

Graduate Scholarship Competitions at UBC, BIOC

2015 Competition for funding to be in place for May 2016 or September 2016

- Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC)
- Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) – master’s level
- Affiliated Fellowships (AF)
- Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research (MSFHR)

Deadlines:

NSERC and Affiliated Fellowships (Doctoral Level) – Biochemistry **Thursday, September 24th, 4:00 pm**
CIHR – Applicants for Doctoral Research Award submit directly to CIHR: **October 1, 2015 deadline posted by CIHR. CIHR – PhD’s must collect signatures from Research Services and Faculty of Medicine signing deadline Monday, September 21st, 2015** <http://www.ors.ubc.ca/contents/cihr-esubmission>, and <https://mednet.med.ubc.ca/Research/GrantApplications/CIHR/Pages/CIHR-Doctoral-Research-Award.aspx>. *You do not need a completed application to obtain the signatures, you can continue to work on your application.*

CIHR Fellowships are submitted directly to CIHR: deadline TBA

NSERC, CIHR, and Affiliated Fellowships (Master’s Level) – **Tuesday, December 1st, 2015 before 8:00 p.m. (ET). Supporting documents for the NSERC and CIHR are uploaded by the applicant and their referees.**

MSFHR – TBA

When necessary, supporting documents (transcripts, reference letter, additional documents ...) are sent to:

Doris Metcalf, Graduate Program Coordinator
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
2350 Health Science Mall, Life Sciences Centre
Vancouver, BC, Canada V6T 1Z3
Tel: 604 822-5925 Email: metcal6@mail.ubc.ca

When to begin?

If you think you qualify, you may start now by ordering final official transcripts and prompting potential referees for reference letters. If you are currently registered in a program, be sure to order transcripts showing current registration. These scholarships websites are generally update in August with new forms and changes.

Can I apply to both NSERC and CIHR?

No, NSERC and CIHR are part of the Tri-Agency Council and you can apply to only one competition. If you are not sure which one is the correct scholarship to apply to, you can email them a sample of your research proposal and they will advise you.

Can I apply to both NSERC and MSFHR?

Yes.

What about Affiliated Awards?

All NSERC applications are automatically considered for the Affiliated Fellowship – no separate application. If you applied for doctoral CIHR, then you must submit an application if you wish to be considered for the Affiliated. Canadians and Permanent Residents must apply for NSERC or CIHR, in order to qualify for the Affiliated Fellowship. International students are only eligible for AF. For MSc level, no separate application is required for the Affiliated competition.

NSERC

Before you begin...

1. Review instructions on NSERC's site, the "Program Guide for Students and Fellows":
http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/PG-CS/BellandPostgrad-BelletSuperieures_eng.asp
2. Additional information and instructions on Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies website:
<http://www.grad.ubc.ca/awards/nserc-postgraduate-scholarships>
3. Make sure you use the current application form, generally released in late August.

Eligibility?

- **First-class standing in each** of the last two completed years of study. At UBC this is 80% or better.
- Canadian citizens or permanent residents
- To take up the award, students must be registered as a full-time graduate student and pursuing research at either the master's or doctoral level in one of the areas of the natural sciences and engineering supported by NSERC.

Funding Levels?

Master's Level:

- **CGS M:** \$17,500, one year
- Scholarship support is for a maximum duration of 12 months
- To hold these awards you **must be registered full-time in the first or second year** of your master's program

Doctoral Level:

- PGS D: \$21,000/annum for up to three years
- CGS D: \$35,000/annum for up to three years
- must have completed, as of December 31 of the year of application, between **zero and 24 months** of studies (full-time equivalent) in a doctoral program

NSERC Selection Criteria:

How your application is weighted in the review process.	Master's Level	Doctoral Level
Academic excellence (transcripts)	50%	30%
Research potential (reference letters)	30%	50%
Communication, interpersonal and leadership abilities	20%	20%

CIHR

- **ONLY CGS M (Master's)** is administered by Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, UBC
- Check CIHR and Graduate Studies web sites for updates: <http://www.researchnet-recherchenet.ca/rnr16/srch.do?all=1&search=true&org=CIHR&sort=program&masterList=true&view=currentOpps&fodAgency=CIHR&fodLanguage=E>
- **CGS D (Doctoral level)** is sent **directly to CIHR**

Application:

Apply at www.cihr.ca: Funding Opportunities

- Follow the instructions identified in the Master's Award: [http://www.researchnet-recherchenet.ca/rnr16/vwOpprntyDtls.do?prog=1581&view=currentOpps&org=CIHR&type=AND&resultCount=25&sort=program&all=1&masterList=true- Web Forms "Application" Phase Instructions](http://www.researchnet-recherchenet.ca/rnr16/vwOpprntyDtls.do?prog=1581&view=currentOpps&org=CIHR&type=AND&resultCount=25&sort=program&all=1&masterList=true- Web Forms)
- Applicants also need to complete a **common CV** form: <https://ccv-cvc.ca/indexresearcher-eng.frm>
- **All transcripts must be current, original and official.**

CIHR posted a much later deadline date, can I wait?

No, UBC reviews and rank this scholarship during the September competition.

Eligibility:

- **First-class standing** in each of the last two completed years of study, (minimum 80% at UBC)
- Canadian citizens or permanent residents are eligible
- Only those students engaged in full-time Master's programs in which research is a major component are eligible for support

CIHR Selection Criteria:

	Weighting
Achievement:	
Research	15%
Academic	25%
Characteristics:	
Critical thinking Independence Perseverance Originality Organizational skills Interest in discovery Communication skills	40%
Research Training Environment:	
Training program for the candidate	20%

Affiliated Fellowships

What is it?

An umbrella term for a collection of awards supported by government and UBC funds, as well as, private donors. Funding levels are between \$8,000 and \$27,500 per year depending on the specific award (the Killam Awards are highest).

Eligibility requirements?

Open to all current Canadian or international students. Students must be registered at UBC to take up the award.

Application process?

Applications are available at: <http://www.grad.ubc.ca/awards/affiliated-fellowships>. Students who submits an NSERC or a CIHR masters application is automatically considered for the Affiliated Fellowship competition. International students and CIHR doctoral applicants must submit a separate AF application.

Affiliated Fellowship selection criteria, (same as NSERC):

How your application is weighted in the review process.	Master's Level	Doctoral Level
Academic excellence (transcripts)	50%	30%
Research potential (reference letters)	30%	50%
Communication, interpersonal and leadership abilities	20%	20%

MSFHR Studentships

- Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research (MSFHR) - a provincial agency for the Health Sciences.
- For Canadian Citizens and Permanent Residents entering universities in BC.
- \$20,000 per annum + \$5,000 research allowance.
- May be held (at a reduced level) in conjunction with another scholarship.
- Submit application directly to Faculty of Graduate Studies.
<http://www.grad.ubc.ca/awards/canada-graduate-scholarship-michael-smith-foreign-study-supplement>

Good Luck!!