

Graduate Scholarships and Funding

Niki Power, Scholarships Liaison Officer
Faculty of Graduate Studies





Dalhousie University operates in the unceded territories of the Mi'kmaq, Wolastoqey, and Peskotomuhkati Peoples. These sovereign nations hold inherent rights as the original peoples of these lands, and we each carry collective obligations under the Peace and Friendship Treaties. Section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 recognizes and affirms Aboriginal and Treaty rights in Canada



We recognize that African Nova Scotians are a distinct people whose histories, legacies and contributions have enriched that part of Mi'kma'ki known as Nova Scotia for over 400 years



DALHOUSIE
UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF
GRADUATE STUDIES



Tri-Agency CRTA Suite

Major source of research funding for trainees in post-secondary institutions in Canada

What is the Tri-Agency?



improve or have an impact on health and/or produce more effective health services and products and/or strengthen the Canadian health care system.



advance knowledge in one or more of the natural science or engineering disciplines.



add to our understanding and knowledge of individuals, groups, and societies - what we think, how we live and how we interact with each other and the world around us.



Tri-agency Canada Research Training Award Suite (CRTAS)

- [Canada Graduate Research Scholarship – Master's \(CGRS M\)](#)
- [Canada Graduate Research Scholarship – Doctoral \(CGRS D\)](#)
- [Canada Postdoctoral Research Award \(CPRA\)](#)

Scholarships awarded in this year's competitions can begin in
May 2027, September 2027 or January 2028.



Canada Graduate Research Scholarship – Masters (CGRS M)

- \$27,000 for one year
- Apply through [Research Portal](#) by **December 1 at 9pm AT**
- Canadian citizen, permanent resident or protected person
- Between 0 and 12 months of full-time study in eligible program as of December 31
- Enrolled in or plan to enroll in eligible master's or first year of doctoral program (direct entry or fast-track)
- **CIHR: 20 NSERC: 21 SSHRC: 25** will be awarded to Dalhousie students in the current application cycle.



Canada Graduate Research Scholarship – Doctoral (CGRS D)

- \$40,000 per year for three years.
- Apply through agency portal *and* FGS online portal by **Monday, October 5 at 11:59pm AT**
- International applicants currently enrolled in PhD at Dal
- Between 0 and 36 months of full-time study in eligible program as of December 31 (transfer date = start date)
- May apply up to three times during your PhD program.



Canada Graduate Research Scholarship – Doctoral (CGRS D)

- Currently enrolled Dal students must apply through Dal -even if the award will be held elsewhere
- Complete “mini” application in FGS scholarship portal **in addition to** Tri-Agency application.
- FGS will download full Tri-agency applications and attach them to FGS portal for university level review.
- **CIHR: 25 NSERC: 34 SSHRC: 20** may be forwarded to funding agencies for National review in the current application cycle.



FGS Managed Awards

Funding opportunities offered by the Faculty of
Graduate Studies



Major Graduate Scholarships

Master's students:

[Dalhousie Master's Research Scholarship](#) (DMRS)

- \$20,000 for 12 months
- Entrance or in-program less than 12 months as of May 2027

Doctoral students:

[Killam Predoctoral Scholarship](#) (KillamD)

- \$42,000 per year for up to three years
- Entrance or in-program less than 24 months as of May 2027

[Dalhousie Research Excellence Scholarship](#) (DRES)

- \$35,000 per year (\$28K FGS + \$7K Dept) for up to four years.
- Entrance only



Awards for Diverse Scholars

[African Nova Scotian Graduate Scholarship](#)

All grad programs, full-time or part-time, entrance or in-program

[Indigenous Graduate Scholarship](#)

All grad programs, full-time or part-time, entrance or in-program

[Abdul Majid Bader Graduate Scholarship](#)

Thesis based programs - entrance only for Master's students

[James Robinson Johnston Award for African Canadians](#)

Thesis based programs - entrance only (may not be offered annually)



In-Program Prizes, Bursaries & Awards

Scholarships, Prizes and Awards

[AS Mowat Prize](#)

[Dr. Edgar Friedenberg Award](#)

[Glendon Chase McCormick Scholarship](#)

[H.A. Robertson Award in Parkinson's Research](#)

[Ken Saunders Bursary for Parkinson Research](#)

[Linda Marie Gillingwater Rainsberry Scholarship](#)

[Olivia Lewis and Michael Lonardo Scholarship](#)

[Phi Kappa Pi Joe Ghiz Memorial Award](#)

[The Vitamin Scholarship](#)

[Walter C Sumner Memorial Fellowships](#)

[Woman Life Freedom Scholarship](#)

Bursaries

[FGS Emergency Bursary \(ongoing\)](#)

[Dr. P. Anthony Johnstone Memorial Bursary](#)

[BHASHA Bursary](#)

[John & Lena Graham Commonwealth Bursary](#)

[Linda Marie Gillingwater Rainsberry Bursary](#)



Scholarships vs Bursaries

Scholarships (Prizes, Awards)

- Awarded based on merit
- May include research stipend from supervisor
- Not taxed by CRA
- Paid through GFP over three terms

Bursaries

- Need-based: financial information requested in application
- Paid in a lump sum via student aid requisition

Student Employment Income

- Subject to deductions for taxes and benefits
- Work unrelated to degree progression such as TA or RA position



Preparing to Apply

Things to think about





Review selection criteria and chat with your supervisor, proposed supervisor, colleagues, award holders, and reviewers if possible

Masters Selection Criteria

Academic excellence	50%
Research potential	30%
Personal characteristics and interpersonal skills	20%

Doctoral Selection Criteria

Research ability and potential	50%
Relevant experience and achievements obtained within and beyond academia	50%



Research Proposal: tips from a reviewer

Outline of proposed research and Bibliography and citations. Each of these sections must be only one page.

- Write the proposal yourself (with supervisor help)
- Be clear and as specific as possible, without being too jargon-laden
- Include Objectives, Outline, Methods, Procedures, Significance
- Describe EDI considerations in your research plan, if applicable
- Refer to Eligibility of Proposed Research, must meet SSHRC/NSERC/CIHR research mandate
- Convey your passion!



Research Proposal: tips from a reviewer

You have 1-page to clearly articulate an entire research project

In that page you need to communicate:

- What is the problem that your research will solve?
- What is your proposed solution?
- How does this solution compare to “standard of care”?
- What is the hypothesis?
- What will you do to test that hypothesis?
- Why should people care that this problem is solved? Why does it matter?
- You’d be surprised how many scholarship proposals never actually describe what is the research plan!



Contact your referees and share your CV and instructions for completing a reference form.

TIP: give your referees a deadline of at least a few days prior to your final submission deadline.

Choose
references
carefully

Invite
references
early

Provide
background
information

Send
reminder(s)

Follow-up and
thank you



**Order ALL official transcripts.
Most universities are now
providing electronic versions.**

TIP: It is your responsibility to access all transcripts and upload them to the scholarship platform as a single PDF.

- A copy of your DalOnline academic record can be used in place of an official transcript for your prior studies at Dalhousie.
- Transcripts MUST be from the most recent term - even if there are no grades showing.
- Dal's institutional contact for scholarship transcripts:
fgs.slo@dal.ca



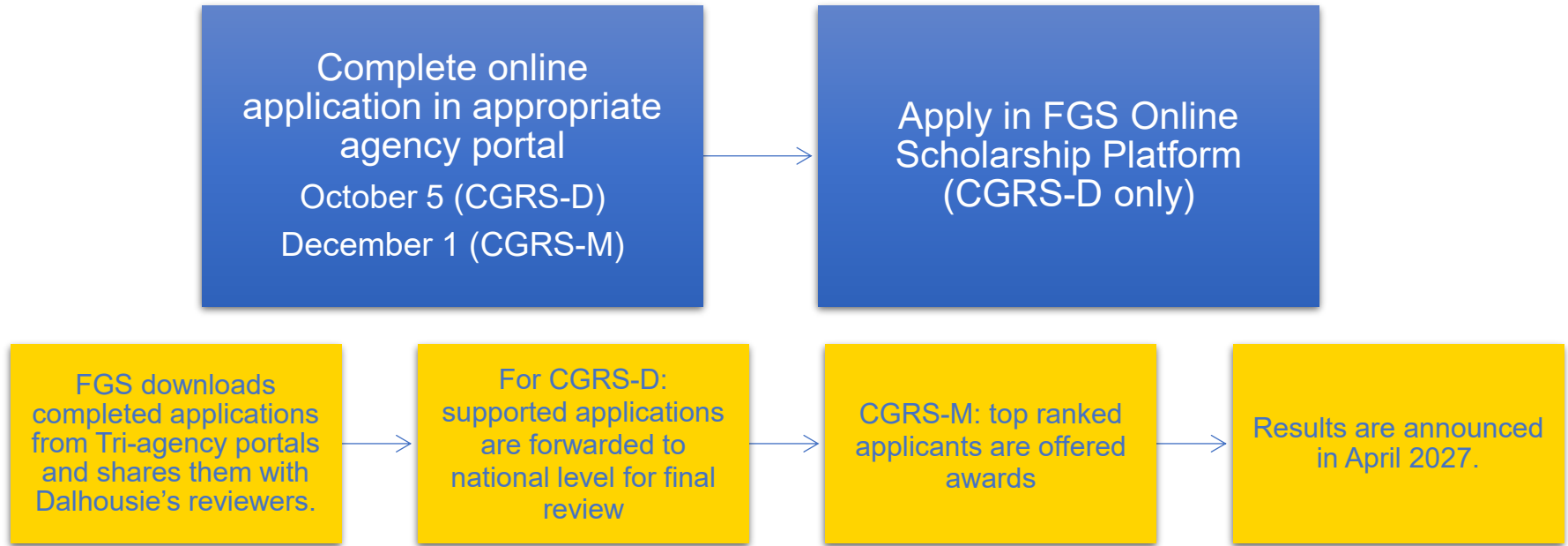
Application Processes

How to navigate the FGS online scholarship platform

- Awards for diverse scholars
- Major scholarship competitions for non-Tri-agency applicants
- Tri-agency CGRS D internal review
- In-program prizes, bursaries and awards



CGRS Application Process



Eligible CGRS-D applicants will be automatically considered for Killam Predoctoral Scholarship and/or Dalhousie Research Excellence Scholarship funding.

Eligible CGRS-M applicants will be automatically considered for Dalhousie Master's Research Scholarship funding



Major Scholarship Competitions

1. [Click Application Link](#)
2. Login using Dalhousie NetID
3. Select [Create New...Major Scholarship Competitions](#)

[Home](#) / [My Applications](#) / [75130 - \(Niki Power\) - -](#)

Major Scholarship Competitions 2026/2027

[Your Information](#) → [Select Submission](#)

Name *

Dalhousie B00#

If you already have a Dalhousie B00#, please enter it here, starting with B00
Character count: 0 / 9

Email Address *

nc203180@dal.ca

Save

Save and Next



4. Select the application form you wish to complete

Major Scholarship Competitions 2026/2027

[Your Information](#) → [Select Submission](#)

Privacy Statement

Any personal information collected on this form will only be used for the stated purpose for which it is being collected. Any disclosure of personal information collected will only be done under the provisions of the NS FOIPOP Act, in accordance with the law, or with your informed written consent. Any questions regarding the collection, use, or disclosure of your personal information on this form should be directed to fgs.slo@dal.ca.

Application *

Please select the application form you wish to complete

(select) ▼

(select)

African Nova Scotian and Indigenous Graduate Scholarships (closed for new Submissions)

Abdul Majid Bader Graduate Scholarship (closed for new Submissions)

Major Scholarship Application for non Tri-Agency applicants (closed for new Submissions)

Tri-Agency CGRS D Internal Review

[Save and Finalize](#)

5. Follow application instructions → [Save and Next](#) at the end of each page
6. [Save and Finalize](#) when complete



In-Program Prizes, Bursaries & Awards

1. [Click Application Link](#)
2. Login using Dalhousie NetID
3. Select [Create New...FGS Bursaries, Prizes, Awards and Grants](#)

[Home](#) / [My Applications](#) / 75131 ---

FGS Bursaries, Prizes, Awards and Grants 2026/2027

Your Information → [Select Submission](#)

Name *

Dalhousie B00#

Character count: 0 / 9

Email Address *

Save

Save and Next



4. Select [Master's and PhD Students](#)
5. Select the application form you wish to complete

[Home](#) / [My Applications](#) / 75131 - - -

FGS Bursaries, Prizes, Awards and Grants 2026/2027

[Your Information](#) → [Select Submission](#)

Privacy Statement

Any personal information collected on this form will only be used for the stated purpose for which it is being collected. Any disclosure of personal information collected will only be done under the provisions of the NS FOIPOP Act, in accordance with the law, or with your informed written consent. Any questions regarding the collection, use, or disclosure of your personal information on this form should be directed to fgs.slo@dal.ca.

Submission Type *

Please select the form you wish to complete

Master's and PhD Students

(select)

Prev

Save

Save and Finalize

6. Follow application instructions → [Save and Next](#) at the end of each page
7. [Save and Finalize](#) when complete



Timelines

Award cycle	Competiton Opens	Applications due	Announcements/Offers
Fall Doctoral Major Scholarships*	September 15	October 5	December 1
Prizes, Bursaries & Awards	September 15	November 15	December 18 (need-based) January 29 (merit -based)
Fall Masters Major Scholarships*	September 15	December 1	April 1
Winter Doctoral Major Scholarships	October 15	January 31	May 15
Winter Masters Major Scholarships	January 5	February 28	May 15
Diverse Scholars	January 5	February 28	May 15

*Tri-agency CGRS-D and CGRS-M are open now!



Post Award Process

Maintaining your graduate funding at Dalhousie





Important notes for award holders

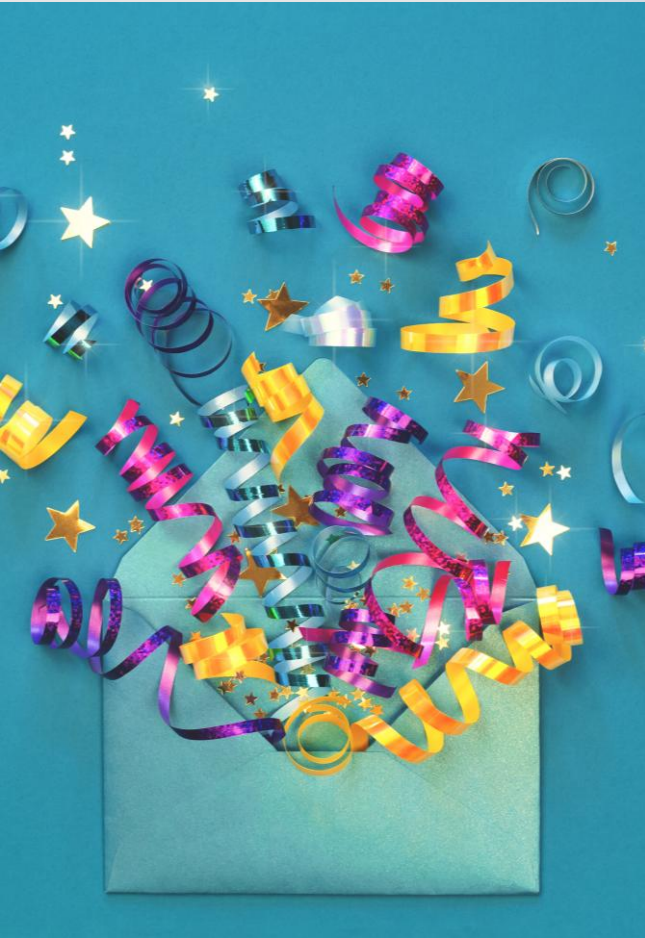
- [Tri-agency research training award holder's guide.](#)
- [Graduate Student Funding](#)
- Register in courses **as well as** REGN9999
- submit direct deposit information:
[Student Direct Deposit Banking Information \(PDF\)](#)
- Tuition and fees paid first – stipend paid monthly
- Other awards may be honorary
- Discuss full funding package with department/supervisor

FGS managed funding caps effective May 2026

- PhD students who hold:
 - Dalhousie Research Excellence Scholarship (DRES) only, cap is \$35,000 per year (full value)
Note: If any of the scholarships below are awarded in addition to a DRES, the DRES will become honorary
 - Abdul Majid Bader Graduate Scholarship only, cap is \$40,000 per year (full value)
Note: If any of the scholarships below are awarded in addition to a Bader, the Bader will become honorary
 - Tri-agency Doctoral Scholarship only, cap is \$13,333.33 per term or \$40,000 per year (full value)
 - Killam Predoctoral Scholarship only, cap is \$14,000 per term or \$42,000 per year.
 - Tri-agency Doctoral award + Killam Predoctoral Scholarship, cap is \$16,000 per term or \$48,000 per year
- Master's students typically do not have a cap imposed on FGS managed awards.



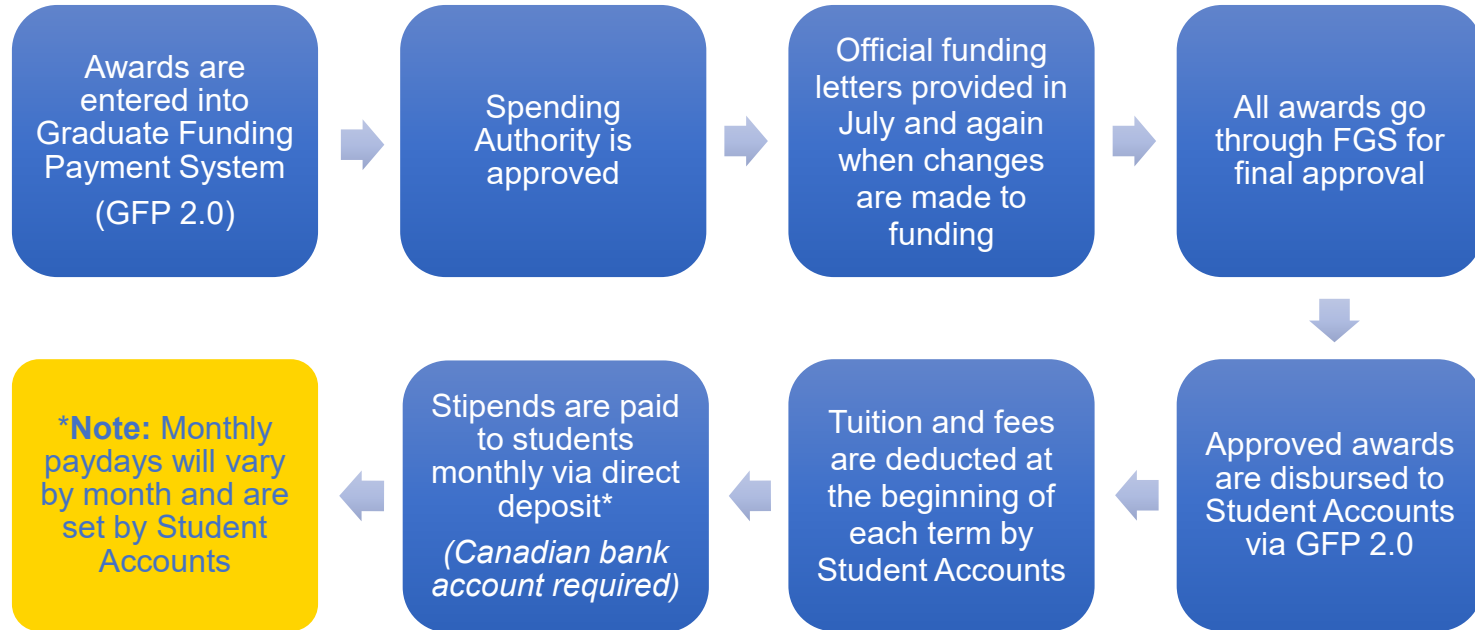
Making some awards honorary allows FGS to leverage limited funds and support more students



Funding not included in the cap

- ✓ FGS departmental allocation
- ✓ Departmental funding
- ✓ Program or department-specific awards
- ✓ Research stipends from graduate supervisors
- ✓ Employment income such as TA ships and RA ships
- ✓ Most bursaries, prizes and awards for in-program students
- ✓ Most externally funded awards (subject to confirmation with funding agency)

Payment Process



A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide featuring several thick, colorful ribbons (yellow, pink, blue, green, red, and black) that are intertwined and looped together, creating a complex, abstract pattern.

Meet the Team

- **Janet MacDonald**, Awards Administrator
grad.awards.admin@dal.ca
Prizes, bursaries and awards for in-program students, Postdoc Scholars
- **Niki Power**, Scholarships Liaison Officer
fgs.slo@dal.ca
Major FGS-managed and Tri-agency graduate scholarships, Killam Liason
- **Stephanie Theriault**, Budget Officer
stephanie.theriault@dal.ca
Scholarship budgets and GFP 2.0 project lead
- **Andrea Wheeler-Wade**, Graduate Student Payment Specialist
gradfunding@dal.ca
Graduate student payments and funding letters

Resources

Scholarships and Bursaries page on the FGS website:

<https://www.dal.ca/faculty/gradstudies/finance-your-studies/scholarships-bursaries.html>

Maintaining your Awards on SharePoint

<https://dalu.sharepoint.com/sites/graduate-studies/SitePages/funding.aspx>

Tri-Agency Research Training Award Holders Guide

https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/Guides-Guides/TriRTA-TriBFR_eng.asp#research

Student Accounts Money Matters:

https://www.dal.ca/admissions/money_matters.html

Student Accounts Inquiries: staccts@dal.ca

Thank You! Any questions?

