SGS Award Announcement

To: Graduate Chairs/Directors; Graduate Coordinators; Graduate Administrators
From: Tara Lock, Graduate Awards Officer (Internal), Graduate Awards Office
CC: Joshua Barker, Dean, Graduate Studies and Vice-Provost, Graduate Research and Education; Charmaine Williams, Acting Vice-Dean, Students; Laura Stathopoulos, Director, Graduate Awards and Financial Aid
Date: April 9, 2019
Re: 2019-2020 SGS University-Wide Awards

When communicating this information to students, please provide them with your graduate unit's information, such as your internal deadline and contact-information for submission of the application packages, and encourage students to pay particular attention to the individual criteria for each of these awards (posted on the SGS Website).

Award Overview

| Student Deadline to Graduate Unit: | Date set by graduate unit |
| Graduate Unit Deadline to SGS:    | May 17, 2019 (revised)    |
| Level of Study:                   | Master’s or doctoral      |
| Required Legal Status:            | Domestic or international |
| Results:                          | July 2019                 |

Purpose

Through the generous support of numerous donors, a number of endowed awards have been established at the School of Graduate Studies (SGS). This year, approximately 20 awards with individual eligibility criteria and values are available within the SGS University-Wide Awards competition.

Eligibility to Apply

Applicants must:
- Meet any additional award specific eligibility criteria required as outlined in the award description;
- Be a domestic or international graduate student;
- Be either a currently registered student in a U of T graduate degree program or have accepted an offer of admission to a full-time U of T graduate degree program (commencing September or January immediately following the current competition);
- Demonstrate one or both of the following:
  - financial need for upcoming academic year through the completion of an SGS Financial Need Assessment form;
  - academic excellence - have achieved at least A- (or equivalent) in each of the last two completed years of study (full-time equivalent); or if the student has competed two years of graduate studies at the time of application, the student must only demonstrate an overall average of at least A- (or equivalent) on all graduate courses completed.

Note: To hold the award, students are required to be registered for the entire academic year following the competition, with the exception of the Donald Matheson Springer Fellowship for graduating students.
**Need Based/ OSOTF Awards**

- Awards categorized as need based only do not require the demonstration of academic excellence;
- Awards categorized as “OSOTF” (Ontario Student Opportunity Trust Fund) are only open to eligible applicants who meet all three of the following criteria:
  1. Demonstrate financial need for the upcoming academic year through completing the SGS Financial Need Assessment form;
  2. Are Canadian citizens, permanent residents of Canada or protected persons under subsection 95(2) of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (Canada) at the time of the application; and
  3. Are residents of Ontario at the time of the application, as defined by one of the following criteria:
     - Student has always lived in Ontario;
     - Ontario is the last province in which student has lived for 12 months in a row without being a full-time postsecondary student; or
     - Student lives in Ontario now and has lived in Canada for less than 12 months in a row.

**If student is married/common-law, student can be considered an Ontario resident if:**
- Spouse has always lived in Ontario; or
- Ontario is the last province in which spouse has lived for 12 months in a row without being a full-time postsecondary student; or
- **Both** of these statements are true:
  - Student lives in Ontario now; and
  - Student and spouse have lived in Canada for less than 12 months in a row.

**If student qualifies as a dependent student, student is considered an Ontario resident if:**
- Ontario is the last province in which parent(s) have lived for at least 12 months in a row; or
- **Both** of these statements are true:
  - Student lives in Ontario now; and
  - Student and parent(s) have lived in Canada for less than 12 months in a row.

The above requirements are established by OSAP to determine Ontario residency for OSAP purposes.

**Merit Based Awards**

- Awards categorized as merit-based only do not require the demonstration of financial need;
- At minimum, applicants must:
  - Have achieved at least A- (“A-” = 80%) or equivalent in each of the last two completed years of study (full-time equivalent); or
  - If the student has competed two years of graduate studies at the time of application, the student must only demonstrate an overall average of at least A- (“A-” = 80%) or equivalent on all graduate courses completed.

**Application Process**

Applicants must:
1. Download and complete the SGS University-Wide Awards Application form from the SGS Website. Applicants applying for multiple opportunities need only to complete this item once;
2. Ensure the letter(s) of reference are sent directly from the referee(s) to the graduate unit as per the graduate unit’s application deadline;
3. Submit all of the required documents for each award (detailed in the award descriptions). Please note that supporting documentation is also required for certain items within the SGS Financial Need Assessment form (if applicable). Please refer to the guide attached to the form.

Graduate units may submit up to 3 nominations for each award within this competition. Ineligible or incomplete applications will not be considered.

Results

Graduate units are asked to inform applicants regarding the unit’s internal results. Nominees to SGS will be contacted directly by SGS in July 2019 regarding the outcome of the centralized competition.

Contacts & Resources

Inquiries regarding these awards or the nomination process may be directed to:

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