Date: Monday, September 12, 2016

To: Chairs, Graduate Coordinators, and Graduate Program Administrators
NSERC Area Departments

From: Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research, Scholarship Services

Re: 2017 NSERC CGS-D/PGS-D Competition

2017 NSERC CGS-D/PGS-D Competition

Information regarding the 2017 NSERC CGS-D/PGS-D competition is now available on the FGSR website.

Application Process

Students

Students are required to complete their applications online, and provide their department with any required up-to-date official transcripts, by their departmental deadline. Please refer applicants to the NSERC website for a PDF sample of the Form 201 application and instructions, plus complete details concerning the value, duration and eligibility for NSERC awards:


In the “Transcripts – University” task of their online application, students should indicate the following information for the University Designate who will scan and upload their transcripts:

First Name: Ling
Last Name Jiang
E-mail: grad.awards@ualberta.ca

It is the responsibility of the department to inform students of the name and contact information of our U of A designate.

Departments

Departments are required to submit the following items, as one complete package, to FGSR by 4 PM on Friday, October 14, 2016. Departments are welcome to set an earlier, internal departmental deadline to allow them time to assemble these documents:
1.) An alphabetical list of students applying through their department (please include Student ID numbers)
2.) any required up-to-date official transcripts (see “Transcripts” section below for further details)

Students who apply to this competition, but are not included on their department’s applicant list will not be considered.

NOTE: Do not submit hard copies of students’ applications and reference letters, as FGSR does not require them.

NOTE: Departments are not required to rank their applicants.

Applicants who must apply directly to NSERC, based on their current registration status, must do so by October 15, 2016. Details on how the student must apply are found on the NSERC website:


Transcripts:

Following the application/department submission deadline of October 14, 2016, FGSR will upload copies of all required up-to-date official transcripts to the applicants’ online applications. Please note that transcripts must be provided for all coursework undertaken, even if a degree was never completed.

If students have already submitted the up-to-date official transcripts to FGSR for Admissions purposes, departments are not required to collect these documents from their students. Students are also not required to provide University of Alberta transcripts. If students have not yet submitted the required up-to-date official transcripts to FGSR, departments are requested to collect them from their students and submit them to FGSR as part of their departmental submission package.

For an explanation of NSERC’s official up-to date transcript requirements, please refer to the “Transcripts” section on the NSERC application instructions:


Quota

The University of Alberta quota assigned by NSERC for the 2016 doctoral competition is 73.

Eligibility of Proposed Research

Applicants must consult the Eligibility Criteria for Students and Fellows section of the 2017 Program Guide for Students and Fellows for important information on eligibility criteria pertaining to proposed program of study and research. Applicants should also consult the tri-agency document Selecting the Appropriate Federal Granting Agency which contains important information, and guidelines for each agency, to help select the one best suited to consider their application. Additionally, an Addendum to the Guidelines for the Eligibility of Applications Related to Health, which contains examples of eligible and ineligible research topics, has been added to the NSERC website.

Justification for Eligibility of Proposed Research

Applicants must complete this section of the application if their research has any link with, or overlap or relevance to, health or social sciences and humanities. This justification will be used by NSERC when evaluating the eligibility of the proposed research and must accompany the application at the time of submission. Applicants whose application is rejected because of ineligible subject matter will not be allowed to submit the justification afterwards.
Vanier Applicants & 2016/17 Recruitment Scholarship Holders (Thesis Programs)

Applicants may simultaneously apply to both the NSERC CGS-D/PGS-D program and the NSERC Vanier CGS program. At the U of A, those applicants who have completed the online 2017 NSERC Vanier CGS application form are strongly encouraged to also complete an application for the NSERC CGS-D/PGS-D competition if they are eligible (ie. citizenship status is Canadian/Permanent Resident).

In addition, 2016/17 recipients of the U of A Master's Recruitment Scholarship and UA Doctoral Recruitment Scholarship are required to apply for Tri-Agency funding if they are eligible (ie. citizenship status is Canadian/Permanent Resident).

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