Graduate Excellence Entrance Scholarships (GEES)

Administrative Guidelines

2017/18

**Overview**

The Graduate Excellence Entrance Scholarships (GEES) were created to assist colleges in attracting the highest quality students to their graduate programs.

**Value & Duration**

Master’s – $15,000 – 3 equal payments over 3 semesters

Doctoral – $30,000 – 3 equal payments over 3 semesters

Colleges will receive an allocation annually, based on an average of full-time equivalent (FTE) enrolment reported over the previous three fall semesters. Colleges may elect to “trade in” two of their allocated Master’s scholarships for one doctoral, but may not trade doctoral scholarships for Master’s scholarships.

**Selection Criteria**

Academic excellence and BIU eligibility.

**Eligibility Criteria**

Canadian or permanent residents entering masters or doctoral studies in the upcoming May, September, or January semesters with a minimum 85% admission average. Students who transfer from a Master’s to Doctoral program are eligible to keep any semesters of funding remaining under their original award. Colleges may choose to nominate transfer students for a new award.

**Other Conditions**

Students must remain registered full-time and maintain satisfactory progress for the duration of the scholarship in order to maintain funding.

**Tenability**

May hold a Tri-Council or OGS but not tenable with Tri-Council Top-up.

**Administration of the Award**

* Colleges will be notified of their GEES allocation by mid-December each year. Colleges should determine how the awards will be distributed among their graduate programs and notify the departments accordingly.
* Departments will forward nominations to the College Associate Dean Research (ADR)’s office for endorsement by the College Awards Committee.
  + If the College chooses, they may ask that departments complete and submit a GEES nomination form for each nominee. The nomination form is available on the [Office of Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies – Faculty & Staff – Scholarships and Awards Administrative Guidelines - website](https://www.uoguelph.ca/graduatestudies/faculty-staff/scholarships-and-awards-administrative-guidelines).
* Once the nomination is endorsed by the College Awards Committee, the ADR’s office will confirm the nomination to the department.
  + If an official offer of admission was already made prior to approval of the GEES, the department will notify the student that they have been awarded the GEES.
  + If an official offer of admission has not already been made prior to approval of the GEES, the department will prepare the Recommendation for Offer of Admission as usual and include the GEES in the funding form.
* Once the student has indicated their acceptance of the award/admission, the department will notify OGPS of the GEES recipient.
  + OGPS will verify eligibility and notify Student Financial Services (SFS) to post the award to the student’s account.
* If a GEES recipient declines an offer of admission the department will notify the ADR of their college immediately so that the GEES can be reassigned to another applicant.

**Questions?**

Please contact Graduate Awards Officers by email: **grschol@uoguelph.ca.**