Important Disclaimer!
What is said (or not said) at this info session does not supersede the material contained on the SGS OGS webpages.

Information in this presentation is only applicable to the OGS competition at the University of Toronto.
STATEMENT OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL LAND

We wish to acknowledge this land on which the University of Toronto operates.

For thousands of years it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and the Mississaugas of the Credit River.

Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.
MS TEAMS - ASKING QUESTIONS

• We are recording this session to be available along with this slide presentation on the SGS OGS webpage under “Additional Info”: https://www.sgs.utoronto.ca/awards/ontario-graduate-scholarship/#section_5

• Quick clarification questions on a particular slide may be entered in the “chat” section during the presentation. Save all other questions to the end of the presentation.

• For questions specific your personal background or eligibility, please review the eligibility requirements, then contact SGS by email if you have further questions.
AGENDA

• OGS Program Overview
  o Program Background
  o Competition Information
  o Eligibility
  o Application Process & Components

• Application Tips

• Queen Elizabeth II Graduate Scholarship in Science & Technology

• Questions
The recording and slides for this presentation will be available within 3 days on the SGS OGS webpage under “Additional Info”:
https://www.sgs.utoronto.ca/awards/ontario-graduate-scholarship/#section_5
PROGRAM BACKGROUND

• The OGS program started in 1975 and has been providing merit-based scholarships to Ontario's best graduate students in all disciplines.

• The OGS program is jointly funded by the Province of Ontario (Ministry of Colleges and Universities / MCU) and the graduate units at the University of Toronto.
  o 2/3rd of each award session is funded by MCU
  o 1/3rd of each award session is funded by the graduate unit

• Each year the Ministry specifies how many awards each University in Ontario can award
PROGRAM BACKGROUND

• The Ontario Graduate Scholarship (OGS) program is designed to encourage excellence in graduate studies at the master’s and doctoral levels at universities in Ontario
  o Value of the OGS: $5,000 per session
  o 2-Session award: $10,000
  o 3-Session award: $15,000

• Each university in Ontario has its own application and procedure
  o For students applying to graduate school, OGS applications must be submitted to each university to which they are seeking admission for 2024-25
  o Must be held at the awarding University
GENERAL APPLICATION INFORMATION

• University of Toronto students or incoming applicants must apply for the OGS at U of T using the online OGS Application Form (SGS Forms Tool)

• Incoming applicants applying to multiple graduate units for admissions must submit separate applications to each graduate unit

• Internal deadlines are posted on the SGS OGS webpage
COMPETITIONS

• There are three OGS competitions per year.
  - International
  - Domestic
  - Indigenous
OGS INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

• Two level adjudication process
  o Graduate unit adjudication
    • Graduate unit’s awards committee will review all eligible applications received by their deadline and determine which applicants to nominate to SGS for central adjudication
  o SGS adjudication
    • The SGS awards committee will review all nominated applications and select the recipients of the scholarship

• U of T’s allocation for OGS International awards this year is 22, and up to 20 Mary H. Beatty Fellowships (value: $10,000 each) will also be awarded as part of the OGS International competition
OGS DOMESTIC COMPETITION

• **Single level adjudication process**
  o Graduate unit adjudication
    • Graduate unit’s awards committee will review all eligible applications received by their deadline and select the top applicants to receive the scholarship and a short list of reversion candidates (alternates) in the event an offer is declined
    • SGS does final eligibility check to ensure the students are in good standing with OSAP and sends out official award offers
    • U of T’s allocation for OGS Domestic awards is over 800 each year. Graduate units are each given a specific portion of the U of T total
OGS INDIGENOUS COMPETITION

• Single level adjudication process
  o SGS adjudication
    • All eligible applicants who have self-identified as Indigenous to Canada on their applications and have not been recommended by their graduate unit for an OGS through the domestic competition will be reviewed by the SGS awards committee

• As of 2023-24, U of T allocates:
  o a minimum of three OGS awards to Indigenous scholars.
  o McCuaig-Throop Bursaries (value: $10,000 each for one year).
  o SGS Inclusive Excellence Graduate Scholarship – (value: $10,000 each for one year).
OGS ELIGIBILITY TO APPLY

To be eligible, applicants must:

• Be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident of Canada, protected person, or international student
  o International students must have a valid study permit prior to their department’s OGS international
deadline, COVID-19 EXCEPTION: Currently registered international graduate students who have not
yet been able to obtain a study permit due to COVID-19 circumstances are eligible to apply. However,
these applicants must have a valid study permit in order to hold the award.

• Be enrolled in, have applied for, or will apply for full-time admission to an eligible graduate program at the
master’s or doctoral level at U of T

• Have achieved at least A- (or equivalent) average 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,
must demonstrate an overall average of at least A- (or equivalent) on all graduate course completed

• NEW: 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.
**GPA ELIGIBILITY EXAMPLE 1**

- A- (or equivalent) in each of the last two completed years of study (full-time equivalent) **GPA Calculation example:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th># of Credits</th>
<th>Session Type</th>
<th>Sessional GPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Most recent year of study</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter 2023</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>Full-time</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2022</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>Full-time</td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>5.0</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>3.75</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second most recent year of study</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer 2022</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>Part-time</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter 2022</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>Full-time</td>
<td>3.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2021</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>Part-time</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>4.0</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>3.72</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** You may check with the graduate unit, at which you are applying the OGS to confirm if your GPA average meets the minimum.
Applicants who have completed two years or more of graduate studies at the time of application.

- This example is a student who started the Master’s program in Fall 2015.
- The program was a 2-year program and it was completed in Summer 2017.
- The student then started the PhD program in Fall 2017, which would be the student’s 3rd year of graduate studies.
- Therefore, this student’s GPA would only include grades received from graduate level studies.
- This student received an A for 0.5 FCE and an A- for a 0.5 FCE.
OGS ELIGIBILITY TO APPLY CONTINUED

• Have not exceeded the lifetime maximum of government-funded support or maximum OGS support available for their current level of study

Government lifetime maximum:
  o Maximum of 6 years of government funding which includes – OGS, QEII, doctoral and master level awards from CIHR, NSERC, SSHRC, Vanier, and OTS

Program lifetime maximums:
  o Students in master’s level programs may receive up to two years of OGS/QEII in their lifetime
  o Students in doctoral level programs may receive up to four years of OGS/QEII in their lifetime
  o Program maximums are determined by the academic year rather than the award type.

For example, if a master’s student receives an OGS award in one academic year and a QEII-GSST award in a second academic year, they will have reached their program maximum.
MAXIMUM FUNDING EXAMPLE

Student A's funding history

- Master’s Level
  - 2016-17 OGS
  - 2017-18 SSHRC CGS M

- Doctoral Level
  - 2020-21 SSHRC CGS D
  - 2021-22 SSHRC CGS D
  - 2022-23 SSHRC CGS D
  - 2023-34 OGS

- This candidate is ineligible for the 2024-25 OGS competition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maximum Funding Catgy</th>
<th># of Years Funded</th>
<th>Eligibility Met?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Maximum – Master’s</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Maximum - Doctoral</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Maximum</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
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</table>
OGS ELIGIBILITY TO HOLD

To hold an OGS award, 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 OGS was awarded

- Who withdraw, transfer to part-time status, complete degree requirements prior to the end of their award, or fail to complete the full session will be required to repay the funds received for the incomplete session

- **Domestic (including Indigenous) only** - Must be in good standing with the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP)

- 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 graduate unit policies. Typically students holding full-time paid employment are not eligible to receive an OGS

- Cannot hold an OGS award in the same session (overlapping) or from the same award year as a scholarship from SSHRC, NSERC, CIHR, Vanier, QEII-GSST, or another OGS
OGS ELIGIBILITY TO APPLY & HOLD

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

• Full application details are available on the SGS OGS webpage: https://www.sgs.utoronto.ca/awards/ontario-graduate-scholarship/
STEP 1. CONFIRM DEADLINE

• Select the “Student Deadlines” button on the SGS OGS webpage
STEP 1. CONFIRM DEADLINE

- Determine the appropriate deadline for your graduate unit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Graduate Unit Name</th>
<th>Faculty</th>
<th>International (Study Permit) Students: Unit OGS Deadline</th>
<th>Domestic (Canadian &amp; PR) Students: Unit OGS Deadline</th>
<th>Unit's website address with OGS Info specific to unit (if applicable)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anthropology, Dept of</td>
<td>Faculty of Arts &amp; Science</td>
<td>1-Mar-2024</td>
<td>1-Mar-2024</td>
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<tr>
<td>Architecture, Landscape, and Design, John H. Daniels Faculty of</td>
<td>John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape &amp; Design</td>
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<td>15-Apr-2024</td>
<td>[Current Award Announcements</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1-Apr-2024</td>
<td>6-May-2024</td>
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<td>Biochemistry, Dept of</td>
<td>Temerty Faculty of Medicine</td>
<td>1-Mar-2024</td>
<td>1-Mar-2024</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Biomedical Engineering, Institute of</td>
<td>Faculty of Applied Science &amp; Engineering</td>
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<td>15-Apr-2024</td>
<td><a href="https://bme.utoronto.ca/current-students/student-awards/">https://bme.utoronto.ca/current-students/student-awards/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European, Russian &amp; Eurasian Studies, Centre for</td>
<td>Faculty of Arts &amp; Science</td>
<td>1-Mar-2024</td>
<td>March 1, 2024</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
STEP 2. REVIEW THE APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

• Select the “Application Instructions” button on the SGS OGS webpage
STEP 2. REVIEW THE APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

- Review the “application instructions” page:
  https://www.sgs.utoronto.ca/awards-funding/scholarships-awards/ontario-graduate-scholarship-application-instructions/?highlight=OGS
STEP 3. APPLY

• Select the “Apply Now” button on the SGS OGS webpage
STEP 3. APPLY

• You will be taken to the “Accessing the Application” section of the Application Instructions

• **Web browser compatibility:** For the best user experience, use the most update-to-date version of Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, Safari, or Microsoft Edge web browsers to complete the form. Internet Explorer is not compatible. It is recommended to use an incognito or private browsing window. If you are unable to access the form, verify your web browser version and update if necessary before trying again.

• If you are having issues logging in: For a “hard” refresh (Ctrl+F5 for Windows or Cmd+Shift+R for Macs), to clear your cache (Ctrl+Shift+Delete for Windows, or Cmd+Shift+Delete for Macs), and use a Private Browsing or Incognito window

• When ready, select the “Log into the OGS application system” button

Log Issues?
Clear your cache and open in new In-Private or Incognito browser.
For detailed step-by-step instructions to clear cache/cookies on different web browsers, visit the Information Commons website
OGS APPLICATION (SGS FORMS TOOL) LOGIN PAGE

• Click Proceed to Login
LOG IN OPTIONS

- The application system provides two log in options.
  - Current and previous U of T students with an activated UTORid, should use their UTORid to log into the OGS application system.
  - If no UTORid yet and provided a JOINid, use JOINid (applicant will be able to view old submissions via UTORid).
  - If no UTORid or JOINid (i.e., admissions applicants), then create a BlueAccount.
BLUE ACCOUNT

• To create a BlueAccount, on the BlueAccount Login page select the link in Register “Here”

*Remember to note down your BlueAccount login credentials.

To view your OGS form created under BlueAccount, you will need to login with the same Email and Password via BlueAccount!
LANDING PAGE

• “My Forms”
CREATE AN APPLICATION

• In the left-hand side menu select “New Form”
NEW FORM PAGE – START A FORM

• Locate “Ontario Graduate Scholarship Award” box and select “Start Form+” button