The Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) is pleased to announce the details of the 2021 Canada Graduate Scholarships – Master’s (CGS-M) competition. The CGS-M, valued at $17,500 for one year, has a single harmonized application process for the federal granting Tri-Agencies: Natural Sciences & Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), the Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). The selection process and post-award administration are carried out at the institutional level, under the guidance of the three agencies.

Students submit their application to the institution at which they intend to hold their award, and may apply for up to three eligible Canadian post-secondary institutions. Each university has a set allocation for each granting agency. The University of Alberta’s allocations are: NSERC: 61; SSHRC: 59; CIHR: 24. Complete application details and eligibility criteria are available on FGSR’s website and the NSERC website (note that all information applies to SSHRC and CIHR applicants as well). FGSR strongly encourages all winners of the 2020/21 University of Alberta Master’s Entrance Scholarship to apply for CGSM funding if they meet the eligibility requirements.

Application and Department Nomination Process and Timelines

Departments are to follow and advise prospective and current students of the following process. Students are not required to submit applications to their departments or to their proposed department of study:

1) **The Portal is Now Open**: Both prospective and current students submit applications through the online Research Portal, the Tri-Agencies’ electronic system for creating, managing and submitting applications for funding. Students must complete the applications entirely online using the Research Portal and must obtain up-to-date transcripts for all post-secondary institutions they have attended, including transcripts from the University of Alberta (refer to FGSR’s Application Procedures for details). Transcripts deemed incomplete may result in the applicant being removed from the competition.

   *Note: For the 2021/22 competition year only, unofficial transcripts will be accepted due to the global Covid-19 pandemic. This does not mean transcripts can be missing – they still must be supplied in an official or unofficial capacity. Incomplete transcript records may result in the application being deemed ineligible.*

   - FGSR accesses UAlberta applications, and completes its initial preliminary review to verify eligibility and completeness.
   - FGSR contacts UAlberta applicants to acknowledge receipt of their applications. At this time FGSR informs them that they must apply for admission to a UAlberta graduate program by their Department...
program deadline, or by February 8th, 2021, whichever comes first, in order to be considered for a CGS-M at UAlberta. Note: this is for May 1, 2021, July 1, 2021, September 1, 2021, and January 2022 admission intakes. Recipients of a CGS-M are eligible to take up the award in either May or September 2021, or January 2022.

- Departments are allowed to contact promising CGS-M applicants who have not applied for admission and encourage them to apply.

A Note on Transcripts
It is students’ responsibility to obtain and upload transcripts to the Research Portal for up to three Canadian post-secondary institutions to view. FGSR will not provide copies of transcripts from student records held at the University of Alberta (includes transcripts from other Canadian/international post-secondary institutions and UAlberta transcripts), nor can FGSR upload transcripts on students’ behalf.

2) **December 1st, 2020**: Deadline for students to submit their application through the Research Portal before 8:00 PM (Eastern Time)/ 6:00 PM (Mountain Time).

3) **Mid-January, 2021**: FGSR shares applications with departments via Google Drive based on proposed departments declared on the application. Ranking and evaluation instructions will be included at this time. Departments are to note that prospective students only need to submit an application for admission; complete admission decisions for prospective students are not required for the CGS-M competition, and thus are included in the full nomination review.

4) **February 8th, 2021**: Departments submit their completed rankings and evaluation to FGSR. If not yet admitted to a graduate program, prospective students must also apply for admission no later than February 7th in order to be considered for the CGSM at the UAlberta. Applicants who haven’t applied for admission by this date will have their applications removed from the competition.

5) **Mid-February 2021 – end of March 2021**: FGSR Graduate Scholarship Committee reviews and adjudicates eligible applications.

6) **April 1st, 2021**: Applicants are notified of results on the online Research Portal.

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

Sincerely,

The FGSR Awards Team