

Finding Funding for a PhD Student

Doctoral students at the Alberta School of Business receive a stipend and tuition coverage for five years. However, faculty – and students – are strongly encouraged to find supplemental funding during that time, and to plan well ahead for sixth year funding and tuition, if needed.

As a supervisor, you have many options for funding PhD students. A brief list of internal and external sources follows, with funding amounts and timing plus links for more information.

INTERNAL FUNDING

Internal funding from the University or the School of Business can usually be used to fund a research assistantship for a PhD student, or can help fund their research directly.

Faculty Fellowships

Each year, the School of Business awards a number of 1 year and 3 year Fellowships to eligible faculty members to support the creation and dissemination of their research.

Application Deadline: Late November
Funding Start: July 1
Funding Amount: \$10,000 - \$20,000/year

Chair Appointments

From time to time, the School of Business awards eligible faculty with 5 or 7 year endowed research Chairs, in recognition of high quality and innovative research.

Application Deadline: Subject to Expiring Term Dates
Funding Start: July 1
Funding Amount: \$10,000 - \$20,000/year

Endowment Fund for the Future Support for the Advancement of Scholarship (EFF-SAS)

The EFF-SAS fund is allocated from the Vice-President of Research and Innovation to the School of Business to support research and help faculty prepare for external grants.

Application Deadline: May
Funding Start: June
Award: Up to \$6,000

Faculty Research Allowances

If you have other internal funding (e.g., startup funds; other research allowances) you can use these to fund PhD students.



Funding opportunities? Contact [Deanna Hoffman](#), Research and Survey Coordinator

Hiring a PhD Student or setting up payments? Contact [Debbie Giesbrecht](#), PhD Program Administrator (at least two months notice is required before grant expiry date)

Kule Institute for Advanced Study (KIAS)

[KIAS](#) is a major endowed research institute at the University that supports interdisciplinary and collaborative research in the Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts, focusing on research with the potential for national or international recognition. The two KIAS grants below can include funding for PhD students, and PhD students can be listed as team members.

Research Team Grant
Application Deadline: Ongoing
Award: up to \$7,500

Research Cluster Grant
Application Deadline: [Check the website](#) (an LOI is required first)
Award: Up to \$75,000 over 3 years

Killam Research Fund

The [Killam Research Fund](#) supports research, scholarship and creative activities. Killam has various funding options, and some are for faculty use only (e.g., conference travel grants). However, the two listed below can include funding for PhD students.

Research Operating Grant
Application Deadline: Ongoing
Award: Up to \$7,000

Cornerstone Grant
Application Deadline: April 1, October 1
Funding Start: May, November
Award: Up to \$50,000

External Funding

Tri-Council Grants

If you currently hold Tri-Council (SSHRC, NSERC, CIHR) or other external funding, you can use these grants to fund a research assistantship for a PhD student, or to fund their research. You can also apply for Tri-Council funding to support your research and PhD student; and your student can help prepare and write the grant. Tri-Council agencies emphasize student training, and expect this to be part of your budget. The University offers [many resources](#) to support Tri-Council applications.

Mitacs

Mitacs is a non-profit national research organization that, in partnerships with Canadian academia, private industry and government, operates research and training programs in fields related to industrial and social innovation. Most Mitacs programs require a supervisor who is eligible to hold Tri-Agency (CIHR, NSERC or SSHRC) funds and require the intern to be an active student at the University (Undergraduate, Masters, Doctoral). If you have a relationship or partnership with a business, you may be able to apply for this funding for your PhD student. [Link](#) to funding program descriptions, eligibility, and deadlines.

SSHRC and NSERC General Research Funding (GRF)

The [GRF](#) is made up of unspent NSERC/SSHRC grants that have expired or been terminated. The University re-invests these funds to support research and student training. The GRF may be used to provide small start-up grants to new professors or professors changing research direction, bridge funding to professors between applications, or additional funds to further support existing research programs.

Application Deadline: On-going (watch for emails!)
Funding Start: N/A
Award: Varies (usually < \$10,000)



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