Ontario Graduate Scholarships (OGS) and QEII Graduate Scholarships in Science and Technology
Program Guide

DESCRIPTION OF SCHOLARSHIP

Since 1975, the Government of Ontario, in partnership with Ontario’s publicly-assisted universities, has encouraged excellence in graduate studies at the Master’s and doctoral levels through the awarding of Ontario Graduate Scholarships (OGS). OGS awards are merit-based scholarships available to students in all disciplines of academic study. In 1998, the Ontario government introduced the QEII-GSST, a merit-based scholarship program targeted specifically towards graduate students in science and technology.

At York University, OGS and QEII awards are adjudicated together. OGS applicants in science and engineering programs who are eligible to hold a QEII are automatically considered for a QEII. This means that there is no separate application process for QEII, and other eligibility criteria, the application process, timelines, and award value are the same for OGS and QEII.

VALUE AND DURATION OF SCHOLARSHIP

The OGS and QEII are valued at $15,000 per year, paid in installments, $5,000 per term. The OGS and QEII program is jointly funded by the Province of Ontario and Ontario universities. The Province of Ontario contributes two-thirds of the value of the award and the university provides one-third.

*Note: If you receive a York Graduate Fellowship as a part of your funding from the university, the university contribution portion ($5,000) of the OGS will count towards the Fellowship.

The awards must be held for a minimum of two sequential terms, starting no earlier than May 2020. If you expect to complete your degree requirements by August 2020, you will not be eligible to apply for the 2020-2021 OGS/QEII.

QUOTAS

Each University is assigned OGS and QEII allocation by the provincial government. In 2019-2020, York’s allocation was 222 (216 domestic and 6 international). The allocation for the 2020-2021 academic year is to be confirmed.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

TECHNICAL ELIGIBILITY

yorku.ca/grads
In order to be considered for an OGS or QEII, applicants must:

- be a Canadian citizen, Permanent Resident, or Protected Person [under subsection 95(2) of the Immigration and Refugee Protections Act (Canada)].
- be applying for or enrolled in an eligible postsecondary institution in Ontario (one offering graduate programs) at the time of application.
- be enrolled in a full-time program of study.
  - A full time student is one who is in at least 60% of a full course load (40% for students with a permanent disability) as defined by their institution.
  - NB: Students who are unable to study full-time due to a disability are eligible to apply for and hold an OGS or QEII award as a part-time student.
- PhD students must be in their 3rd year of study or less as of December 2019. PhD students in their 4th year of study or beyond in Fall 2019 are ineligible to apply for OGS or QEII for 2020-2021. If you are a direct entry or transfer doctoral students (without completing a master’s degree), please contact FGS to verify your eligibility.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

International students who are studying in Ontario under a temporary resident visa - student study permit are eligible for an OGS. York University is allocated a quota of six for international students.

MINIMUM ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

The applicant must, at minimum, meet the following OGS/QEII academic requirements:

- If entering the first or second year of graduate studies at the time of the application deadline, the student must have achieved at least A-minus or equivalent first-class standing, in each of the last two completed years of study (full-time equivalent).
- If the student is entering the third year of graduate studies at the time of application the applicant must have an overall average of at least A-minus, or the equivalent, on all graduate courses completed at university.
- Equivalent first-class standing: Students may still be considered for an OGS award if their application or admittance to a graduate program is on the basis of professional accomplishments or experience and not on the basis of their academic record. The nominating program must also include a rationale for nominating the student without an academic background and a statement of the grade equivalent at which they assess the student’s professional accomplishments.

AWARD MAXIMUMS

Master’s students can receive the scholarship for a maximum of two years and doctoral students for a maximum of four years, subject to a lifetime maximum of six years per student. Awards under the following programs will be counted toward this lifetime maximum:

- the Ontario Graduate Scholarship Program (OGS)
- the Queen Elizabeth II Graduate Scholarship in Science and Technology (QEIIGSST)
- the Ontario Trillium Scholarships (OTS)
Office of the Dean

• Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarships (CGS) Doctoral Scholarship or SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship
• Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) Alexander Graham Bell CGS Doctoral Scholarship or NSERC Postgraduate Scholarship
• Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) Frederick Banting and Charles Best CGS Doctoral Award or Doctoral Foreign Study Award
• Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships (Vanier CGS)
• Canada Graduate Scholarships, Master’s level (CGS-M)

COMBINING AWARDS

Applicants cannot hold an OGS at the same time as they hold any of the following scholarships:

• Queen Elizabeth II Graduate Scholarship in Science and Technology (QEIIGSST)
• Ontario Trillium Scholarships (OTS)
• Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarships (CGS) Doctoral Scholarship or SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship
• Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) Alexander Graham Bell CGS Doctoral Scholarship or NSERC Postgraduate Scholarship
• Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) Frederick Banting and Charles Best CGS Doctoral Award or Doctoral Foreign Study Award
• Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships (Vanier CGS)
• Canada Graduate Scholarships, Master’s level (CGS-M)

Students are now allowed to concurrently hold other awards or combination of awards in addition to their OGS or QEII.

OSAP RESTRICTIONS

To be awarded an OGS or QEII, any previous Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) loans must be in good standing. Before paying the OGS or QEII award to the recipient each term, the Faculty of Graduate Studies must confirm that the nominee is not on the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) restricted list. The regulations of the Ministry of Training, Colleges, and Universities require that students who are on OSAP’s restricted list not receive the OGS until they are removed from the restricted list. This decision may not be appealed.