



2026-2027 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 **Wednesday, April 15th, 2026. This is a strict deadline.** International students must submit completed applications by Wednesday, March 11th, 2026.

Website to the SGS Online application:

Current and previous U of T students with an activated UTORid, should use their UTORid to log into the OGS application system, and Non-U of T users without a UTORid (i.e. applicants with formal offers of admission) should use their JOINid to log into the OGS application system. It is recommended to review all application instructions before creating an application.

AWARD VALUE

\$15,000 (\$5,000 per term for 2 or 3 terms)

Award may begin in Summer 2026, September 2026, or January 2027

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 the University of Toronto in 2026-2027. 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.
- * Students who withdraw, complete degree requirements prior to the end of their award, or fail to complete the full term, will be required to repay any funds received for the incomplete term.
- * Must be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident, protected person under subsection 95(2) of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (Canada), 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 should have an average of at least A- (80% or 3.50/4.0) in **each** of the last two completed years of study (full-time equivalent).
- * Applicants entering the third year or beyond of graduate studies at the time of application should have an overall 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, 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 not transferrable from one university (or department) to another.

Important note for international students: Applicants holding a student visa (by the March 11th deadline for international students) are eligible to apply following the same application process set by their current or proposed graduate unit. Graduate units will select and forward a limited number of applications (one for CSB) 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 scanned copy.

Applicants must submit an OGS application to their current or proposed graduate unit using the U of T OGS Application Form, accessible through the SGS website at:

<https://www.sgs.utoronto.ca/awards/ontario-graduate-scholarship/>

Detailed step-by-step instructions can be found at:

<https://www.sgs.utoronto.ca/awards-funding/scholarships-awards/ontario-graduate-scholarship-application-instructions/?highlight=OGS>

RECENT CHANGES IN REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

The online OGS application does NOT require official/original transcripts from studies completed at universities attended by the applicant. Scanned printouts from institutional websites 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. ACORN screenshots).

*Plan of study (one page plan of study, plus one page for references/citations). Follow the posted file requirements and make sure the file is PDF unprotected.

NOTES

- Comprehensive instructions can be found on the SGS website at:

<https://www.sgs.utoronto.ca/awards-funding/scholarships-awards/ontario-graduate-scholarship-application-instructions/?highlight=OGS>

- Recipients who withdraw or fail to complete the term will be required to repay the funds received for the incomplete term.
- Recipients 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 posted on the OGS online application by June 2nd, 2026
- Specific questions can be answered by the CSB Graduate Office, or for general program information, email: ogs@sgs.utoronto.ca