a master's program, but are requesting funding for a doctoral program (an example is a student who will be fast-tracked from a master's to a doctoral program within 12 months of starting their Master's and is seeking funding for the first 12 months of their doctoral program); **or**

Applicant Eligibility

- **have completed 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, allowing it to be activated during the first 12 months of the subsequent doctoral program for which you are requesting funding

- not have previously held a CGS M from any of the Tri-Agencies;

Applicant Eligibility

- have achieved a first-class average, as determined by the host university, in the last two completed 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)*

- submit a maximum of one CGS M application per year via the Research Portal. This allows the application to be submitted to up to THREE universities.
- Degree and program eligibility may be verified on the NSERC webpage

Program of Study-Eligibility

An eligible graduate program must have a significant research component.

- A **significant research componen**t 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.
- Master's programs that are based only on course work and **DO NOT** include a significant research component (Major project), are not eligible.

Program of Study-Eligibility

Non-traditional Programs of Study

- Joint programs with a professional degree (e.g. MD/PhD, DVM/PhD, JD/PhD, MBA/PhD, MA/MBA) are eligible if they have a **demonstrated and significant research component as described above.**

- **Clinically-oriented programs of study**, including clinical psychology are also eligible programs **if they have a demonstrated and significant research component as described above.**

Program of Study-Eligibility

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, the 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.

Program of Study-Eligibility

Field of Research and Subject Matter Eligibility

- Applicants must ensure that they are submitting their application to a university that has an allocation for the field of research they wish to pursue.

- 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).

- Applicants should 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.

http://www.science.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=en&n=FEE7261A-1

Complete application package

Every application package must contain the following:

- Full application form the Research Portal that must include / indicate:
  - Field of Research is appropriate for Agency/program of study
  - McGill MUST be indicated as one of the Proposed Host Organizations with correct Faculty and Department/Division/ School/Institute name
- Outline of Proposed Research & Bibliography uploaded by applicant
  - **Proposal (max ONE page)**
  - **Citations/bibliography (max ONE page)**

NOTE: Any applications with over the allotted page requirement will be inadmissible and will not move forward for further consideration.

Complete application package

(Cont'd.)

- Two references (**Reference cannot be completed by a proposed supervisor unless they've supervised applicant previously)**
- **ALL OFFICIAL** university level transcripts (uploaded by applicant)
- Canadian Common CV – validated for the correct funding agency.
- **Consent to Disclosure—Mandatory -** In accordance with the *Tri-Agency Framework: Responsible Conduct of Research*

Special Circumstances

- Relevant circumstances might include administrative responsibilities, maternity/parental leave, child-rearing, illness, disability, cultural or community responsibilities, socio-economic context, trauma and loss, family responsibilities or a pandemic.

The following question may apply:

- Do you have any special circumstances to take into consideration that may have affected your research, professional career, record of academic or research achievement or completion of degrees?

If you answered *Yes* to the above question, the following prompt and text field (5,000 characters maximum, including spaces) will appear:

- Describe any special circumstances that have had an effect on your performance or productivity (required).

Use and Disclosure of Information

Details on the use and disclosure of this information by the agencies are described by

- **CIHR** in Info Source – Sources of Federal Government and Employee Information,
- **NSERC** in the Use and Disclosure of Personal Information Provided to NSERC,
- **SSHRC** in the Collection, Use and Disclosure of Personal Information,

Each agency may publish the names and other limited award information of award holders on their websites in accordance with the agencies' policies on disclosure under the Access to Information Act and their Privacy Act policies and guidelines related to the collection, use, retention and disposal of personal information.

For more information, consult the Access to Information Act and the Privacy Act.

In addition, for SSHRC funded scholarships, SSHRC will provide to the Fonds de recherche du Québec-Société et culture (FRQSC) the same information as the one above in advance of the public announcement of awards, for its administrative purposes and in accordance with the memorandum of understanding between SSHRC and FRQSC.

Reference Tips

- Ask potential referees of their willingness to support your application well in advance of deadline
  - Pad your deadline (tell referee you need it a few days earlier than your own deadline)
- Confirm
- Send tools to aid the writing of reference to make your application flow and be cohesive
  - a copy of your application (even if not 100% complete)
  - Send a copy of the selection criteria
  - CV, your proposal, and include the LINK to Award program webpage.

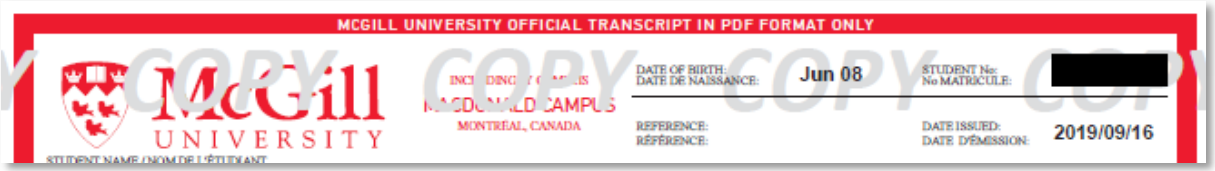
Transcripts

- Applicants are responsible for uploading their own transcripts.
- Be diligent; ensure **all** transcripts from **all** universities are listed in the CCV and present
- Make sure Transfer credits, Exchanges etc are supported by transcripts
- If you have just begun at McGill this Fall, this **FALL 2023** transcripts **are required even though no grades appear**;

  This is your proof of enrollment and eligibily for McGill to offer you an award should you be successful.

Transcripts

- **ALL** university level transcripts are required, e.g. Transfer credits, Exchange etc .
- **McGill PDF versions of OFFICIAL e-transcripts are acceptable (have "copy" all over it)**



SSHRC Initiative Overview

SSHRC
Department of National Defense
MINDS Scholarship Initiative

To be eligible to apply to each of the funding streams, applicants must be working in research areas that are related to one or more of the MINDS Policy Challenges and/or Canada's defence policy *Strong, Secure, Engaged*.

To be considered for a MINDS Scholarship Initiative Supplement, applicants must first be successful in the CGS M competition.

- MINDS Master's Scholarships for Indigenous Students: $17,500 for 12 months, in addition to the value of the Canada Graduate Scholarships—Master's (CGS M) award;

- MINDS Scholarship Initiative Supplements: $10,000 for 12 months, in addition to the value of the CGS M award;

SSHRC & NSERC Initiative Overview

SSHRC & NSERC Indigenous Scholars Awards and Supplements Pilot Initiative continues

The Indigenous Scholars Awards and Supplements Pilot Initiative will provide financial support to meritorious Indigenous students who have applied to the Canada Graduate Scholars—Master's program (CGS M).

To be considered for an Indigenous Scholars Awards and Supplements applicants' musts first be successful in the CGS M competition.

Value and duration

- The Indigenous Scholars Award is valued at $17,500 over 12 months.
- The Indigenous Scholars Supplement is valued at $5,000 over 12 months.

CGS M Initiative Overview

CGS M
Black researcher Initiative

- 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.
- To be considered for this initiative, you have applied and be an alternate in theCanada Graduate Scholars—Master's program (CGS M).

Value and duration

- CGS M valued at $17,500 over 12 months.

For more information, consult the Frequently asked questions about the new Black scholars funding web page.

Selection Criteria

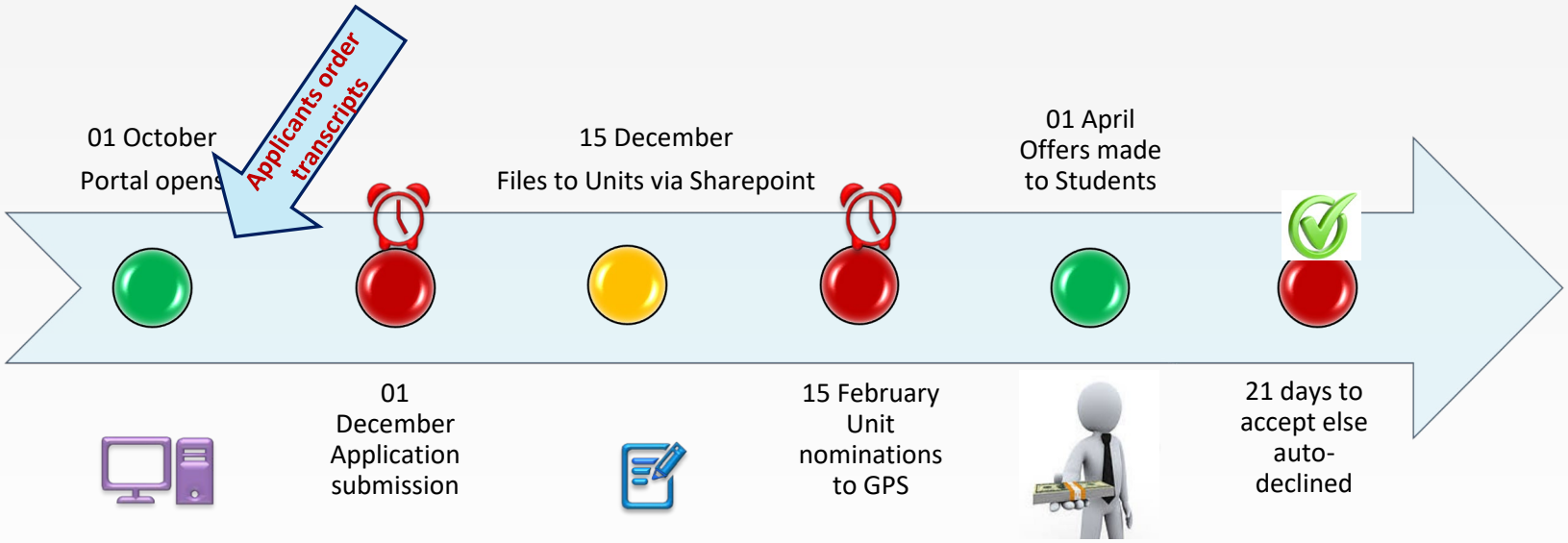
The merit review of CGS M applications will be carried out by universities with an allocation, and will be based on the following evaluation criteria:

Criteria	Description
Academic Excellence 50%	As demonstrated by past academic results, transcripts, awards and distinctions.
	Indicators of Academic Excellence: *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)*
Research Potential 30%	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.
	Indicators of Research Potential: *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*

Selection Criteria

Criteria	Description
Personal Characteristics and Interpersonal Skills 20%	As demonstrated by the applicant's past professional and relevant extracurricular interactions and collaborations.
	Indicators of Personal Characteristics and Interpersonal Skills: *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*

CGS Master's Award - Timeline



Increase your Chances of Success

1. **Read all available information and instructions**
2. Create a **plan** and use a checklist and know your **DEADLINE**
3. Know what institutions you want to attend and evaluate your application.
4. List all required documents and figure out how to get them
5. Contact persons you want to write a reference. Give them a DEADLINE well before your **deadline**
6. Order your **transcripts – must be up to date**! Includes Fall 2023 term
7. Draft your proposal and any other free form documents you may require (ie. Personal statement).
8. Be sure you understand the formatting requirements. **(ie. How many pages)**
9. **Proofread-** you, your professor, supervisor, anybody else. Any non expert should be able to understand
10. Use your **PLAN** and **Checklist**!

GPS Application Writing Resources

Would you fund it? Fellowship Application Review

Would you Fund it? gives you the opportunity to have your project summary reviewed by a former Tri-Agency (CIHR, NSERC or SSHRC) or Quebec committee (FRQNT, FRQS, FRQSC) reviewer. SKILLSETS will ensure that you are paired with the appropriate committee reviewer, who will scan the document and **provide feedback on structure, relevance, and language accuracy with suggestions on how to strengthen your draft**. You will have 25 minutes for a one-on-one consultation.

TBC - SKILLSETS offering Would You Fund It? session for Master's students.

- **Date: TBC**
- **Times: TBC**
- **Location: TBC**

SKILLSETS
Unlock Your Potential

Complete registration instructions: Would You Fund It?

*WYFI is not a proofreading or editorial consultation. Thus, it is expected that your proposal be completed and reviewed by your supervisor before registering.

Research Proposal Checklist

The Application – HELP and Resources

Canada Graduate Scholarships – Master's Program Resources

For applicants and references

- Canada Graduate Scholarships-Master's Program
- Canada Graduate Scholarships-Master's Program – Instructions for completing an application
- Canada Graduate Scholarships-Master's Program – Instructions for completing a Canadian Common CV
- **How to apply using the Research Portal** (tutorial video application and Canadian Common CV)
- Canada Graduate Scholarships-Master's Program – Instructions for completing the reference assessment form
- **Canada Graduate Scholarships–Master's Program – Instructions for completing the reference assessment form** (tutorial video)

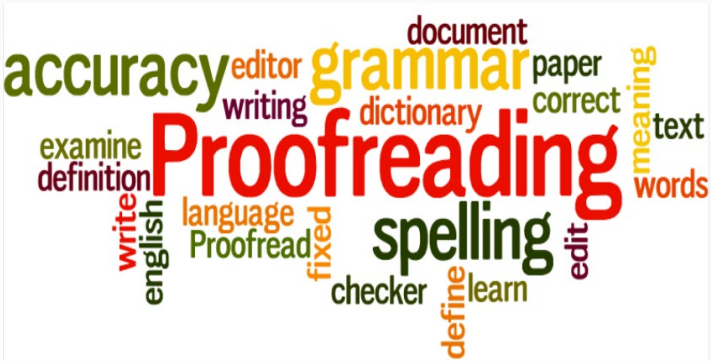
The Application and Canadian Common CV

Walkthrough

Video-How to apply using the Research Portal

Next Steps

- Start NOW!
- Order transcripts
- Register on the Research Portal website
- Contact referees
- Read **all** available material
- Draft proposal
- PROOF READ
- Get others to review and critique



Results Announcements

Late February 2024	Academic Unit/Graduate program notifies applicants of file review outcome
April 01, 2024	Offers are made to successful applicants and alternates are revealed on the Research Portal. (alternates remain until all quota is depleted. There is no time limit)
April 21, 2024 and onwards	2nd round of offers to alternates of all 1st round declined offers. Ongoing until all quota is depleted up until 31 January 2025

**** As of 01 April, all applicants whose application was forwarded to GPS must log into the Research Portal to verify the application status.**

CHECK the PORTAL often. Check your EMAIL!!! (junk mail too!!!) OFTEN

Final Words – Best of Luck!

This application is **your** responsibility.
It is up to **you** to ensure that all attachments, including transcripts, have been uploaded correctly according to the agency instructions and **submitted on time**.

No late or incomplete applications will be considered.

We wish you all the best of luck