



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO  
SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES

# SGS Award Announcement

**To:** Graduate Chairs/Directors; Graduate Coordinators; Graduate Administrators  
**From:** Pascal Papathanasakis, Graduate Awards Officer, Federal  
**CC:** Joshua Barker, Dean, School of Graduate Studies, and Vice-Provost, Graduate Research and Education; Charmaine Williams, Acting Vice-Dean, Students; Laura Stathopoulos, Director, Graduate Awards and Financial Aid  
**Date:** June 24, 2019  
**Re:** 2020 Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship (CIHR, NSERC, SSHRC)

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## Award Overview

<b>Student submission deadline:</b>	<b>Wednesday, August 28th, 2019 (online application submission)</b>
<b>Deadline for Referees (NEW):</b>	All <b>original official transcripts</b> mailed to Chau Dang, 101 College Street, PMCRT 15-707, Toronto, ON M5G 1L7
<b>Application goes offline for Applicants:</b>	Date set by applicant September 23, 2019 8:00 p.m.
<b>Graduate Unit Deadline to SGS:</b>	September 27, 2019
<b>Value/Duration:</b>	\$50,000 per year for three years
<b>Level of study:</b>	To support PhD, or combined MA/PhD or MD/PhD
<b>Required Legal Status:</b>	Domestic or International
<b>Results:</b>	Early April 2020 directly from Vanier

## Purpose:

The Vanier CGS program aims to attract and retain world-class doctoral students by supporting students who demonstrate both leadership skills and a high standard of scholarly achievement in graduate studies in social sciences and humanities, natural sciences and engineering, and health. The Vanier CGS program strongly encourages candidates to pursue their studies beyond the university that granted their previous degree(s).

## Eligibility to Apply:

Please refer applicants to the Vanier website for complete [eligibility requirements](#).

To be considered for a Vanier CGS, applicants must:

- be pursuing their **first** doctoral degree (or the PhD portion of a joint program including MD/PhD, JD/PhD) full-time at the nominating university in the academic year immediately following the of release of results in March;

- have completed no more than 20 months of doctoral studies as of May 1, 2020 (see [calculating months of doctoral studies](#));
- have achieved a first-class average (A-), in **each** of the last two years of full-time study or equivalent;
- have not already received a doctoral-level scholarship or fellowship from [CIHR](#), [SSHRC](#) or [NSERC](#) to undertake or complete a doctoral degree (or combined MA/PhD or MD/PhD); and
  - be nominated by only one Canadian university, which has received a [Vanier CGS allocation](#).

Note: Applicants may apply to both the Vanier CGS program and another doctoral-level scholarship/fellowship program (e.g. PGS D) under the same or different federal granting agency in the same academic year, provided that the research proposed in each application falls within the mandate of the federal granting agency to which the application is submitted.

## Nomination:

Applicants must be nominated by the institution at which they wish to study and hold the award. Applicants seeking institutional nomination must first receive the endorsement of their proposed graduate unit through a local selection process. Applicants seeking this endorsement must submit a completed Vanier CGS application using the [ResearchNet](#) application system. Graduate units will view the submitted applications from candidates seeking endorsement via ResearchNet.

[Nomination Letters](#) must be completed and **signed** by the **Department Head** nominating the candidate (see SGS Instructions to Administrators for guidelines on preparing this letter and candidate selection to be distributed in July).

## Application Process:

Applicants should refer to the Vanier website for step by step [application/nomination instructions](#). The ResearchNet application will only be accessible to applicants until the published ***Institution Internal Deadline*** of **Sept 23<sup>rd</sup> at 8pm**, at which time it will go offline.

Applicants must complete the entire application process by **August 28, 2019** to be eligible for consideration, this includes:

- contacting their proposed graduate unit regarding their specific student submission deadline and requirements;
- submitting a completed Vanier CGS application via [ResearchNet](#); and all original official transcripts **to Chau Dang, 101 College Street, PMCRT 15-707, Toronto, ON M5G 1L7. (Reminder: Institutions will be required to include an evaluation/summary of all foreign transcripts. In order to assist with this task, foreign transcripts submitted by the applicant should be accompanied by a grade legend.)**

Please note the following reminders:

- Students are strongly encouraged to complete the “Identify Referee” task on ResearchNet well in advance as referee assessments must be completed and submitted by the referee before the student can complete the submission by the graduate unit deadline (August 26, 2019). New this year, applicants will be able to determine individual deadlines for their referees on ResearchNet. As a result, there will no longer be a single deadline for all referees.
- Applicants are required to upload **two leadership reference letters** as separate PDF attachments under the same task (the ability to upload the second letter will appear after the first one has been uploaded). In addition, **two confidential academic assessments** will be requested and submitted through ResearchNet. Note: Vanier recommends that each of these come from four individuals but letters from the same sources will not be declared ineligible.
- All information about interruptions to a student’s academic career, choice of nominating institution, and mobility must be included either in the Personal Leadership Statement or the Research Proposal. The

“special circumstances” attachment is to be solely used for calculating the number of months completed in PhD studies by the Vanier Secretariat and is no longer be forwarded to the selection committee.

The students’ proposed research project and doctoral program of study must be eligible within the mandate of the agency to which the nomination will be submitted. If there is any doubt (especially for those applying to SSHRC or NSERC whose subject matter touches upon health in **any** capacity), students are urged to email the granting agency directly with a one page summary of their research to seek **written confirmation** in advance of submitting their application. Complete guidelines on selecting the appropriate federal granting agency are available at [www.science.gc.ca](http://www.science.gc.ca).

## Contacts & Resources:

Questions regarding the Vanier Awards competition can be directed to Vanier at [info@vanier.gc.ca](mailto:info@vanier.gc.ca), or the Graduate Awards Office at the School of Graduate Studies by emailing [p.papathanasakis@utoronto.ca](mailto:p.papathanasakis@utoronto.ca)

For more information visit:

[Vanier website](#)

[U of T Vanier website](#)