The Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) is pleased to announce details about the 2018 Alberta Innovates Graduate Student Scholarships competition, now available on FGSR’s website. Thank you for your patience as FGSR awaited the formal announcement from Alberta Innovates agency. This year we have experienced a delay in receiving information from Alberta Innovates. As there are a few changes regarding this scholarship program, we ask Departments and students to read through the Alberta Innovates handbook for important updates and information. The 2018 Alberta Innovates Graduate Student Scholarships Program Guidelines and Handbook is available on the Alberta Innovates website.

**NEW: Award Value**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Master’s</td>
<td>$26,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctoral</td>
<td>$31,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top-Up</td>
<td>$12,000  (same as last year)</td>
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</tbody>
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**Start Dates**

For start dates, please refer to the Alberta Innovates Graduate Student Scholarships Program Guidelines and Handbook.

This year, funding has decreased; therefore, quotas have been reduced as per Application and Department Nomination Process below.

**Eligibility & GPA Calculations**

Information regarding eligibility criteria can be found on our Alberta Innovates Graduate Student Scholarship website. A minimum of 3.5 GPA is an eligibility requirement for all applicants. The GPA will be calculated based on the current graduate program graded course work at the University of Alberta, or, if a student is newly admitted, AGPA will be used to determine eligibility.

**Application and Department Nomination Process**

Students must submit their completed Application Form, two letters of reference, and copies of transcripts to their Department for internal adjudication. Applications sent directly to the FGSR by the applicant and/or applications received without a University of Alberta ID# will not be considered. Incomplete applications submitted to the FGSR for adjudication purposes (including those lacking any of the required signatures) will not be considered. FGSR will not follow up regarding applications that are incomplete.
Departments are requested to submit applications up to a pre-determined quota. The quota is no more than one-half of the total number of applications received in each category (Master’s, Doctoral) or a total of 35 nominations, whichever is less (combined Masters/Doctoral). If a department receives five or fewer applications in a given category, they may forward all applications. Departments are required to include on their ranking forms the total number of applications received in each category.

The deadline for departments to submit their ranked applications to FGSR is Friday, October 12, 2018 by 4:00 pm. Please ensure that you rank your PhD applicants and your master’s applicants separately (i.e. use two separate FGSR Department Nominee Ranking Forms). Please rank all applicants, including those who hold a Tri-Council Scholarships (NSERC/CIHR and Vanier), China Scholarship Council or other external peer-reviewed award.

Applications will be accepted from departments via EMAIL to grad.awards@ualberta.ca only. All application materials submitted by applicants must be combined into one file per applicant, including all the requested documents (complete application form, letters of reference, transcripts). If you do not have a copy of the transcripts required for internal adjudication, copies of these can be requested by departments from grad.awards@ualberta.ca – please request all of your required transcript copies at the same time.

Required Documentation

Transcripts

*Incoming students*: All transcripts of university degree programs available on the GSMS are accessible to FGSR. Therefore, only documents that do not appear on the GSMS system and which those applicants would like included in their Alberta Innovates application packages need to be submitted to FGSR (i.e. the Alberta Innovates application form, reference letters, etc.).

*Current U of A students*: Up-to date official U of A transcripts are the only transcripts FGSR requires. All other supporting documents (as indicated in application instructions on the website) must be submitted with each application.

Letters of Reference

A Letter of Reference to Support Application for Graduate Awards Form must be completed and signed by each applicant's referee. Confidential letters of reference may accompany the standard letter of reference form, but may not replace such. Departments are asked to ensure the letters of reference are in sealed envelopes if submitted by the applicant, or sent directly to the department if submitted by the referee.

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