Funding levels: Students in M. Sc. Programs

The minimum level of financial support (stipend) for M.Sc. students is $21,085 per year (effective Summer 2017). The minimum guaranteed duration of support is 6 semesters, although many faculty support students beyond this period.

The guaranteed minimum stipend does not apply to those students enrolled in the 3-semester long M.Sc. program by course work and project (e.g. Human Health and Nutritional Sciences), however, those students enrolled in the 4-semester long M.Sc. program by coursework and project are guaranteed 1 GTA during their program ($5,751.51 Summer 2017 GTA rate).

Typically, a graduate student’s stipend is made up of funding coming from up to three sources. This includes a Graduate Research Assistantship (GRA) paid by the advisor, and a Graduate Teaching Assistantship (GTA) paid by the department for work done by the graduate student in support of students in undergraduate programs. The third source is funding received as scholarships.

All graduate students are expected to apply for and undertake one full GTA unit per year (140 hrs of work) to make up a portion of their stipend. The entitlement to GTA support during the prescribed program period/job security period (1 GTA unit per year for each of two years) will be included in the offer letter to students. The Summer 2017 GTA is valued at $5,751.51. A few students apply for and are assigned additional GTA units. This constitutes additional funding to graduate students and does not reduce the amount of GRA support that graduate students receive from their advisors.

The advisor is not obliged to provide the full amount of the GRA to those students holding a major scholarship. In these cases, faculty are required to contribute funds such that the combination of GRA, GTA, and scholarship support is at least $23,085 ($2000 more than the original stipend of $21,085).

Those students who are holders of NSERC, SSHRC, or CIHR Research Awards (Tri-council Scholarships) also receive an additional scholarship valued at $5,000. These are provided each year the eligible scholarship is held. No application is required.

Continuation of GRA support is subject to satisfactory academic performance, as determined by the student’s advisory committee. Assuming satisfactory job performance, GTAs will be awarded to students based upon availability, qualifications and levels of consideration (terms and conditions are outlined in the Collective Agreement between CUPE, Local 3913, Unit #1 and the University of Guelph). As the minimum stipend is based upon a GTA component it is incumbent upon faculty to ensure that graduate students have the ability to successfully complete a GTA assignment. In those rare cases when graduate students do not have the ability to fulfill the duties of a GTA, responsibility for providing the minimum stipend rests with the faculty advisor.
## Funding levels: M. Sc. Programs

Examples of funding provided to Graduate Students in M.Sc. Programs  
* (Effective Summer 2017)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>GRA</th>
<th>GTA*</th>
<th>Scholarship</th>
<th>Tri-Council Scholarship Top-up</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M.Sc. no scholarship</td>
<td>$15,333.49</td>
<td>$5,751.51</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$21,085</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M.Sc. Ontario Graduate Scholarship</td>
<td>$2,333.49</td>
<td>$5,751.51</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$23,085**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSERC-PGS-M Scholarship</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$5,751.51</td>
<td>$17,300</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$28,051**</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Summer 2017 GTA Rate

* These values represent the minimum funding level to eligible students in M.Sc programs

** With scholarship valued at more than $5000, faculty, at their discretion, may reduce the amount of funding provided as a GRA. In these cases total funding to graduate students must be at least $2000 above the minimum stipend levels.