

# Psychology: Tri-Council Scholarship Info Session

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# Tri-Council Masters Scholarships

- NSERC Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council
- SSHRC Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council
- CIHR Canadian Institutes of Health Research
- Website: [http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/PG-CS/CGSM-BESCM\\_eng.asp](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/PG-CS/CGSM-BESCM_eng.asp)

# NSERC

## Canada Graduate Scholarship

- Value: \$17,500 (CGS M) (12 months)
- Canada Graduate Scholarships and NSERC Postgraduate Scholarships provide financial support to high-calibre scholars who are engaged in master's or doctoral programs in the **natural sciences or engineering**.

# SSHRC

## Canada Graduate Scholarships Program: Master's Scholarships

- Value: \$17,500 (12 months)
- The CGS Master's Scholarships program seeks to develop research skills and assist in the training of highly qualified personnel by supporting students in the **social sciences and humanities** who demonstrate a high standard of achievement in undergraduate and early graduate studies.

# CIHR

## Canada Graduate Scholarships - (CGS) Master's Awards

➤ Value: \$17,500 (12 months)

The Canada Graduate Scholarships Master's Awards administered by CIHR are intended to provide special recognition and support to students who are pursuing a Master's degree in a **health related field** in Canada.

# Which council is right for you?

- The field of Psychology is supported by the 3 granting agencies
- You may only submit one application per academic year to NSERC or SSHRC or CIHR.
- Applicants should consider the following guidelines in their decision to apply to a federal granting agency if their research is in the field of psychology:

# NSERC

NSERC considers eligible applications that relate to fundamental psychological processes, their underlying neural mechanisms, their development within individuals, and their evolutionary and ecological context. Fundamental processes are understood to include:

- sensation and perception;
- sensorimotor integration;
- motivation, emotion and reward;
- Learning and memory;
- cognition and language;
- sleep, arousal and the chrono-biological modulation of behaviour; and
- statistical methods for analysis of psychological data.

**NSERC does not support clinically-oriented research.**

# SSHRC

- SSHRC considers eligible applications within the broad areas of social, developmental, personality and educational psychology. SSHRC also considers eligible proposals related to theory and methods in these areas. SSHRC does not support clinically oriented research with a health intent, or research involving clinical trials.



# CIHR

- CIHR supports all research in psychology that has direct relevance to, or ultimate impact on, human health.
- CIHR considers applications across the full spectrum of health research. CIHR categorizes health research in four broad themes: bio-medical research; clinical research; research respecting health systems and services; and research into the health of populations, societal and cultural dimensions of health, and environmental influences on health.

# Subject Matter Eligibility

- An eligible graduate program must have a **significant research component**: considered to be original, autonomous research that leads to the completion of a thesis, major research project, dissertation, scholarly publication etc. that is merit/expert reviewed at the institutional level as a requirement for completion of the program. Master's programs that are based only on course work are not eligible.
- **Clinically-oriented programs of study, including clinical psychology are also eligible programs if they have a demonstrated and significant research component as described above.**
- When in doubt, send a 1 page summary to NSERC at [schol@nserc.ca](mailto:schol@nserc.ca) and they will indicate which council is most appropriate
- Helpful website:  
<http://www.science.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=en&n=FEE7261A-1#Psychology>

# Application Process

- To apply for the CGS M scholarships, all applicants must complete and submit an application using the Research Portal.
- The Research Portal will instruct applicants to select **up to five universities** where they wish to hold the award. Applicants may select universities on the application where:
  - they are currently enrolled in an eligible program of study and wish to pursue their studies; or
  - they intend to apply for full-time admission to an eligible program of study if not currently enrolled at a university of their choice.
- Allocations: [http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/CGSAllocations-QuotasBESC\\_eng.asp](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/CGSAllocations-QuotasBESC_eng.asp)

# Tri-Council-Evaluation Criteria

<b>Academic Excellence</b> Weighting: 50%	Academic excellence—as demonstrated by academic transcripts, awards and distinctions.
<b>Research Potential</b> Weighting: 30%	Quality of analytical skills, ability to think critically, ability to apply skills and knowledge, judgment, originality, initiative and autonomy, determination and ability to complete projects within an appropriate period of time—as demonstrated in the description of program of study and by work experience, research contributions, letters of appraisal and, if applicable, the departmental appraisal.
<b>Communication Skills</b> Weighting: 20%	As demonstrated in the description of the program of study and, if relevant, by work experience, community involvement and other extracurricular activities, as well as by letters of appraisal, the quality of presentation of the application and, if applicable, the departmental appraisal.

# Application Tips

A Good Application Demonstrates:

- Strong academic record
- Excellent potential to conduct advanced scholarly research
- Strong communication skills
- Ability to successfully complete the Master's in a timely manner
- **Is clear, concise, coherent, error-free and complete**

# Application Tips

- Read Program description and instructions carefully (Font size, margins, page limits, etc.)
- Check that your application is complete and correct
- Do not exceed page limits or send more information than the instructions indicate; but
- **Do** use full page allowances
- Do not include research contributions which haven't been accepted for publication
- Provide needed documentation

# Application Tips

- Provide a summary of future research endeavours
- Use plain language (not overly technical jargon)
- Be as specific as possible:
  - Objectives, Outline, Methods;
  - Procedures, Significance
- Have someone else read and comment on your program of study

# Application Tips

## A Good Letter of Appraisal

- Supports information in the application
- Focuses on the applicant's skills and past achievements
- Focuses on applicant's research potential
- Stresses strengths and personal attributes
- Demonstrates why the applicant is of superior calibre and worthy of a prestigious national award



# Application Tips

## Scholarships and Other Awards Offered:

- Include up to 10 awards maximum
- Include awards that you declined
- Include non-monetary awards
- Indicate award value per year

# Application Tips

- Start working on the application at least 2 months before the deadline
- Work on the research proposal in collaboration with the proposed supervisor (if possible).
- Be sure that the application is **complete** – incomplete applications are not accepted

# Tri-Council – Internal Application Process

- Application forms must be completed via the Research Portal by **December 1**
- The NSERC CGS/PGS representative for the Department of Psychology is:  
**Dr. Amy Desrochers**
- The SSHRC CGS/PGS representative for the Department of Psychology is:  
**Dr. Beverley Fehr**

# Application Deadlines

- **Application deadline** (date by which the complete application must be submitted by the applicant): December 1.  
Your application must be submitted before 8:00 p.m. (ET) on the deadline date. If the deadline falls on a weekend or federal holiday, your application must be submitted by the following working day.
- **Results deadline** (date the universities post the competition results using the Research Portal): **April 1** of the following calendar year.
- **Acceptance and declines of offers:** Applicants will have **three weeks** to respond to offers of awards. **Offers not accepted will be deemed to have been declined.**

# More information

Housed on the NSERC site:

[http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/PG-CS/CGSM-BESCM\\_eng.asp](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/PG-CS/CGSM-BESCM_eng.asp)

- Includes: Eligibility, application procedures, deadlines, selection criteria and contact info.

# Contact Information

- SSHRC: Tel.: 613-943-7777 E-mail: [fellowships@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca](mailto:fellowships@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca)
- NSERC: E-mail: [schol@nserc-crsng.gc.ca](mailto:schol@nserc-crsng.gc.ca)
- CIHR CGS M Award Program Delivery Coordinator: Tel.: 613-952-0763 E-mail: [cgsma@cihr-irsc.gc.ca](mailto:cgsma@cihr-irsc.gc.ca)

# Faculty of Graduate Studies Contact Information

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