The Alberta Graduate Excellence Scholarship recognizes outstanding academic achievement of students pursuing graduate studies in Alberta. It was established to incent the best and the brightest students, including international students, to study in Alberta.

The Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) has recently received confirmation of funding for the 2020-2021 Alberta Graduate Excellence Scholarships (AGES) from the Government of Alberta, and we are pleased to announce details of this competition.

**Allocations:**

Departments will receive an allocation of AGES units; nominations for these units must be made to the FGSR. Included in the allocation table is the maximum number of international nominations that will be accepted by FGSR. Departments may use their allocations to nominate either Masters or PhD students as the award value is the same. **Note:** Departments are free to nominate eligible international students up to the prescribed limits within the table, but, nomination of such is not mandatory. Our contract mandates how many awards may be offered to international students; therefore, we cannot exceed the limits outlined in the allocation table.

**Note:** Allocations cannot be split; one allocation is equivalent to one $12,000 scholarship. **A student may only receive one Alberta Graduate Excellence Scholarship per year; these scholarships are NOT renewable.**

All departments received at least one AGES allocation, and a quota of at least 1 allocation for which an international student with a study permit could be nominated.

**Amount:** $12,000

**Payment format:**

Paid to students in one lump sum via direct deposit only. Students must have a Canadian bank account to be eligible to receive the award.
**Alternates:**

Departments are given a quota of alternates that they are able to submit. These alternates will only be considered if there are additional funds available. Please refer to the allocation table to determine whether your department is eligible to submit alternates.

**Indigenous Students:**

Eligible Indigenous graduate students are encouraged to apply directly to FGSR for the Alberta Graduate Excellence Scholarship. Please see the FGSR website for more information on the indigenous portion of the AGES competition.

**Eligibility**

Due to COVID-19 and the impact it has had on post-secondary institutions and the way classes may be delivered remotely, students do not have to reside in Alberta, however they must be enrolled at the University of Alberta and must have a Canadian bank account to receive the award.

- Must be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident of Canada, or an International student with a study permit
- Students may reside within or outside of Alberta. Student must ensure their current mailing address is updated in bear tracks
- Students may be enrolled classes remotely/online or in-person
- Students who are registered with Student Accessibility Services or have a documented need for accommodation, can apply if they are enrolled in at least 40% of a full course load
- Current students must be registered full-time in Fall 2020 and/or Winter 2021 terms. Newly admitted January 2021 students must be registered full-time in Winter 2021
- Students must demonstrate academic excellence, as evidenced by one or more of the following:
  - Current students must have earned a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.3 or greater over the most recent 15 units of course weight in current program. Where there is less than 15 graded credits in current program, admission GPA (AGPA) is a weighted factor. Students admitted in Fall 2020 or Winter 2021 in which graded coursework is not yet available in the current program, the Admission GPA (AGPA) will be used. Please see the GPA calculation process available on EClass.
  - Research and/or academic contributions that may include published manuscripts, presentations, posters, exhibitions, community engagement, performances; and,
  - Previous record of scholarly achievement through awards, scholarships, prizes, among others.
- Students must be registered in years 1-4 of the master’s program or registered in years 1-6 of the doctoral program during the tenure of the scholarship
- Students registered in a graduate certificate that can ladder into a Master’s degree program are also eligible.
- Qualifying students, students on academic probation, or students registered in non-standard fee programs are not eligible.

**Department Nomination Process**

Nominations must be submitted via the GSMS Awards portal by **Friday, October 30, 2020 at 4:00 PM**

FGSR is happy to receive nominations prior to the stipulated deadline and will endeavour to process such asap.
Upon receipt of the nominations from Departments, the FGSR will verify departmental allocations and the eligibility of the nominee, formally approve the nomination, issue the letter of offer to the student, and arrange for payment of the award (once student has accepted offer).

The nomination package, based on Departmental Allocations, must consist of:

- Completed AGES student declaration form
- Up-to-date Unofficial UofA transcript

**Department Alternate Process**

The number of alternates that a department can submit is indicated in the allocation table. Alternates must be submitted via GSMS Awards Portal no later than **October 30, 2020**. Should additional AGES allocations be available, the FGSR will hold an adjudication in Winter 2021 term with the alternate candidates submitted by departments.

A complete alternate package includes (must be uploaded in GSMS separately):

- Completed AGES student declaration form
- Up-to-date Unofficial UofA transcript.
- CV
- Research Proposal (maximum 1 page)
- Departmental letter of appraisal (maximum 1 page)

Sincerely,

FGSR Awards Services