

University of Toronto
Faculty of Medicine

THE QUEEN ELIZABETH II GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
(QEII-GSST)

2015 - 16 QEII-GSST Competition Guide (for Applicants)

Purpose of the Scholarship:

The QEII-GSST awards program is designed to encourage excellence in graduate studies in science and technology. The program is supported through funds provided by the Province of Ontario and by funds raised by the University of Toronto from the private sector. In order to raise the required private sector funds, prospective donors were solicited for a gift of \$50,000 per award, which when matched by the University, would generate a sufficient income from the established endowment. In recognition of the donor's contribution, each QEII-GSST award is named by the donor. Moreover, the donors were given an opportunity to indicate their preference for the recipients (e.g., recipients must be pursuing a degree in a certain department or field of study). Therefore, many QEII-GSST awards are assigned to a graduate unit.

Value and duration:

- Up to \$15,000 per year or \$5,000 per term.
- The scholarship is awarded for one academic year only, which may consist of two or three consecutive terms.
- The award may begin in September 2015 or January 2016. The January start is reserved only for students who cannot undertake the program of study for which the award is made until January, an incomplete previous degree, or because the program of study is not available until that date.
- Notification of the final results will be from the School of Graduate Studies.

Maximum Support:

- Students are limited in the number of years that they may hold a QEII-GSST.
- Master's students may receive the scholarship for a maximum of two years. Doctoral students may receive the scholarship for a maximum of four years. Both master's and doctoral students are subject to a lifetime maximum of six years per student.
- In addition, QEII-GSST guidelines restrict students to a lifetime maximum of six years of government-funded awards and prohibit students from holding a QEII-GSST and another government-funded award concurrently.
- Awards under the following programs are included in these restrictions:
 - Ontario Graduate Scholarship Program (OGS)
 - Queen Elizabeth II Graduate Scholarship in Science and Technology (QEII-GSST) (formerly OGSST)
 - Ontario Trillium Scholarships (OTS)
 - Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC)
 - Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC)
 - Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR)
 - Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships (Vanier CGS)

Eligibility:

- Applicants must be either Canadian citizens or permanent residents who plan to enroll, or are registered in a full-time¹ **research thesis based** MSc or PhD program in the Faculty of Medicine.
- Students pursuing a professional or course-based Master's program (e.g.: MHSc) and Clinician/surgical scientist trainees are NOT eligible for the awards offered through this competition.
- **Applicants entering the first or second year of graduate studies at the time of application** must have an overall average of at least A–, or the equivalent, on the last 20 one-term/semester courses, or the equivalent, completed.
Applicants entering the third year or beyond of graduate studies at the time of application must have an overall average of at least A–, or the equivalent, on all graduate courses completed.
- Applicants must exhibit overall academic excellence. Applicants should also exhibit research ability or potential, excellent communication skills, and interpersonal and leadership abilities.
- This award is not automatically renewed; students must apply annually.
- Must be in good standing with the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP). Applicants who have a restricted status with OSAP (e.g., defaulted on a Canada or Ontario Student Loan, or have failed to make satisfactory repayment on a loan overpayment) are ineligible. Students who have never applied for CSL/OSAP would be in good standing.

Conditions of the Scholarship:

- You must be registered and remain enrolled as a full-time student in a graduate program in the Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto for the complete duration of the award.
- You will be required to repay the award if you are in full-time attendance fewer than 14 weeks in any term or transfer to another graduate unit.
- You cannot be enrolled in a qualifying or “make-up” year or be on a paid educational leave or sabbatical.
- You will be required to repay the award if you withdraw or transfer to part-time status.
- You may hold other awards up to a total of \$10,000 per year, but cannot hold another government funded award (i.e., OGS, OTS, NSERC, SSHRC, and CIHR) in the same year of study in which you hold a QEII-GSST. Non-repayable bursary grants and awards with a financial needs requirement (e.g., GSEF, OSOTF and OTSS) are exempted from the \$10,000 stipulation.
- You may also accept research assistantships, part-time teaching positions, or other employment that does not affect your status as a full-time graduate student.

¹A full-time student is one who is in at least 60% of a full course load (40% for students with a permanent disability).

Application Procedures *NEW PROCESS*

For QEII-GSST awards administered at Graduate & Life Sciences Education (GLSE), the following must be completed by the deadline: March 31, 2015:

1. Applicants must submit an OGS application using the U of T School of Graduate Studies centralized online OGS application:
<http://www.sgs.utoronto.ca/currentstudents/Pages/Ontario-Graduate-Scholarship.aspx>

Note: The same application is used for both the 2015-16 OGS and QEII-GSST.

2. Once the OGS application is submitted online, applicants must complete a Faculty of Medicine QEII-GSST Cover Page and email it to Debbie.Chau@utoronto.ca.

The QEII-GSST award name(s) must be identified on this Cover Page. For Faculty of Medicine QEII-GSST award names, please refer to the 2014-15 GLSE QEII-GSST Awards List: www.glse.utoronto.ca/fom-qeii-gsst-competition

3. Should the applicant wish to submit a different Plan of Study for his/her QEII-GSST application than what is on the OGS application, it should be included in the email with Cover Page.

The online OGS application requires:

- o Plan of Study/Research Description/Statement of Intent (in easily understandable terms, including hypothesis, methods, and expected outcomes). Include your research title on top of the page.
- o List of Academic Achievements (scholarships and academic awards received), if applicable.
- o List of Research Contributions, including publications, presentations posters, or other significant work that was submitted to an external organization (e.g., a consulting report).
- o Two reference letters accompanied with an Assessment Report each (OGS Academic Assessment Report). For currently registered students, one reference letter plus assessment report should be completed by current graduate supervisor.

NOTE: Applicants must ensure their reference letters are submitted online before the GLSE deadline: March 31, 2015. The U of T OGS online application can only be submitted after both references are complete. Contact your referees well in advance.

- o Transcripts (all university transcripts including current program).
- o Detailed online application instructions are available on the SGS website:
<http://www.sgs.utoronto.ca/currentstudents/Pages/OGS-Application-Instructions.aspx>

For additional information, contact Debbie Chau by email at Debbie.Chau@utoronto.ca or phone: 416.946.7317.



PLEASE NOTE:

1. Please check with your Graduate Department for any departmental QEII-GSST awards and deadlines.
2. The deadline for applications submitted to GLSE is **March 31, 2015**.
3. Contact Debbie.Chau@utoronto.ca for a hardcopy application if the online application is inaccessible.