

Canada Graduate Research Scholarship: Doctoral Program (CGRS-D) Workshop

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Introductions

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This presentation is meant as a general overview.

Applicants should always refer to the criteria and instructions on the agency's websites. Material on these websites takes precedence over any details discussed in these slides as information can change year-to-year.

A list of resources will be available at the end of the presentation.

Canada Graduate Research Scholarship (CGRS): Doctoral Program

1. Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)
2. Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC)
3. Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC)

→ Please read each agencies' [mandate](#) very carefully to determine which agency you should be applying to. If you are unsure, ask your research supervisor or email Graduate.Awards@carleton.ca

Canada Graduate Research Doctoral Scholarship

- **Value:** \$40,000 per year
- **Duration:** 36 months
- **Application Deadline:**
 - CIHR & SSHRC: October 5, 2026, 11:59 PM EST
 - NSERC: September 28, 2026, 11:59 PM EST
- **How to Apply:** Via the appropriate council's online application system (CIHR, NSERC, and SSHRC all have separate application portals)
- **Results:** April 2027

CGRS-D Scholarship Eligibility

Eligibility overview:

- Canadian citizens, permanent residents, Protected Persons under subsection 95(2) of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (Canada), and international students
 - International students must be registered in their doctoral program of study at the time of the institutional deadline
- All applicants must have completed no more than 36 months of full-time equivalent study in the doctoral program in which funding is being requested
- Applicants cannot have previously held a CGRS-D scholarship from any of the granting agencies
- Applicants may apply a maximum of three times

CGRS-D Eligibility: Months of Study

To be eligible to apply to the CGRS-D program, you must have completed **no more than 36 months of full-time equivalent study** in the program you are requesting funding as of December 31, 2026.

- Doctoral program
- PhD portion of the joint professional undergraduate/PhD program
- Joint program

If you are registered this term, it counts towards the 36-month calculation.

Priority Research Areas

The agencies will make additional award offers for select meritorious applications that align with one or more of the following priority research areas:

- Advanced digital technologies (including AI, quantum, and cybersecurity)
- Health, including biotechnology
- Clean technology and resource value chains
- Environment, climate resilience, and the Arctic
- Food and water security
- Democratic and community resilience
- Manufacturing and advanced materials
- Defence and dual-use technologies

See agency-specific application instructions for guidance on how to identify your research as being aligned with a priority research area.

CRTAS – Expanded Support

Joint Initiatives and Supplements

- Check each agency's website to determine opportunities

Indigenous Scholars Supplements

- Available to Indigenous applicants who receive a CGRS D valued at \$5,000 over 12 months

Indigenous Scholars Awards

- Additional awards may be available for eligible applicants whose applications are highly rated but not funded, valued at \$40,000 over 36 months

Black student researchers

- Eligible CGRS D applicants who self-identify as Black and consent to consideration may be selected for one of up to 10 additional agency-reserved awards for Black student researchers.

How to Apply:

To submit a CGRS-D scholarship application, go to the appropriate agency's application portal and review their specific instructions:

- CIHR: [ResearchNET](#) and [instructions](#)
- NSERC: [Online system](#) and [instructions](#)
- SSHRC: [Registration and login](#) and [instructions](#)

Application Routing: CIHR

Subtasks	Enter Proposal Information - Details				
Overview	Fields that appear in bold with an Asterisk * are mandatory. It is important to save any additions or changes before navigating away from this page.				
Details	Requested amounts for first year are taken from the budget information.				
Descriptors					
Attachments					
	Primary location where research will be conducted				
	* Institution (required)				
	CEGA  Other Carleton University (Ottawa) Faculty  Other Department  Other <tr><td></td><td>* Institution Paid (required)</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td> CEGA  Other Carleton University (Ottawa) </td></tr>		* Institution Paid (required)		CEGA  Other Carleton University (Ottawa)
	* Institution Paid (required)				
	CEGA  Other Carleton University (Ottawa)				

CIHR: Carleton students search for “Carleton University”, code is “CEGA”

Application Routing: NSERC

Form 201 - Application Profile

This information was transferred from the New Application screen. You may update the fields as needed.

Program Canada Graduate Research Scholarship - Doctoral (CGRS D)

Title of proposal	Internal Use for Carleton University	
	164	(200 chars)
Application language	English	
Proposed starting date of award	yyyy	mm mm
Current status	Option C	

NSERC: Carleton students
pick option "C"!

Options for applying directly to NSERC:

Option A: You are currently registered at an institution (Canadian or foreign) without a quota for NSERC.

Option B: You are not currently registered in a degree program, and you were not registered during the calendar year of application in a degree program at a Canadian institution with a quota for NSERC.

Options for applying through an eligible Canadian institution with a quota for NSERC:

Option C: You are currently registered in a degree program (including if you are on an approved leave of absence) at a Canadian institution with a quota for NSERC.

Option D: You are not currently registered in a degree program but were registered during the calendar year of application in a degree program at a Canadian institution with a quota for NSERC.

If you selected Option C or Option D, indicate the name of the institution and department. Your application will be sent to this institution for an internal selection process and, if recommended, will be submitted to NSERC.

Institution	Carleton University	List...
Department	Grad. Studies/Research, Faculty of	

Application Routing: SSHRC

Français		Contact Us	Help	Search	Canada Site
Save	Preview	Portfolio	Verify Page	Instructions	Exit

SSHRC CRSH
Application Profile
Program Information
Areas of Study
Research Proposal
Bibliography / Citations
Diversity in Research
Transcripts
Allowable Inclusions
Research Contributions
Aileen D. Ross Justification
Queen's Justification
MINDS - Justification
Sport Participation
Referees

Canada Graduate Research Scholarship - Doctoral (CGRSD)

Directly to SSHRC: October 19, 2026 (8 p.m. eastern). Through a Canadian institution with a quota: Contact your institution

Application - Program Information

Which of the following applies to your current status?

- ☒ a) You are currently registered in a degree program at a Canadian institution with a quota (including simultaneous registration at a foreign institution, e.g., in a cotutelle).
- ☐ b) You are not currently registered in a degree program but were registered at any other time during the calendar year of application in a degree program at a Canadian institution with a quota.
- ☐ c) You are currently registered at an institution without a quota (Canadian or foreign).
- ☐ d) You were not registered at any time during the year of application in a degree program at a Canadian institution with a quota.

Organization at Time of Application

If you selected Option A or B, indicate the name of the institution and department. Your application will be sent to this institution for an internal selection process and, if recommended, will be forwarded to SSHRC's national competition.

Organization [List...](#)

Department/Division

SSHRC: Carleton students
pick option "a"!

CGRS-D Adjudication Process at Carleton University

Departments: Applications are first reviewed and ranked by departmental committees before moving forward to the Faculty level committees.

>> **Faculty Level:** Faculty committees review departmental rankings and prepare both the recommended and alternate (reversion) lists to forward to Graduate Studies.

>> **Graduate Studies:** Graduate Studies conducts the final review and communicates the results to the funding agency.

All adjudication committees must complete EDI training, and members are informed of special circumstances to apply EDI principles in their decisions.

Evaluation of CGRS-D applications

Selection Criteria	Descriptions
Research Potential 50%	Indicators of research potential: - Quality of research proposal - Demonstration of potential to carry out proposed research - Quality of contributions - Demonstration of sound judgment and critical thinking - Integration of EDI (if applicable) - demonstration of responsible and ethical research conduct, originality & more - Ability to communicate - Quality of Presentation Application*NEW*
Relevant experience and achievements obtained within and beyond academia 50%	Indicators of relevant experience and achievements obtained within and beyond academia: - Relevant training - Scholarships, awards, distinctions - Academic record - Professional, academic and extracurricular activities, as well as collaborations with supervisors, colleagues, peers, students and members of the community

Application Tips: References

- **Contact referees early** - share timelines and consider setting an earlier personal deadline
- **Important** - reference assessment forms must be received before you can submit your application
- **Help your referees** - provide your CV, research statement, and selection criteria
- **Your responsibility** - ensure references are submitted before the application deadline

Application Tips – Writing Your Statement

- **Showcase potential** — highlight achievements, write clearly, and demonstrate knowledge of your field
- **Be thorough** — check spelling/grammar, provide background, outline methods, and explain significance
- **Make it personal** — connect your experience to the research and why you're a strong candidate
- **Engage & refine** — write for your audience and seek feedback from peers, supervisors, or referees

Application Tips: Official Transcripts

What You Need:

- **Submit official, up-to-date transcripts** for all undergraduate and graduate studies
 - Up-to-date = issued in the fall of the application year (if registered) or after your last completed term (if not registered)
- **You may use official transcripts from other institutions, from previous years**
- **If you are registered this fall**, transcripts must show proof of registration (even if in the first term with no grades)
- **Include originals for transfer credits** — transcripts must show grades from the original institution

Application Tips: Official Transcripts

What You Need:

- **Include transcript legends** (often on the back of physical copies); contact the institution if missing
- **Opening a transcript to scan it is allowed** — combine all transcripts into one clear, legible PDF
- **Electronic transcripts with watermarks are fine**, but keep the official hard copy in case it is requested at a later time
- **Tip:** to request an official transcript from Carleton University, you can do so via Carleton Central

Contributions Section

- Include journal or conference contributions
- Put it in a proper reference format
- Include your percentage contribution (if you aren't the first author)

Example #1

Doe, Jane and John Smith. An interesting research story. Journal of Fun Stuff V1 pages 1-5

Example #2

Ali, Muhammad, Jane Doe and John Smith. Even more research. Journal of Fun Stuff V2 pages 3-8. (Jane Doe contributed 30%, primary data collection, developed tables)

Questions?

	Resource Links
CGRS-D Program Literature	https://nserc-crsng.canada.ca/en/funding-opportunity/canada-graduate-research-scholarship-doctoral-program
CIHR Application Portal	https://www.researchnet-recherchenet.ca/rnr16/vwOpprtntyDtls.do?progCd=11429&language=E&org=CIHR
CIHR Instructions	https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/54347.html
NSERC Application Portal	https://nserc-crsng.canada.ca/en/funding/online-application-systems-and-tools/online-services
NSERC Instructions	https://nserc-crsng.canada.ca/en/canada-graduate-research-scholarship-doctoral-or-canada-postdoctoral-research-award-programs
SSHRC Application Portal	https://webapps.nserc.ca/SSHRC/faces/logon.jsp?lang=en_CA
SSHRC Instructions	https://sshrc-crsh.canada.ca/en/funding/opportunities/canada-graduate-research-scholarships/doctoral-program/2026/competition/instructions/applicant.aspx
Assessment Criteria	https://nserc-crsng.canada.ca/en/funding-opportunity/canada-graduate-research-scholarship-doctoral-program#review
Awards and Funding	https://gradstudents.carleton.ca/awards-and-funding/
How to request an official transcript from Carleton U.	https://carleton.ca/registrar/student-documents/transcripts/
Contact for Award Questions	Graduate.Awards@Carleton.ca
Foxit PDF Editor (for CU students)	https://carleton.ca/its/all-services/computers/site-licensed-software/