



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

College of Medicine

OFFICE OF THE VICE-DEAN RESEARCH
MEDICINE.USASK.CA/RESEARCH.PHP

HEALTH SCIENCES GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP 2026-27 GUIDELINES



APPLICATION DEADLINE: 4:00PM, MAY 29, 2026

SUBMIT APPLICATION TO OVDR.GRAD@USASK.CA



HEALTH SCIENCES GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM GUIDELINES

AWARD PROCESS TIMELINE AND IMPORTANT DATES

DATE	PROCESS
May 29, 2026	Application due
June 26, 2026	Notification of results for successful awards
July 10, 2026	Signed award letters due
September 1, 2026	Funding begins

OVERVIEW OF THE FUNDING PROGRAM

Program Description

The Health Sciences Graduate Scholarships (HSGS) support research within the Health Science Graduate Program in the College of Medicine (CoM) through competitive awards to students who have demonstrated research and academic excellence. The priority of this program is to provide later-year support to as many worthy students as possible who are no longer eligible for the major University, CoM or Tri-Agency awards. Specifically, this includes Master's students entering their third year and doctoral students entering years four and five. Secondly, any CoMGRAD applicants who were eligible in this year's competition for support via that program but were unsuccessful will be considered. The HSGS award program is administered by the Health Sciences Program.

Award Amounts & Terms

- Master's students: \$25,000 stipend/year
- PhD students: \$30,000 stipend/year

The HSGS is a cost-shared award, and Supervisors are required to contribute \$12,500/year for Master's or \$15,000/year for PhD which constitutes 50% of the annual award amount. These are single year awards and while doctoral students are eligible in both years four and five (MSc-PhD Transfers) they must apply for each year individually.

HSGS funding begins September 1st and extends until August 31st of the following year and must be paid in semi-monthly installments. Awards may be deferred for one term, with the end date extended by 4 months.



Eligibility

To hold a HSGS, you must be a full-time Graduate Student in good standing for the duration of the award.

Professional exempt students with full-time employment within the healthcare field are not eligible to apply. In order to apply for and to hold a HSGS award a student must have and maintain a GPA greater than or equal to 80%.

Note: HSGS holders are required to dedicate a full-time equivalent (FTE) effort to their research projects. As a result, any graduate student receiving wages equivalent to 20 or more hours per week (0.5 FTE or higher) while holding a HSGS will be deemed ineligible to continue receiving the award. This ensures that students remain focused on their research commitments and maintain the full-time status required for the scholarship.

Table 1: Eligibility of Master's and PhD student applicants based on time in program.

Time in program as of competition deadline	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five
Master's Student	Eligible [†]	Eligible [†]	Not eligible to apply	Not eligible to apply	Not eligible to apply
MSc-PhD Transfer Student* (Time refers to time in PhD)	Eligible [†]	Eligible [†]	Eligible [†]	Not eligible to apply	Not eligible to apply
PhD Student	Eligible [†]	Eligible [†]	Eligible [†]	Eligible [†]	Not eligible to apply

[†]Students should apply to the Dean's (entering) and CoMGRAD (entering or continuing) scholarship programs during these years. Those unsuccessful in the CoMGRAD competition can apply to HSGS for secondary consideration (see related transfer questions on the HSGS application form).

*Funding term cannot exceed 5 years total Tri-Agency/Dean's Scholarship/CoMGRAD + HSGS support between a Master's and Doctoral program.

Any questions regarding your eligibility should be directed to ovdr.grad@usask.ca. **Please be sure to approach our office at least a week before the deadline so that we have the opportunity to assist you.**



75th ANNIVERSARY RECRUITMENT SCHOLARSHIP

OVERVIEW OF THE FUNDING PROGRAM

Program Description

The 75th Anniversary Recruitment Scholarship is now available in conjunction with the increased minimum stipend requirements for MSc and PhD students in the Health Sciences Graduate Program. For more information, please see the Health Sciences Graduate Student Funding Policy [here](#).

The 75th Anniversary Recruitment Scholarship is:

- Awarded based on the application for admission to the program by the Health Sciences Graduate Program Committee.
- Informed by holistic adjudication practices and consideration for equity deserving groups where:
 - The 75th Anniversary Recruitment Scholarships will help address strategic priorities in recruitment such as increasing Indigenous student enrolment, achieving gender parity, including differently abled individuals, etc.
- Restricted to new MSc and PhD Thesis-based students and new MSc to PhD transfer students

Award Amounts & Terms

- Master's students: \$25,000 for 1 year
- PhD students: \$30,000 for 1 year

75th Anniversary Recruitment Scholarships must be awarded to both MSc and PhD students in units of \$25,000/year minimum. PhD awards will be topped up to \$30,000/year using other funding available through the HSGS. This award is not cost-shared with the supervisor and will be awarded from September 1st, 2026, to August 31st, 2027, and must be paid in semi-monthly installments. Awards may be deferred for one term, with the end date extended by 4 months.

Eligibility

To be eligible to receive this financial support, a student must be registered full time and active in program, maintain satisfactory progress in the program and meet the expectations laid out between the student and supervisor in the [Student-Supervisor Agreement](#) for the duration of the award. Professional exempt students with full-time employment within the healthcare field are not eligible to apply. As a result, any graduate student receiving wages equivalent to 20 or more hours per week (0.5 FTE or higher) while holding a 75th Anniversary Recruitment Scholarship will be deemed ineligible to continue receiving the award. This ensures



that students remain focused on their research commitments and maintain the full-time status required for the scholarship.

In order to apply for and to hold a 75th Anniversary Recruitment Scholarship a student must have and maintain a GPA greater than or equal to 80%.

If a student is awarded a CoMGRAD they may not apply for the HSGS or the 75th Anniversary Recruitment Scholarship. The only exception is if the student has not yet begun their graduate program. In this case they may only be eligible for the 75th Anniversary Recruitment Scholarship.

Any questions regarding your eligibility should be directed to ovdr.grad@usask.ca. Please be sure to approach our office at least a week before the deadline so that we have the opportunity to assist you.

DETAILS RELEVANT TO BOTH PROGRAMS

Alternative Funding

Students are encouraged to apply for alternative sources of funding for which they are eligible.

Students must provide documentation regarding the conditions of the external awards and a copy of their award letters when applying for a HSGS or 75th Anniversary Recruitment Award.

Additional funding includes all awards, stipends, bursaries, scholarships, and any other alternative award funding source. This does not include any wages earned by the student in the up to 20 hours/week of work permitted. Those wages are not considered to be a part of alternative funding, nor are they part of the matching funds required by the supervisor.

External Awards (Non-University of Saskatchewan Awards)

Students who win external competitive scholarships may apply for funding under this program for the period of the academic year covered by the external scholarship. See Table 2 for more information.

Internal Awards (University of Saskatchewan Awards)

Internal awards (including eligible CGPS awards and devolved department funds) may be utilized to subsidize the supervisor portion of the HSGS award. They do not qualify as external scholarships. Please note that the eligibility of such funds to be used as a match may vary according to policies set by CGPS as well as individual departments and programs.



Table 2: Interaction between the HSGS/75th Anniversary Recruitment Scholarship and additional awards

	Award Value	HSGS/75th Anniversary Recruitment Top Up	Total Funding Received
Eligible External Awards (General)	MSc: Less than \$25,000	Top up to \$25,000/year Prorated for HSGS/75 th Scholarship term	\$25,000
	PhD: Less than \$30,000	Top up to \$30,000/year Prorated for HSGS/75 th Scholarship term	\$30,000
	MSc: Greater than \$25,000, less than \$31,000	Top up to \$31,000/year Prorated for HSGS/75 th Scholarship term	\$31,000
	PhD: Greater than \$30,000, less than \$36,000	Top up to \$36,000/year Prorated for HSGS/75 th Scholarship term	\$36,000
Dean's Doctoral Scholarship	PhD: \$24,000/up to two years	Top up to \$30,000/year Prorated for HSGS/75 th Scholarship term	\$30,000
Tri-Agency (NSERC, CIHR, SSHRC)	MSc: \$27,000/one year	Not eligible for HSGS/75 th Scholarship	\$33,000 (including CGPS top up)
	PhD: \$40,000/up to three years	Not eligible for HSGS/75 th Scholarship	\$47,500 (including CGPS top up)
CoMGRAD**	MSc: \$25,000/up to two years*	Not eligible for HSGS/75 th Scholarship	\$25,000
	PhD: \$30,000/up to three years**	Not eligible for HSGS/75 th Scholarship	\$30,000

*New MSc students who receive one year 75th Anniversary Recruitment Scholarship may hold year 2 of CoMGRAD if eligible based on time in program. **New PhD students who receive one year 75th Anniversary Recruitment Scholarship may hold year 2 and 3 of CoMGRAD if eligible based on time in program.



**Students may not hold the same or equivalent awards concurrently. In the event that this occurs, one of the awards will be revoked. Students are required to notify the OVDR Office prior to receiving funds. Failure to provide advance notification may result in the requirement to repay the funds

Award Termination

If a student graduates, discontinues their program, or no longer meets the eligibility requirements then support from this fund shall cease. The student is responsible for notifying ovdr.grad@usask.ca to cease funding, any funds held while ineligible must be returned. Funding will continue during thesis revisions until submission (if it falls within the time frame guaranteed to the student).

Leaves of Absence

If a graduate student has taken a leave of absence approved by CGPS, ovdr.grad@usask.ca must be notified and the HSGS or 75th Anniversary Recruitment Award will be terminated for the duration of the leave. In lieu of the HSGS or 75th Anniversary Recruitment Award, students may apply for the [CoM Emergency Leave Grant](#). If a graduate student takes a short break from their graduate program (1 month or less), the HSGS or 75th Anniversary Recruitment Award will continue to be paid by the OVDR and the supervisor.

Assessment Criteria

Applications will be assessed by the Health Science Graduate Programs Committee.

The following criteria will be considered:

1. Research achievements, including; publications, presentations, and awards
2. Leadership and community engagement
3. Academic average (GPA)

Cumulative average of courses taken in the current graduate program.

Program coursework or application must be submitted in order to be eligible to apply for the HSGS.

- a. Incoming students: GPA calculation completed in accordance with CGPS admission average calculation policies
 - b. Current students: cumulative GPA for the student's current Master's or PhD program. If no grades are available for the current program, the admission average will be used.
 - c. Master's to Doctoral Transfers: cumulative GPA for the student's Master's program and, if applicable, the PhD program
4. Letters of Support indicating recommendation for funding
 - a. One letter of recommendation and commitment of funding from the supervisor
 - b. One letter of recommendation from a non-supervisor referee



Application Documentation

1. Applicants must fill out a copy of the HSGS application form
2. Applicants must obtain a Canadian Common CV which should include a summary of research achievements including publications, presentations and awards.
3. Applicants must submit copies of any other award letters. This includes letters for awards received during the course of the HSGS.
4. One supervisor letter of recommendation, in PDF format, must be sent directly to ovdr.grad@usask.ca from the supervisor.
5. One non-supervisor letter of recommendation, in PDF format, must be sent directly to ovdr.grad@usask.ca from the referee
6. All GPA calculations will be completed by the Health Sciences program administrator. **Transcripts are not required.**

Applicants are responsible for submitting items 1, 2, & 3 directly to ovdr.grad@usask.ca. Items 4, 5, & 6 should be submitted by the applicant's referees and graduate coordinator. Applicants are responsible for ensuring their referees submit their letters on time. Late submissions will not be accepted from those who did not follow up with the OVDR office prior to the deadline. The OVDR office will then review the application to make sure it has all the required documents.

Approval Process

By submitting this application through email, the student and supervisor acknowledge that all information in the application is true and correct.

Once the application has been submitted, our office will go through and ensure that all the required documents are attached and comply with the guidelines. If they do, we will approve the application to move forward to adjudication.

AWARD CONDITIONS

Notification of Success



Award decisions will be sent to successful applicants by the last business day in June 2026. After this, the successful applicants will have 14 days to get the required paperwork to the Health Sciences Graduate Program Coordinator or notify the office of any delays in completing the paperwork.

Publication Acknowledgement

All publications resulting from the research funded by the grant must acknowledge the University of Saskatchewan, College of Medicine, HSGS funding.

Contact

For questions about eligibility, program guidelines, or the peer review process please contact ovdr.grad@usask.ca.