



**Carleton
University**

Department
of Philosophy

Department of Philosophy

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Applying for Graduate Scholarships – A Guide for Students in Philosophy

Five types of scholarships may be available to you: (a) need-based Carleton bursaries; (b) merit-based Carleton endowed awards; (c) Ontario Graduate Scholarship; (d) Canada Graduate Scholarship – Master’s; (e) Tri-Council (NSERC, SSHRC, CIHR)

On the website of the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Affairs, you can find more information about all of these [here](#).

Your must have a minimum 10.0 GPA on your last 10 full credits to apply for both internal and external awards. For first-year MA students, this usually means your last two years of your undergraduate degree. For second year MA students, your first year MA grades will be used, then we’ll count back in your undergraduate degree until we have 10 full credits. If the word “outstanding” is used in the internal award description, this generally means they are looking for a student who has a GPA of about 11.5. If you have questions about your GPA calculation, please reach out to [Lauren Wells-McGregor](#) (Graduate Administrator).

Bursaries

If you are a student coming from Ontario, you may be eligible for loans or bursaries through the Ontario Student Assistance Program. If you are currently living outside of Ontario, you may be eligible for loans and bursaries through your home province or territory. “Home” province or territory is usually defined as the province in which your parents currently reside, or, if you are an independent applicant, the province in which you have most recently lived and worked for 12 consecutive months (excluding residence for full-time attendance at a post-secondary institution). For more information on each province or territory’s loans and bursaries, visit the [Awards Office website](#).

Merit-based Endowed Awards at Carleton

The Department makes these applications on behalf of as many M.A. students as possible. We match students with the stated purposes and requirements of the scholarships and, where required, we ask faculty for letters of support. Some scholarships require specific forms; see descriptions for details.

Ontario Graduate Scholarship

Detailed instructions and samples of successful OGS proposals can be found [here](#). First-year MA students may have to ask their previous referees for references, unless you have already submitted a substantial amount of work to your Carleton professors. Undergraduates who are applying to MA

programs, and MA students applying to Ph.D. programs, may also apply for OGS at the schools to which they are applying. Check individual universities for their deadlines as they all differ. All application materials, including letters of reference, are due by November 15.

Canada Graduate Scholarships – Master’s Program

Carleton has been allocated 45 of these for social sciences and humanities. Selection criteria are shown on the [NSERC website](#), but in practice the first cut is made on the basis of grades. You make the application online, and you must also fill out a Canadian Common CV. Application instructions are [here](#). You must include a statement of your proposed MA research, transcripts, and information about your two referees, who will be contacted by the Tri-Council with links for uploading their references. Application must be completed online by December 1.

SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship

You can apply in the second year of your Master’s program for a SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship if you are planning to enter a Ph.D. program. Applications are made online, with attachments. Your program of study description briefly describes your master’s research and goes on to describe the doctoral research you want to do – all in two pages. From the online form, you produce a pdf, to which you add ***paper letters of reference***. Our department receives applications, appraises and ranks them, and forwards all of this to a pre-selection committee within Carleton, which is allowed to forward only a limited number of applications to SSHRC. Applications approved by Carleton are not assured of approval by SSHRC. To see what is involved in an application, look [here](#). Completed packages are due via the [SSHRC Online Portal](#) by October 1.