The Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation grants up to 20 new scholarships every year to outstanding doctoral candidates in the humanities and social sciences. The renewed Scholarship program represents a gateway for courageous, bold, original thinkers who are hungry to play a leadership role. The foundation’s three-year program is designed to train engaged leaders, equip outstanding doctoral candidates with the tools to share and apply their research and be creative leaders in their institutions and communities.

The leadership training provided to each cohort of scholars is based on a scientific theme, which is chosen because of the social importance of the issues it raises and its interdisciplinary dimensions. This innovative model aims to help scholars look beyond their areas of expertise and develop a desire to engage with people, issues and ideas typically outside their academic training. The scientific theme for the 2020-23 leadership program will be Technology and Ethics.

Eligibility

Eligible nominees include doctoral students who are already accepted into or in year one, two, or three of a full-time program in the humanities or social sciences whose work relates to at least one of the Foundations’ four themes:

- Human Rights and Dignity
- Responsible Citizenship
- Canada and the World
- People and their Natural Environment

Canadian citizens are able to hold this award at either a Canadian institution or an international institution. Non-Canadians (permanent residents or foreign nationals) enrolled in a doctoral program at a Canadian institution are eligible. Application details and additional information are available on the Trudeau Foundation website: http://www.trudeaufoundation.ca/en/programs/scholarships/become-scholar.

How to Apply

Guidance for Students

Students must submit their applications and upload all documentation (including up-to-date official transcripts) to the Foundation portal. The link is https://trudeaufdn.fluxx.io/user_sessions/new. As timeline is short, students must apply EARLY so that referees are given ample time to complete their assessments. Students must consult their department for internal department deadline. All applications must be submitted via the portal by 4:00 PM (MST) on Friday January 3, 2020.
For Departments

Each eligible department may submit the name of one nominee to the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research via GSMS by 4:00 PM on Friday January 3, 2020.

If departments require a copy of their students’ applications for internal adjudication purposes, departments must request this directly from the student. FGSR will not provide copies of students’ applications to Departments.

If a department has a second exemplary nominee, they may contact FGSR Graduate Awards for potential approval to submit a second nomination.

The evaluation criteria will focus on:

- Academic excellence
- Thematic relevance of research to the Foundation’s central themes
- Community engagement
- Leadership experience and abilities
- Originality and audacity
- Communication skills and desire to contribute to public dialogue and knowledge dissemination
- Interest for the scientific theme of the 2020-2023 cycle: Technology and ethics. Expertise on this topic is not required but must be willing to engage with this theme as part of leadership training program.
- Desire to belong to a vibrant community made up of leaders from across sectors

The foundation is committed to selecting a diverse group of scholars, including diversity in terms of gender, perspectives, language, race/ethnicity, Canadian region of study and disabilities. First Nations, Inuit and Métis candidates are welcome.

Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation scholars will:

- Attend a community retreat in Moncton, New Brunswick from June 17-19, 2020 and two Institutes of Engaged Leadership during the first year of their term. The first Institute will take place in Montreal, Quebec, in November 2020. The second institute will be in Helsinki (Finland) in March 2021
- Collaboratively plan and participate in a conference event during the second year of their term
- Work with other scholars, mentors and fellows on a creative project during the third year of their term

Value

Each scholarship is valued at up to $40,000 per year for three years to cover tuition and reasonable living expenses, plus up to an additional $20,000 per year for three years to support research and travel.

Quota

The University of Alberta may forward up to four nominations for the 2020 Competition.

Deadline for receipt of nominations via GSMS is Friday January 3, 2020