



2016-2017 ONTARIO GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION IN CELL AND SYSTEMS BIOLOGY

PURPOSE

The Ontario Graduate Scholarship Program recognizes academic excellence in graduate studies at the master's and doctoral levels in all disciplines of academic study. The OGS program at U of T is jointly funded by the Province of Ontario and the University of Toronto. The Province of Ontario allocates OGS awards to universities specifying the number of awards that each may offer to their students annually.

DEADLINE

Applications, including all supporting documentation, must be submitted online by **Friday April 15th, 2016**. **This is a strict deadline.** International students must submit completed applications by Friday March 25th, 2016.

Website to the SGS Online application:

<http://www.sgs.utoronto.ca/currentstudents/Pages/Ontario-Graduate-Scholarship.aspx>

AWARD VALUE

\$15, 000 (\$5, 000 per term for 2 or 3 terms)
Award may begin in May 2016, September 2016, or January 2017.

ELIGIBILITY (as set and strictly enforced by the granting agency)

- * Plan to be enrolled full-time in a graduate program leading to a master's or doctoral degree at an Ontario University in 2016-2017. Awards won through the Department of Cell and Systems Biology must be held by students who are (or will be) enrolled in the CSB graduate program.
- * Canadian citizen or permanent resident or have been admitted to Canada with a student visa.
- * Applicants entering the first or second year of graduate studies at the time of application must have an average of at least A- (80%) in each of the last two completed years of study (full-time equivalent). There are **no exceptions** to this rule. An average of 79.8% in either of the last two years would result in the application being rejected (i.e. averages cannot be rounded up).
- * Applicants entering the third year or beyond of graduate studies at the time of application must have an average of at least A- on all graduate courses completed.
- * You can receive up to two OGS awards at the Master's level and up to four OGS awards at the doctoral level.
- * You can receive a lifetime maximum of six years of government funded awards (these include OGS, NSERC, CIHR, and SSHRC).
- * You cannot hold a scholarship from SSHRC, NSERC, CIHR, an Ontario Trillium Scholarship, or a QEII-GSST at the same time as an OGS.
- * Be in good standing with the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP). Applicants who have defaulted on a Canada or Ontario Student Loan, or have failed to make satisfactory repayment on a loan overpayment, are ineligible. Students who have never applied for OSAP are in good standing.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Applicants complete the SGS Online OGS application, and must submit an OGS application to each institution (and specific department) for which they are currently enrolled or are seeking admission. OGS awards are no longer transferrable from one university (or department) to another.

Important note for international students: Applicants holding a student visa (by the March 25th deadline for international students) are eligible to apply following the same application process set by their current or proposed graduate unit. Graduates units will select and forward a limited number of applications to the School of Graduate Studies to compete in a centralized adjudication.

Online submission is all that is required. The CSB Graduate Office does not require a paper copy.

Detailed information about completing the application can be found on the SGS website at:

<http://www.sgs.utoronto.ca/currentstudents/Pages/OGS-Application-Instructions.aspx>

CHANGES IN REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

The online OGS application does NOT require official/original transcripts from studies completed at universities attended by the applicant. Scanned print-outs from institutional web-sites will be accepted. Pages of transcript(s) should be linked together, and one separate PDF file should be uploaded for each degree/institution.

Although official transcripts (from outside UofT) are not required at the time of the OGS application, they must be available in the department admission file in order for you to accept and hold the award. Official UofT transcripts are NOT required because the department will be able to verify the authenticity.

Applicants will need to provide information about the two referees who will each complete an Academic Assessment Report online. You are limited to two referees, who should be faculty members or individuals who have had sufficient opportunity to assess your academic potential.

A COMPLETED OGS APPLICATION WILL CONSIST OF:

*An online OGS application form, which includes proposed studies, applicant profile, academic background, awards and financial aid, academic achievements, scholarships and awards, and research contributions.

*Two academic references (referees will be required to submit on-line). Please ask your referees to fill out your reference forms in advance of the deadline. You should ensure yourself enough time to have your application complete before the departmental deadline.

*Scanned transcripts from all post-secondary institutions (unofficial and student-issued copies are permitted. e.g. ROSI screenshots)

*Plan of study (one page, with a 3,950 character limit, including spaces)

NOTES

- Comprehensive instructions can be found on the pages of the “Step-by-step instructions for online submission of an OGS application to the Department of Cell and Systems Biology” (located on the CSB website at <http://www.csb.utoronto.ca/graduate/current/finances>). There are helpful tips and information to strengthen your application.
- Recipients who withdraw, finish their program early, or fail to complete the term, will be required to repay the funds received for the incomplete term.
- May accept research assistantships, part-time teaching positions, or other paid employment that does not affect their status as a full-time graduate student and is commensurate with the graduate unit policies. Typically, students holding full-time paid employment are not eligible to receive an OGS from the University of Toronto
- Results will be sent to all applicants by May 25th.
- Specific questions can be answered by the CSB Graduate Office, or for general program information, email: ogs@sgs.utoronto.ca