

CEPS Graduate Funding Policy (effective for students starting in 2024-2025 academic year and later)

1) Guaranteed minimum graduate stipends for domestic students in thesis-based programs. Stipends can include graduate research assistantship (GRA), graduate teaching assistantship (GTA), Graduate Growth funds, as well as internal and external awards and scholarships (if secured), and the Competitive Matching Fund. However, please refer to clause (3) 'Awards and Scholarships Claw Backs' below.

- a) **Domestic PhD students starting in Fall '24 and beyond:** The minimum guaranteed stipend is \$25,000 per year for 4 years (unless a PhD program duration is shorter, as explicitly stated in the program description, in which case the guaranteed funding should be prorated to match the program duration).
- b) **Domestic MSc/MASc students in thesis-based programs starting in W '25 and beyond.** The minimum guaranteed stipend is \$20,000 per year for 2 years (unless a MSc/MASc program duration is shorter, as explicitly stated in the program description, in which case the minimum guaranteed funding should be prorated to match the program duration).

2) International students in thesis-based programs. It is recommended that the minimum guaranteed stipends specified above (or department/school enforced minimum stipends, whichever is greater) should be supplemented with the amounts compensating for international tuition difference.

- a) **In the case of PhD students,** this may be achieved using the **international doctoral tuition scholarship (IDTS)**, which is given for 4 years by OGPS, valued at 12,500 per year, as an indicator.
- b) **In the case of M. Sc. Students wishing to enroll in thesis programs at UoG, who completed/are completing a 4-year degree at the University of Guelph,** an **International Masters Tuition Scholarship (IMTS)** is also available in the amount of \$20,000 (\$3,333/semester for up to six semesters) for [thesis-based masters students](#) and \$6,000 (\$2,000/semester for up to three semesters) for [course-based masters students](#).
- c) **In the case of M. Sc. Students** who are not under category b) above, the supplemental amount recommended will be 10,000 per year for thesis-based students and 6,000 per year for course-based students.

3) Awards and Scholarships Claw Backs. Students who hold a major scholarship (e.g., Ontario Graduate Scholarship (or QEII Scholarship), a Tri-Council Graduate Scholarship, or

December 7, 2023

Trillium Scholarship) may have their stipends reduced accordingly. However, scholarship holders should receive at least \$2,000 more per year than the above-listed minimum stipends (or department/school enforced minimum stipends, whichever is greater) plus an additional \$1,000 per year for every \$5,000 of award. In this way, the financial benefit to the student should be commensurate with the size of the award. **Exceptions:** Regardless of College policy, there should not be any claw backs if the external award terms and conditions stipulate that it should be paid in full to the student (i.e., it is a 'top up'). Also, there should not be any claw backs on minor internal and external awards (such as Dean's Scholarship and other awards not exceeding \$5,000).

4) **Self-funded and foreign government/institutions-funded students.** Accepting self-funded students can be accomplished if the School/Department, in consultation with the Dean's Office, OGPS deem the self-funding source to be reliable. Foreign government/institutions-funded students can be accepted after evaluation of amount, duration, and security of their funding by the School/Department Graduate Admissions Committee, in compliance with national, provincial and university security risk assessment policies. However, even if the funding source is approved, the student's prospective supervisor will be solely responsible for ensuring that the minimum stipends specified above are met in the case that the student's funding situation changes.

Note: Minimum graduate funding levels for students enrolled in a co-op graduate program in a thesis-stream are currently being developed by the Department of Chemistry (in collaboration with ADRGS' office), as Chemistry is the sole provider of such programs at the University of Guelph. This policy document will be updated with this category once these guidelines are finalized.



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