



Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies
Killam Centre for Advanced Studies
2-29 Triffo Hall, University of Alberta
Edmonton, AB, Canada T6G 2E1

T 780.492.9460
F 780.492.0692
grad.awards@ualberta.ca
ualberta.ca/graduate-studies

Date: Wednesday, August 28, 2024

To: Students and Department Chairs, Graduate Coordinators, Graduate Program Administrators

From: Award Services, Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies

Re: **2025 Canadian Institutes of Health Research Canada Graduate Scholarships - Doctoral (CIHR CGS D) Competition**

The Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (GPS) is pleased to announce the details of the 2025 CIHR Doctoral competition, now available on [GPS' website](#). The University of Alberta's quota for the number of applications that can be forwarded to CIHR for consideration in the 2025 competition is 37. There is a single application and review process for the [CGS D](#) program. The top-ranked applicants are awarded a CGS D valued at \$40,000 per year, tenable only in Canada.

This is a direct application, whereby students apply through the CIHR on-line application portal, [ResearchNet](#). There is no nomination, list, or ranking required by the department. The departments will be notified of students successfully forwarded to the national competition, and of any winners. To assist in the promotion of this doctoral scholarship, we request Departments disseminate information about this year's national competition to their students and potential applicants.

After reviewing all applications, reviewers recommend the best applications, regardless of their status or proposed location of tenure. Institutions forward the best applications to CIHR even if they are proposing to hold their award at a different institution. The formula to calculate an institution's quota is based on the institution's average performance. The number of candidates receiving awards in the three most recent years of data available is multiplied by a factor of 3.36. The minimum quota is three applications.

Institutions are permitted to recommend an unlimited number of self-identified Indigenous applicants to the CIHR CGSD program above the application quota. Indigenous applicants must agree to their personal information being used for this purpose by making the appropriate selection in the application form. Note applicants are not automatically forwarded to the national level; they will be reviewed and recommended by GPS's Graduate Scholarship Committee (GSC) among the full pool of applicants. **"Indigenous peoples" is a collective name for the original peoples of North America and their descendants. "Aboriginal peoples" is often used as a synonym. For the purposes of these programs, the tri-agency uses the Canadian Constitution act, 1982 definition as including the Indian, Inuit and Métis peoples of Canada.*

2024/25 recipients of the UofA Graduate Entrance Scholarship and UofA Recruitment Scholarship are encouraged to apply for Tri-Agency funding if they are eligible (ie. citizenship status is Canadian/Permanent Resident).

Applicants may apply in the same year to both the CIHR CGS-D program and the CIHR Vanier CGS program. At the U of A, those applicants who have completed the 2024 CIHR Vanier CGS application are strongly encouraged to also complete an application for the CIHR CGS-D competition if they are eligible (ie. citizenship status is Canadian/Permanent Resident).

NOTE: Students cannot hold a CIHR CGS-D and Vanier CGS scholarship simultaneously, but applying for both may increase a student's probability of obtaining a Tri-Council Scholarship.

Application Process and Timelines

Refer to, and ensure applicants are directed to review the [CIHR CGS-D website](#) for clarification concerning the value, duration, and eligibility criteria. Applicants should consult the CIHR's website to determine registration status requirements at time of application submission, and for assistance in selecting the appropriate agency when applying for funding.

See GPS's [website](#) for the complete application process, timelines, and instructions for students leading up to the application submission deadline. Note that GPS will not provide copies of students' applications or reference letters to Departments. Should Departments want a copy of the student's application for advisement purposes, they may request this directly from the student. As referees are required to submit a confidential online form, letters are not available to students.

COVID-19 related measures pertaining to the eligibility window

The calculation of the number of completed months takes into consideration leaves or part-time studies. Students are encouraged to use the Special Circumstances section of their application to explain COVID-related delays, especially if their progress was disproportionately affected by the pandemic.

Transcripts

It is highly recommended students order transcripts as early as possible. Applicants are responsible for obtaining transcripts for all institutions attended and uploading them to their application. Applicants are to follow the *Official Transcripts* section of [CIHR's Doctoral Research Awards - Application instructions](#), and the U of A's transcript policy and requirements posted on GPS's website (under Application Procedures). These instructions are crucial as non-compliance with transcript-related guidelines is the primary reason for the rejection of applications.

Application Deadline and Submission

Thursday, October 3, 2024 at 11:59 PM (MST): Deadline for students to submit their completed application via CIHR online application system, [ResearchNet](#). **Applications after this date will not be accepted and extension requests will not be granted.**

- The deadline above is for applications submitted through the University of Alberta only. Failure to submit an application through the correct channel may result in an application being removed from the competition. For more information, refer to the flow chart "[Where should I submit my application?](#)" of the [CGS D Scholarships descriptions](#). This flowchart details which option should be selected within the online application form. Note: all applicants registered in a degree program at the UofA (with a quota) at any time during the calendar year of application must apply through the UofA, even if they intend to pursue their studies at an institution other than the UofA.
- To complete a full application, students must follow [CIHR's Application Instructions](#). It is the student's responsibility to read all instructions and be familiar with the application process before applying. This includes making sure to click "preview" and "verify" on each page in order to submit the application.
- Only completed applications will be reviewed. Changes cannot be made after the application has been submitted. Edits or corrections such as spelling, grammar, formatting, attachments, etc. are the responsibility of the student and will not be checked by GPS. Students who do not follow [CIHR Application instructions](#) may jeopardize their application.

- **Transcript Requirements:** It is students' responsibility to submit online through [ResearchNet](#) any and all required up-to-date transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate studies. For complete details refer to [CIHR Application instructions](#) and [GPS's website](#). For students currently registered, this includes U of A transcripts that show Fall 2024 registration. GPS cannot provide copies of transcripts to students.
- Submission of an application does not mean it has been forwarded to the national CIHR competition. All eligible applications will be shared with the GSC adjudicators for review.

GPS Award Services Review

October 4 – Mid October, 2024: GPS Award Services reviews applications for eligibility and completeness.

- Students will not be offered the opportunity to revise their applications.

University Adjudication

Mid October - Mid November, 2024: GPS's GSC reviews applications and selects nominees to be forwarded to CIHR for review at the national level.

University Deadline

November 21, 2024: Deadline for GPS to forward the final nominees to CIHR for the national competition.

University Results

End of November, 2024: Result of the CIHR competition at the University level will be released. Only those students who've been nominated to CIHR will receive a notification email from GPS that they have been forwarded to the national competition level. Unsuccessful students will be notified through ResearchNet.

CIHR National Results

Final CIHR doctoral results are expected to be announced in April 2025.

We wish all students and departments success in the upcoming competition!

Sincerely,

Award Services