



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES

SGS Award Announcement

To: Graduate Chairs/Directors; Graduate Coordinators; Graduate Administrators
From: Debbie Chau, Graduate Awards Officer, Graduate Awards Office
CC: Joshua Barker, Dean, School of Graduate Studies and Vice-Provost, Graduate Research and Education; John Peever, Vice-Dean, Students; Laura Stathopoulos, Director, Graduate Awards and Financial Aid
Date: October 17, 2024
Re: **2025-2026 Queen Elizabeth II Graduate Scholarships in Science and Technology (QEII-GSST)**

When communicating this information to students, please provide them with **your graduate unit's information**, such as your internal deadline and contact-information. Please note that only specific graduate units participate in the QEII-GSST award program.

Award Overview

Student Deadline to Graduate Unit:	Date set by Graduate Unit
Graduate Unit Deadline to SGS:	June 2, 2025 **
Value/Duration:	\$5,000 per term for 2 or 3 consecutive terms
Level of study:	Master's or Doctoral
Required Legal Status:	Domestic Students (Canadian citizen, permanent resident, protected persons)
Results:	July 2025

****Deadline for Temerty Faculty of Medicine (TFOM) graduate units:** Deadline and submission details for awards within the Temerty Medicine to be communicated by Office of the Vice-Dean, Research & Health Sciences Education (RHSE). For additional information, contact RHSE by email at rhse.awards@utoronto.ca.

Purpose

In 1998, the Ontario government introduced the QEII-GSST, a merit-based scholarship program targeted specifically toward graduate students in science and technology. The Queen Elizabeth II Graduate Scholarships in Science and Technology (QEII-GSST) Program is designed to encourage excellence in graduate studies in science and technology. The program is supported through funds provided by the Ministry of Colleges and Universities (MCU) and by funds raised by the University of Toronto from the private sector. The Province allocates QEII-GSST awards to universities specifying the number of awards that each may offer to their students annually.

Eligibility

Applicants must:

- Be a Canadian citizen, Permanent Resident, or Protected Person under subsection 95(2) of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (Canada) by the student deadline as determined by each graduate unit;
- Be registered or intend to register in an eligible program on a full-time basis in 2025-2026;
 - An eligible program is defined as a full-time program of study of two or three terms at the University of Toronto leading to a graduate degree. A full-time student is one who is in at least 60% of a full course load (40% for students with a permanent disability) or as defined by their institution. Program eligibility is determined individually by each graduate unit. Students should carefully review the information outlined by the graduate unit they intend to be registered in, to determine if their program is eligible for the graduate unit's QEII-GSST competition
- Be enrolled in a research master's or doctoral program in a participating graduate unit (see list of eligible graduate units below);
- Have not exceeded the lifetime maximum of government-funded support or maximum QEII-GSST/OGS support available for their current level of study (see [website](#) under maximum support); and
- 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 completed 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.
 - **Starting 2024-25:** At the graduate unit's discretion, exceptions may be made for highly meritorious applicants who are below the required GPA minimum. Examples of cases in which a unit may consider granting an exception include (but are not limited to): applicants with documented medical issues or family care responsibilities, applicants who have pursued alternative career paths, or mature students with professional experience. Contact your proposed graduate unit(s) to confirm their use of this eligibility criterion.

Note: If marks used for calculating an applicant's grade point average (GPA) are not available (for example, courses were graded on a pass-fail basis), then the next most recent available undergraduate or graduate marks should be used to determine eligibility.

To be eligible to hold the QEII-GSST, recipients:

- Must register and remain enrolled as a full-time student at U of T in an eligible program at the graduate unit from which the QEII-GSST was awarded;
- Who withdraw, transfer to part-time status, back transfer from a doctoral to a master's degree, complete degree requirements prior to the end of their award, or fail to complete the full term, will be required to repay any funds received for the incomplete term;
- Must be in good standing with the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP). Applicants who have defaulted on a Canada or Ontario Student Loan, or have failed to make satisfactory repayment on a loan overpayment, are ineligible to receive the award. Students who have never applied for OSAP are in good standing. Those with an OSAP restriction may still apply for the QEII-GSST. However, if awarded, they must have the restriction cleared within 30 days of notification in order to accept and hold the award;
- May accept research assistantships, part-time teaching positions, or other paid employment that does not affect their status as a full-time graduate student and is commensurate with the graduate unit policies. Typically, students holding full-time paid employment are not eligible to receive a QEII-GSST from the University of Toronto; and
- Cannot hold a QEII-GSST award in the same session (overlapping) or from the same award year as a scholarship from SSHRC, NSERC, CIHR, OGS, or another QEII-GSST.

The eligibility criteria provided above are the minimum requirements only. Graduate units may impose additional criteria to apply, receive, or hold an QEII-GSST. Please inquire with your graduate unit regarding any additional requirements or conditions to those listed here.

QEII-GSST Eligible Graduate Units

Graduate units participating in the QEII-GSST competition at the University of Toronto are listed below. Please note the list is considered comprehensive and students should consult with the graduate unit to confirm eligibility of their specific program. Professional Master's programs are not eligible for a QEII-GSST (e.g., Master of Engineering, Master of Forestry Conservation, Master of Mathematical Finance, Master of Science in Planning, Master of Health Science, etc.)

Arts and Science (Faculty) at Mississauga campus	Earth Sciences	Medical Biophysics
Aerospace Studies	Ecology & Evolutionary Biology	Medical Science
Astronomy & Astrophysics	Electrical & Computer Engineering	Molecular and Medical Genetics
Biomaterials and Biomedical Engineering	Forestry	Nursing Science
Cell & Systems Biology	Geography & Planning	Nutritional Sciences
Chemical Engineering & Applied Chemistry	Health Policy, Management & Evaluation	Pharmaceutical Sciences
Chemistry	Immunology	Pharmacology & Toxicology
Civil Engineering	Laboratory Medicine & Pathobiology	Physics
Computer Science	Materials Science & Engineering	Physiology
Dentistry	Mathematics	Public Health Sciences
	Mechanical & Industrial Engineering	Rehabilitation Science
		Statistics

Application Process

Applicants must submit an OGS application to their proposed graduate unit using the U of T OGS Online Application and select "Yes" that they would like to be considered for other graduate award competitions in the "Governmental Award Applications in Progress" section of the Awards and Financial Aid page of the application. Additional application requirements may be necessary depending on the individual competitions. The OGS Online Application is accessible through the [SGS OGS webpage](#).

Applicants applying for other awards that use the OGS application form may upload additional application documents as an attachment to the application form's "Awards and Financial Aid" page. Note: Any unit who wishes to use the new attachment function for their QEII-GSST or other awards competitions will need to instruct their applicants to select "Yes" on the form that they are applying for other awards and attachment(s) are required.

Each graduate unit will have its own internal submission deadline to which applicants must adhere.

Once completed and submitted online, the entire application will be available to the proposed graduate unit(s) for review and consideration.

Important note for prospective students: QEII-GSST awards are not transferrable between universities or between graduate units at U of T. Accordingly, students must submit an OGS application to each graduate unit for which they are seeking admission at U of T and each Ontario institution if applying to multiple universities (each institution will have its own unique OGS and QEII-GSST application process).

For Temerty Faculty of Medicine (TFOM) applicants only: There are three types of QEII-GSST's through TFOM with different application procedures (please visit the [Office of the Vice Dean, Research & Health Sciences Education website](#) for details, which will be updated once the competition opens):

- i. Awards through graduate units – applications are submitted directly to the graduate unit. Check graduate unit deadlines through unit websites;

- ii. Awards through clinical/surgical departments – applications are submitted directly to the clinical/surgical departments; check the appropriate department’s website for deadline and application details;
- iii. Awards through TFOM, Research & Health Sciences Education (RHSE) - deadline and submission details to be communicated by RHSE, TFOM as posted on their [website](#). For additional information, contact RHSE at rhse.awards@utoronto.ca.

For detailed instructions on how to complete the OGS Application, please see the [OGS Application Instructions](#).

Results

Graduate units will communicate internal adjudication results to applicants by June 2, 2025. Official QEII-GSST award offers will be issued by SGS starting July 2025. QEII-GSST results are not available on the OGS Application system. However, **starting 2025-26**, if the applicant **did not** apply for an OGS, the graduate unit should update the SGS Forms Tool with “Non-OGS Result” as the outcome, specifying that the *application was considered or nominated for a non-OGS award(s). Results are communicated outside of the OGS application form via email.*

Contacts & Resources

For more information, visit the [SGS QEII-GSST webpage](#).

Please direct questions regarding the QEII-GSST competition or nomination process to your graduate unit.

Questions regarding the administration of the award at the SGS and technical support for the application may be directed to:

Debbie Chau, Graduate Awards Officer
Graduate Awards Office
School of Graduate Studies
debbie.chau@utoronto.ca