



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

College of Medicine

OFFICE OF THE VICE-DEAN RESEARCH
MEDICINE.USASK.CA/RESEARCH.PHP

HEALTH SCIENCES GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP 2025-26 GUIDELINES



APPLICATION DEADLINE: 4:00PM, MAY 30, 2025

SUBMIT APPLICATION TO OVDR.GRAD@USASK.CA



HEALTH SCIENCES GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM GUIDELINES

AWARD PROCESS TIMELINE AND IMPORTANT DATES

| DATE | PROCESS |
|-------------------|---|
| May 30, 2025 | Application due |
| June 27, 2025 | Notification of results for successful awards |
| July 11, 2025 | Signed award letters due |
| September 1, 2025 | Funding begins |

OVERVIEW OF THE FUNDING PROGRAM

Program Description

The Health Sciences Graduate Scholarships (HSGS) support research within the Health Science Graduate Program in the College of Medicine (CoM) through competitive awards to students who have demonstrated research and academic excellence. The priority of this program is to provide later-year support to as many worthy students as possible who are no longer eligible for the major University, CoM or Tri-Agency awards. Specifically, this includes Master's students entering their third year and doctoral students entering years four and five. Secondly, any CoMGRAD applicants who were eligible in this year's competition for support via that program but were unsuccessful will be considered. The HSGS award program is administered by the Health Sciences Program.

Award Amounts & Terms

- Master's students: \$25,000 stipend/year
- PhD students: \$30,000 stipend/year

The HSGS is a cost-shared award, and Supervisors are required to contribute \$12,500/year for Master's or \$15,000/year for PhD which constitutes 50% of the annual award amount. These are single year awards and while doctoral students are eligible in both years four and five they must apply for each year individually.

HSGS funding begins September 1st and extends until August 31st of the following year.



Eligibility

To hold a HSGS, you must be a full-time Graduate Student in good standing for the duration of the award.

Professional exempt students with full-time employment within the healthcare field are not eligible to apply. In order to apply for and to hold a HSGS award a student must have and maintain a GPA greater than or equal to 80%.

Table 1: Eligibility of Master's and PhD student applicants based on time in program.

| Time in program as of competition deadline | Year One | Year Two | Year Three | Year Four | Year Five |
|---|----------|----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Master's Student | Eligible | Eligible | Not eligible to apply | Not eligible to apply | Not eligible to apply |
| MSc-PhD Transfer Student* (Time refers to time in PhD) | Eligible | Eligible | Eligible | Not eligible to apply | Not eligible to apply |
| PhD Student | Eligible | Eligible | Eligible | Eligible | Not eligible to apply |

*Funding term cannot exceed 5 years total Tri-Agency/Dean's Scholarship/CoMGRAD + HSGS support between a Master's and Doctoral program.

Any questions regarding your eligibility should be directed to ovdr.grad@usask.ca. **Please be sure to approach our office at least a week before the deadline so that we have the opportunity to assist you.**

Alternative Funding

Students are encouraged to apply for alternative sources of funding for which they are eligible.

Students who win external competitive scholarships whose total value equals or exceeds the total value of a HSGS +\$6000 are not eligible to receive an award under this program for the period of the academic year covered by the external scholarship.

Students who win compatible external competitive scholarships of total value below the total value of the HSGS + \$6,000 may apply for funding under this program. The combined value of all awards may not exceed the total value of the HSGS + \$6,000, with the supervisor portion and then the HSGS portion reduced by any surplus. Students must provide documentation regarding the conditions of the external awards and a copy of their award letters when applying for the HSGS award.



HSGS awardees will be paid as per University policy. If the terms of compatible external awards do not coincide with the HSGS period of support (September-August), then the above policies will apply to the overlapping payment periods and the value caps will be calculated on a pro-rated basis.

Additional funding includes all awards, stipends, bursaries, scholarships, and any other alternative award funding source. This does not include any wages earned by the student in the up to 20 hours/week of work permitted. Those wages are not considered to be a part of alternative funding, nor are they part of the matching funds required from the supervisor.

Award Termination

If a student graduates, discontinues their program of study, or no longer meets the eligibility requirements then support from this fund shall cease. The student is responsible for notifying ovdr.grad@usask.ca to cease funding, and any funds held while ineligible must be returned.

Funding will continue during thesis revisions until submission (if it falls within the time frame guaranteed to the student).

75th ANNIVERSARY RECRUITMENT SCHOLARSHIP

OVERVIEW OF THE FUNDING PROGRAM

Program Description

The 75th Anniversary Recruitment Scholarship is now available in conjunction with the increased minimum stipend requirements for MSc and PhD students in the Health Sciences Graduate Program. For more information, please see the Health Sciences Graduate Student Funding Policy [here](#).

The 75th Anniversary Recruitment Scholarship is:

- Awarded based on the application for admission to the program by the Health Sciences Graduate Program Committee.
- Informed by holistic adjudication practices and consideration for equity deserving groups where:
 - The 75th Anniversary Recruitment Scholarships will help address strategic priorities in recruitment such as increasing Indigenous student enrolment, achieving gender parity, including differently abled individuals, etc.
- Restricted to new MSc and PhD Thesis-based students and new MSc to PhD transfer students



Award Amounts & Terms

- Master's students: \$20,000 for 1 year
- PhD students: \$24,000 for 1 year

75th Anniversary Recruitment Scholarships must be awarded to both MSc and PhD students in units of \$20,000/year minimum. PhD awards will be topped up to \$24,000/year using other funding available through the HSGS. This award is not cost-shared with the supervisor and will be awarded from September 1st, 2025, to August 31st, 2026.

Eligibility

To be eligible to receive this financial support, a student must be registered full time and active in program, maintain satisfactory progress in the program and meet the expectations laid out between the student and supervisor in the [Student-Supervisor Agreement](#) for the duration of the award. Professional exempt students with full-time employment within the healthcare field are not eligible to apply.

In order to apply for and to hold a 75th Anniversary Recruitment Scholarship a student must have and maintain a GPA greater than or equal to 80%.

If a student is awarded a CoMGRAD they may not apply for the HSGS or the 75th Anniversary Recruitment Scholarship. The only exception is if the student has not yet begun their graduate program. In this case they may only be eligible for the 75th Anniversary Recruitment Scholarship.

Any questions regarding your eligibility should be directed to ovdr.grad@usask.ca. Please be sure to approach our office at least a week before the deadline so that we have the opportunity to assist you.

Table 2: Interaction between the 75th Anniversary Recruitment Scholarship and additional awards

| | Award Value | 75 th Anniversary Recruitment Top Up | Total Funding Received |
|---|-------------------------|---|------------------------|
| Eligible External Awards (General) | MSc: Less than \$20,000 | Top up to \$20,000/year Prorated for 75 th Scholarship term | \$20,000 |
| | PhD: Less than \$24,000 | Top up to \$24,000/year Prorated for 75 th Scholarship term | \$24,000 |



| | | | |
|---|--|---|----------------------------------|
| Dean's Doctoral Scholarship | PhD: \$24,000/ up to two years | Not eligible for 75 th Scholarship | \$24,000 |
| CoMGRAD | MSc: \$19,000/ up to two years* | Top up to \$20,000/yr Provided by 75 th Scholarship | \$20,000 |
| | PhD: \$24,000/ up to 3 years** | \$20,000/year Provided by 75 th Scholarship + Top up (\$4,000) provided by CoMGRAD | \$24,000 |
| Tri-Agency (NSERC, CIHR, SSHRC) | MSc: \$17,500/ one year | Not eligible for 75 th Scholarship | \$23,500 (including CGPS top up) |
| | PhD: Variable/ up to three years | Not eligible for 75 th Scholarship | Variable (including CGPS top up) |
| Vanier | PhD: \$50,000/ up to three years | Not eligible for 75 th Scholarship | \$50,000 |
| Eligible External Awards (General) | MSc: Greater than \$20,000, less than \$25,000 | Top up to \$25,000/year Prorated for 75 th Scholarship term | \$25,000 |
| | PhD: Greater than \$24,000, less than \$30,000 | Top up to \$30,000/year Prorated for 75 th Scholarship term | \$30,000 |

*New MSc students who receive one year 75th Anniversary Recruitment Scholarship may hold year 2 of CoMGRAD if eligible based on time in program.

**New PhD students who receive one year 75th Anniversary Recruitment Scholarship may hold year 2 and 3 of CoMGRAD if eligible based on time in program.

Award Termination

If a student graduates, discontinues their program, or no longer meets the eligibility requirements then support from this fund shall cease. The student is responsible for notifying ovdr.grad@usask.ca to cease funding, any funds held while ineligible must be returned. Funding will continue during thesis revisions until submission (if it falls within the time frame guaranteed to the student).



DETAILS RELEVANT TO BOTH PROGRAMS

Assessment Criteria

Applications will be assessed by the Health Science Graduate Programs Committee.

The following criteria will be considered:

1. Research achievements, including publications, presentations, and awards
2. Leadership and community engagement
3. Academic average (GPA)

Cumulative average of courses taken in the current graduate program.

Program coursework must be completed in order to be eligible to apply.

4. Letters of Support indicating recommendation for funding
 - a. One letter of recommendation and commitment of funding from the supervisor
 - b. One letter of recommendation from a non-supervisor referee

Application Documentation

1. Applicants must fill out a copy of the HSGS application form
2. Applicants must obtain a Canadian Common CV which should include a summary of research achievements including publications, presentations and awards.
3. Applicants must submit copies of any other award letters. This includes letters of awards received during the course of the HSGS.
4. One supervisor letter of recommendation, in PDF format, must be sent directly to ovdr.grad@usask.ca from the supervisor.
5. One non-supervisor letter of recommendation, in PDF format, must be sent directly to ovdr.grad@usask.ca from the referee
6. All GPA calculations will be completed by the Health Sciences program administrator. **Transcripts are not required.**

Applicants are responsible for submitting items 1, 2, & 3 directly to ovdr.grad@usask.ca. Items 4, 5, & 6 should be submitted by the applicant's referees and graduate coordinator. Applicants are responsible for ensuring their referees submit their letters on time. Late submissions will not be accepted from those who did not follow up with the OVDR office prior to the deadline. The OVDR office will then review the application to make sure it has all the required documents.



Approval Process

By submitting this application through email, the student and supervisor acknowledge that all information in the application is true and correct.

Once the application has been submitted, our office will go through and ensure that all the required documents are attached and comply with the guidelines. If they do, we will approve the application to move forward to adjudication.

AWARD CONDITIONS

Notification of Success

Award decisions will be sent to successful applicants by 27 June 2025. After this, the successful applicants will have 14 days to get the required paperwork to the Health Sciences Graduate Program Coordinator or notify the office of any delays in completing the paperwork.

Publication Acknowledgement

All publications resulting from the research funded by the grant must acknowledge the University of Saskatchewan, College of Medicine, HSGS funding.

Contact

For questions about eligibility, program guidelines, or the peer review process please contact ovdr.grad@usask.ca.