



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES

SGS Award Announcement

To: Faculty Vice/Associate Deans, Graduate
From: Fong Di Caterina, Manager, Graduate Awards
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; Lindsay DeClou, Associate Director, Graduate Awards Operations & Postdoctoral Affairs
Date: December 16, 2024
Re: **2025 SSHRC Impact Awards – Talent category**

As SGS will not be sending this announcement directly to graduate units, please **include in your communications information specific to your Faculty's internal competition** (e.g. internal deadline(s) and contact information for the submission of applications).

Award Overview

Applicant Deadline to Unit/Faculty:	Date set by graduate unit/Faculty
Faculty Nomination Deadline to OVPRI:	January 29, 2025 (Submit intent via online form) February 9, 2025; 5pm (Submit nomination form & candidate CV)
Value:	\$50,000
Level of study:	Doctoral or Postdoctoral Fellow
Area of Study:	SSHRC funded disciplines
Legal Status:	Citizen or permanent resident of Canada
Results:	Communicated by OVPRI in late February

Purpose

The five annual [SSHRC Impact Awards](#) (Gold Medal, Talent Award, Insight Award, Connection Award, Partnership Award) recognize the **highest achievements in social sciences and humanities research, knowledge mobilization and scholarship supported by SSHRC**. Each institution may submit only **one** nomination for each category in a given year. [See last year's SSHRC Impact Award winners.](#)(U of T won in Talent and Insight categories!)

The **SSHRC Talent Award** recognizes outstanding achievement by an individual who, on April 1, 2025 **holds a SSHRC doctoral scholarship/fellowship or postdoctoral fellowship** (including, but not limited to, a Canada Graduate Scholarship, Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship or Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship).

The Talent Award may be taken up as a fellowship to fund the recipient's doctoral or postdoctoral research over a one-year period, or may be used, within one year of receiving the award, as a grant to support research, knowledge mobilization or other research-related activities. At least 10% of the award funds must be used to promote the recipient's research achievements.

Selection Criteria

The Talent Award is given to Canada's top SSHRC funded doctoral student or postdoctoral fellow who maintains academic excellence, has a talent for research and knowledge mobilization, and has demonstrated clear potential to be a future leader within and/or outside the academic sector.

1. Challenge—Ambition and importance (25%):

- originality and significance of the body of work within the nominee's fields of research.

2. Achievements—Impact and outcomes: (75%):

- originality and significance of nominee's body of academic achievement and research, including quality of publications relative to stage of career;
- evidence of impact of the nominee's work within their fields of research and/or beyond the social sciences and humanities research community;
- nominee's ability and commitment to communicate research results within and/or beyond the academic community;
- level of nominee's engagement with, and quality of training and mentoring provided to, students, emerging scholars and participants, relative to nominee's career level; and
- nominee's demonstrated potential for leadership and societal contributions within and/or beyond the academic community.

Eligibility

A nominee must:

- be a citizen or permanent resident of Canada, or a "protected person" under subsection 95(2) of Canada's Immigration and Refugee Protection Act, by the nomination deadline;
- be an active social sciences and humanities researcher or student;
- hold SSHRC funding relevant to the award category;
- be in good standing with SSHRC;
- be affiliated with an eligible institution; and
- if awarded, maintain affiliation with an eligible institution (same as the nominating institution) for the duration of the award.

 Nominees:

- cannot nominate themselves;
- can be nominated in two sequential years for the same award, following which two years must pass before they can next be nominated in the same category;
- can be nominated in only one category in any year;
- can be nominated in a subsequent year for a different SSHRC Impact Award; and
- cannot be a current member of SSHRC's governing council, a previous Gold Medal winner or an Impact Awards jury member.

Nomination Process

The University of Toronto may submit only one nomination to each award category. Therefore, the Vice-President Research & Innovation (VPRI) has an advisory committee of representatives from across the social sciences and humanities to review internal nominations and select the University's nominees each year.

To submit a candidate for consideration by the University of Toronto internal committee, Faculty Vice-Dean, Graduate offices must complete the following:

- Submit an online [Expression of Interest](#) (EOI) by **January 29, 2025**.

- Submit the [two-page internal nomination form](#) and the candidate's CV to vpri.awards@utoronto.ca by **5:00pm on February 9, 2025**.

Reminder: Faculties may nominate one candidate in each of the two disciplines under SSHRC (Humanities and Social Sciences) to a maximum of two nominees.

Please Note:

- Documentation sent directly (by the applicant, faculty or referee) to SGS, OVPRI or SSHRC will **not** be considered
- Documents in a language other than English may require an official English translation
- Retain all original application-materials until results are available

Results

OVPRI will notify all applicants forwarded to OVPRI of the results of the University competition in late February.

SSHRC will communicate the results from the national competition directly in Fall 2025.

Contact and Resources

For further information, please visit the [OVPRI website link](#), and/or contact your graduate unit or Faculty Dean or Vice Dean Graduate Education office.

VPRI Contact

Sarah Carson
Manager, University Awards & Honours
Office of the Vice-President, Research & Innovation (OVPRI)
(416) 978-7905
vpri.awards@utoronto.ca

SSHRC - Research Training Portfolio

Tel: 613-943-7777
Email: ImpactAwards-PrixImpacts@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca
[SSHRC webpage Impact Awards – Talent category](#)