

Office of the Dean
Yeates School of Graduate Studies

Ontario Graduate Scholarships and
Queen Elizabeth II Graduate Scholarship in Science and
Technology Programs

Reference Guide

2017 – 2018

INTRODUCTION TO THE GUIDE

DESCRIPTION

The Ontario Graduate Scholarship (OGS) and the Queen Elizabeth II Graduate Scholarship in Science and Technology (QEII-GSST) programs encourage excellence in graduate studies at publicly-assisted universities in Ontario. Since 1975, the OGS program has been providing merit-based scholarships to Ontario's best graduate students in all disciplines of academic study. In 1998, the Ontario government introduced the QEII-GSST, a merit-based scholarship program targeted specifically toward graduate students in science and technology.

VALUE AND DURATION OF SCHOLARSHIP

Each award through either the OGS or QEII-GSST programs is \$5,000 per term to a maximum of \$15,000 per academic year.

Consistent with the 2:1 ratio of government funding to institutional funding, the Ontario government portion of the scholarship to an individual student is a maximum of \$10,000 annually. The remaining funds are to be provided by the university.

QUOTAS

OGS and QEII- GSST awards are allocated to eligible universities according to each university's share of eligible full-time domestic graduate enrolments.

a.) International Students

Each institution is allocated **one** OGS base award for an international student. The remaining awards are allocated according to each university's share of eligible full-time domestic graduate enrolments.

ACCESS INITIATIVE – ABORIGINAL STUDENTS

Starting for the 2016-17 scholarship competition, each University may allocate up to 2 OGS awards to Aboriginal graduate students. Each university will develop eligibility criteria to recognize excellence and promote equitable access and participation in the scholarship program by Aboriginal applicants.

For the purposes of the scholarship, an Aboriginal person is a person who self- identifies as a First Nations (Status/Non-Status), Métis, or Inuit.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT

Standard eligibility criteria:

- Plan to be enrolled full-time in an eligible graduate program at Ryerson University
 - An eligible program is defined as a full-time program of study of two or three sessions at Ryerson University leading to a graduate degree. A full-time student is one who is in at least 60% of a full course load (40% for students with a permanent disability) or as defined by their institution.
- Be a Canadian Citizen, permanent resident, or an international student with a valid study permit (please note there are a very limited number of awards available for international students).
- *An applicant must, at minimum, meet the following academic requirements:*
 - **Students entering the first or second year of graduate studies at the time of the application deadline: must have achieved a first-class average (A-), as determined by the host institution, in each of the last two completed years of study (full-time equivalent) – similar to the tri-council GPA calculation requirements.** Students entering the third year or beyond of graduate studies at the time of the application deadline: must have an overall average of at least A- (or equivalent) on all graduate courses completed.
 - **Note:** If marks used for calculating an applicant's grade point average (GPA) are not available (e.g., courses were graded on a pass-fail basis), then the next most recent available **undergraduate or graduate** marks should be used to determine eligibility.

In addition, to be considered for a QEII-GSST award, a student must be:

- Enrolled in a research master's or doctoral program in a science and technology discipline (See Appendix One for a list of eligible science and technology disciplines).

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

International students who are studying in Ontario with a student study permit under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (Canada) are eligible for the allotted OGS international student awards. However, they are ineligible for QEII-GSST awards.

CONCURRENT SUPPORT

Recipients may not concurrently hold an OGS award and a QEII-GSST award and/or a tri-council award, including:

- The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Program (SSHRC);
- The Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council Program (NSERC); and
- The Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR)

Starting in the 2016-17 year, recipients may hold other graduate awards above \$10,000 per academic year.

Recipients enrolled in a postgraduate MD training program and simultaneously registered in a full-time doctoral graduate program may hold other awards that, together with the OGS or QEII-GSST award, do not exceed the current level of funding for clinical training provided by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.

At the institution's discretion, recipients may receive an award and also accept research assistantships, part-time teaching positions, or other paid employment that does not affect their status as a full-time graduate student. A university may opt to not provide an award to a student who is considered by the institution to be in full-time paid employment.

MAXIMUM SUPPORT

Master's students can receive an award for a maximum of two academic years and doctoral students for a maximum of four academic years.

A university may opt to not provide an award to a master's student who has been enrolled for more than two academic years or a doctoral student who has been enrolled for more than four academic years.

In addition, students cannot exceed a lifetime maximum of six (6) years of government-funded graduate awards. Awards under the following programs are counted toward this lifetime maximum:

- Ontario Graduate Scholarship Program (OGS)
- Queen Elizabeth II Graduate Scholarship in Science and Technology (QEII-GSST)
- Ontario Trillium Scholarships (OTS)
- Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC)
- Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC)
- Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR)
- Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships (Vanier CGS)

OSAP RESTRICTIONS

Recipients cannot receive the award if they are restricted from further scholarships at the time of disbursement. (See Appendix Four for a list of restrictions that impact eligibility for the OGS and QEII-OGSST).

APPLICATION TIMELINES AND DEADLINES

Application deadlines are set by individual programs. Please contact your Program Administrator for deadline information.

APPLICATION PROCESS: PROCESS FOR APPLICANTS/STUDENTS

This section is intended to guide applicants/ students through what steps need to be taken in order to submit an Ontario Graduate Scholarship (OGS) application package. Application Forms can be found online at Ryerson University, Graduate Studies, Funding & Scholarships webpage.

STEP 1: INITIAL APPLICATION

Students must submit the appropriate application to their Program Administrators by the deadline outlined by the Program. For new incoming students, the admissions application will be used as the OGS application. **Note:** Academic Assessment Forms are only required for current students who have **not** applied for a tri-council funding with the exception of CIHR Doctoral Applicants (see website for more details).

STEP 2: PROGRAM RANKING

Graduate Programs will review submitted applications and make decisions on all eligible files. Programs are assigned quotas for program allocations. Applications that are ranked within the program allocation are awarded an OGS and the applicants will be notified by the Program directly.

STEP 3: SELECTION COMMITTEES

Domestic OGS applications will be reviewed by program-specific scholarship committees. International OGS and Aboriginal OGS applications are centrally adjudicated by the YSGS Scholarship Committee, comprised of Associate Deans, Graduate and Program Directors from across all faculties. Successful and unsuccessful applicants will be notified by the respective program.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION CHECKLIST

Incoming Students (All required documentation can be found in Nolij)	Current Students
OGS/ OTS Consent <input type="checkbox"/>	OGS/ OTS Application Form <input type="checkbox"/>
Submission Summary Form <input type="checkbox"/>	Academic Assessment Reports <input type="checkbox"/>
Statement of Purpose <input type="checkbox"/>	Transcripts <input type="checkbox"/>
Research Statement <input type="checkbox"/>	
CV/ Resume <input type="checkbox"/>	
**Two Reference Letters <input type="checkbox"/>	
Transcripts <input type="checkbox"/>	
Admissions Worksheet (indicating last two years GPA) <input type="checkbox"/>	

If the student has applied for **Tri-Council funding (i.e. CGS-M, SSHRC-D, NSERC-D) please submit a request to the Scholarship Liaison Officer for the reference used for the aforementioned applications. CIHR – D applicants must have referees complete two Academic Assessment Report.

INFORMATION FOR GRADUATE PROGRAM DIRECTORS AND ASSISTANTS

APPLICATION PROCESS AND TIMELINES

Action Item	Timeline
Distribute this guide to students advertising Ontario Graduate Scholarship application process and timelines	Guide will be made available in September
Accept application package from applicants	Programs will determine appropriate internal deadlines, please contact the respective programs
Provide Ontario Graduate Scholarship Evaluation Selection Criteria to internal awards committee and applications for adjudication.	Upon receipt of applications
Internal program committee's to rank all eligible applications and inform SLO of program committee decisions.	Program rankings should be completed by March
Graduate Programs to inform A-list applicants of successful results	Once program ranking is completed

Graduate Programs to inform ineligible applicants of results	Once program ranking is completed
YSGS to inform programs of the results of central adjudication, and also inform the applicants of the results	Mid-April

COMPOSITION OF PROGRAM ADJUDICATION COMMITTEE

Each graduate program adjudication committee must have at least three academic committee members. The internal selection adjudication committee will review and rank OGS and relevant Tri-Council applications.

Committee members are not permitted to review files for their own students (e.g., students currently supervised by the committee member) and must recuse themselves from the review process in these specific instances.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

The purpose of the review is to identify applications which will receive an OGS. Programs currently set their evaluation criteria for all program-adjudicated awards. OGS and QEII-GSST awards must be awarded to the highest-ranked eligible student who does not currently hold another external scholarship.

CONTACT US

Contact	Assistance Available
Natasha Mills Scholarship Liaison Officer natasha.mills@ryerson.ca	Technical questions regarding eligibility and the general process
Graduate Program Directors	Substantive advice on scholarship application
Graduate Program Administrators	Technical questions regarding program specific deadlines, application process, eligibility, process and timelines