Faculty of Medicine

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

2018 - 19 QEII-GSST Competition Guide (for Applicants)

Purpose of the Scholarship:
In 1998, the Ontario government introduced the QEII-GSST, a merit-based scholarship program targeted specifically toward graduate students in science and technology. The Queen Elizabeth II Graduate Scholarships in Science and Technology (QEII-GSST) program is designed to encourage excellence in graduate studies in science and technology. The program is supported through funds provided by the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities and by funds raised by the University of Toronto from the private sector. The Province allocates QEII-GSST awards to universities specifying the number of awards that each may offer to their students annually.

Funding of the Scholarships:
- Each QEII-GSST has a maximum value of $15,000 per year, which will be given to a student over 3 sessions. The provincial government provides $10,000 and the private sector $5,000.
- In order to raise the required private sector funds, prospective donors were solicited in a University-wide fundraising campaign for a gift of $50,000 per award, which when matched by the university, would generate sufficient annual income from the established endowment.
- In recognition of the donor’s contribution, each QEII-GSST award name is co-named with 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 graduate unit or field of study). Therefore many QEII-GSST’s are assigned to a graduate unit.

Value and duration:
- Up to $15,000 per year ($5,000 per session for 2 or 3 consecutive sessions).
- The scholarship is awarded for one academic year, which may consist of two or three consecutive terms. It is not automatically renewed; students must apply annually.
- The award may begin in September 2018 or January 2019.

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 to Apply:

- Applicants must be a Canadian citizen, Permanent Resident, or Protected Person under subsection 95(2) of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (Canada) by the student deadline as determined by each graduate unit.

- Applicants must be registered or intend to register in a full-time\(^1\) research thesis based MSc or PhD program in the Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto.

- 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 achieved an overall average of at least A- (or equivalent) in each of the last two completed years of study (full-time equivalent).

- 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.

- Note: If marks used for calculating an applicant's grade point average (GPA) are not available (for example, courses were graded on a pass-fail basis), then the next most recent available undergraduate or graduate marks should be used to determine eligibility.

- Applicants must exhibit overall academic excellence. Applicants should also exhibit research ability or potential, excellent communication skills, and interpersonal and leadership abilities.

- Must be in good standing with the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP). Applicants who have defaulted on a Canada or Ontario Student Loan, or have failed to make satisfactory repayment on a loan overpayment, are ineligible to receive the award. Students who have never applied for OSAP are in good standing. Those with an OSAP restriction may still apply for the QEII. However, if awarded, they must have the restriction cleared within 30 days of notification in order to accept the award;

To be eligible to hold the QEII-GSST, recipients:

- 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.

- Who withdraw, transfer to part-time status, complete degree requirements prior to the end of their award, or fail to complete the full term, will be required to repay any funds received for the incomplete term.

- Cannot hold a QEII-GSST award at the same time (or during any session) as a scholarship from SSHRC, NSERC, CIHR, OTS, OGS, or QEII-GSST.

- May accept research assistantships, part-time teaching positions, or other paid employment that does not affect their status as a full-time graduate student and is commensurate with the graduate unit policies. Students holding full-time paid employment are not eligible to receive a QEII-GSST from U of T.

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\(^1\)A 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

For QEII-GSST awards administered at Graduate & Life Sciences Education (GLSE), the following must be completed by the deadline: **March 30, 2018**:

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

   Note: The same application is used for both the 2018-19 OGS and QEII-GSST.

2. After the OGS application is submitted online, applicants must complete an online Faculty of Medicine QEII-GSST Cover Page: [www.medicine.utoronto.ca/form/qeii-gsst-2018-2019](http://www.medicine.utoronto.ca/form/qeii-gsst-2018-2019)

   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 2018-19 GLSE QEII-GSST Awards List: [www.glse.utoronto.ca/fom-qeii-gsst-competition](http://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 emailed to Debbie.Chau@utoronto.ca.

   The online OGS application requires:
   - List of Academic Achievements (scholarships and academic awards received), if applicable.
   - List of Research Contributions, including publications, presentations posters, or other significant work that was submitted to an external organization (e.g., a consulting report).
   - Plan of Study/Research Description/Statement of Intent (in easily understandable terms, including hypothesis, methods, and expected outcomes).
   - Two OGS Academic Assessment Reports. For currently registered students, one of the assessment reports should be completed by current graduate supervisor.

   NOTE: Applicants must ensure their reference letters are submitted online before the GLSE deadline: March 30, 2018. The U of T OGS online application can only be submitted after both references are complete. Contact your referees well in advance.

   - Transcripts (all university transcripts including current program).

Detailed online application instructions are available on the SGS website: [http://www.sgs.utoronto.ca/currentstudents/Pages/OGS-Application-Instructions.aspx](http://www.sgs.utoronto.ca/currentstudents/Pages/OGS-Application-Instructions.aspx)

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

**PLEASE NOTE:**
1. Please check with your Graduate Unit if there are departmental QEII-GSST awards and deadlines.
2. The deadline for QEII-GSST application (including OGS online application and Cover Page) to GLSE is **March 30, 2018**.
3. Official award offers will be made by the School of Graduate Studies (SGS) and communicated to awardees starting July 2018.