

**GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**  
**Scholarships & Awards Manual**

**Effective May 1, 2022**

FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND  
RESEARCH KILLAM CENTRE FOR ADVANCED  
STUDIES  
2-29 TRIFFO HALL  
[grad.awards@ualberta.ca](mailto:grad.awards@ualberta.ca)

Official version

## **Contents**

<b>Introduction</b>	<b>4</b>
Contact Awards Services:	4
Official Version	4
<b>Definitions</b>	<b>4</b>
Scholarships and Fellowships	5
Prizes and Medals	5
Awards	5
Graduate Scholarship Committee (GSC)	5
University Term	5
Criteria used to Determine Academic Standing	5
<b>Honorary Scholarships &amp; Fellowships</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<b>6</b>
Registration Status	6
Research Requirement	6
Graduate Certificate & Diploma Registrants	6
Ineligible Student Categories	7
Years in Program	7
<b>Payment of Tuition and Fees</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Concurrent Awards</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Employment While Holding an Award</b>	<b>7</b>
Devotion of Hours to Degree	7
Graduate Assistantships	8
External Granting Agencies	8
<b>Acceptance or Declination of Awards</b>	<b>8</b>
Acceptance Required for Payments	8
Acceptance or Declination Response Deadlines	8
Deferrals	8
<b>Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Award Renewals &amp; Progress Reports</b>	<b>9</b>
Initiating a Renewal	9
Renewal Eligibility	9
Additional Documents or Progress Reports	9

<b>Payment of Awards</b>	<b>9</b>
Tenure and Value	9
Payroll Deadlines	10
Direct Deposit	10
Payment Disbursement	10
Changes to Payment Disbursement	10
<b>Income Tax</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Changes Affecting A Student's Award</b>	<b>11</b>
Changes in Student Status	11
Repayment of Funds	11
Changes to Immigration Status	11
Prizes	12
Forgiveness Policy	12
Exceptions and Compelling Circumstances	12
<b>Program Completion and Awards</b>	<b>13</b>
Thesis-Based Programs	13
Course-Based Programs	13
<b>Additional Specific Regulations</b>	<b>13</b>
Izaak Walton Killam Memorial Scholarship	13
University of Alberta Graduate Recruitment Scholarship	14
Andrew Stewart Memorial Graduate Prize	14
University of Alberta Graduate Entrance Scholarship	15
Alberta Graduate Excellence Scholarship (AGES)	15
President's Doctoral Prize of Distinction (PDPD)	16
Walter H Johns (WHJ) Graduate Fellowship	16
FGSR Graduate Travel Awards	17
Departmental and Interdepartmental Awards	17
Friends of the University of Alberta Society Graduate Award	17
Special Awards	17

## 1. Introduction

The regulations in this manual apply if you have been selected to receive an award administered by the Graduate Scholarship Committee of the University of Alberta (UAlberta). This Manual is updated each year. The regulations and dollar amounts in this Manual are effective for **2022-23** awards and may change in subsequent years.

The information provided is based on the policies of the Graduate Scholarship Committee (GSC) and on the procedures used in the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) for the management of graduate awards.

The majority of the awards administered by the University of Alberta will be governed solely by the regulations published in this Manual. However, awards from other granting agencies may have published regulations that differ from, or are in addition to, those in this Manual.

For regulations regarding specific awards administered by the Graduate Scholarship Committee, please refer to [Section 15](#).

More information can be found at the [FGSR awards website](#).

If after reading this Manual you still have questions related to your University of Alberta graduate award, please contact Award Services.

### **Contact Awards Services:**

Email: [grad.awards@ualberta.ca](mailto:grad.awards@ualberta.ca)

Local Telephone number: 780-492-9460

\*Toll-free telephone number: 1-800-758-7136

### **Official Version**

Once a document has been published on the [FGSR website](#), the only official copy of that document is the online version. The material can be printed if necessary, but the printout should be considered an unofficial copy. Before using printed material in any capacity, users should always check the online system again to ensure that they have the latest version of the material.

Unless explicitly stated otherwise in the terms of reference or offer letter for your award, the following definitions and regulations will apply:

## 2. Definitions

Any Scholarships, Fellowships, Prizes, Medals or Awards administered by the Graduate Scholarship Committee of the University of Alberta will be referred to as "awards".

## **2.1 Scholarships and Fellowships**

Scholarships and Fellowships are intended to support future work and can only be awarded to students with first-class academic standing (equivalent to a grade point average of 3.5 or greater on the University of Alberta grading scale); additional selection criteria may be considered. Scholarships and Fellowships are awarded competitively. ALL graded courses (extra to degree, transfer credit, exchange) are included in GPA calculation.

## **2.2 Prizes and Medals**

Prizes and medals recognize past accomplishments and are not intended to support future work.

## **2.3 Awards**

Generally, awards are intended to support future work and are awarded competitively to students with satisfactory academic standing (equivalent to a grade point average of 3.0 or greater for awards offered to students newly admitted to a graduate degree program or a grade point average of 2.7 or greater for awards offered to students continuing in a graduate program); additional selection criteria may be considered, and may include financial need.

## **2.4 Graduate Scholarship Committee (GSC)**

A standing committee of the Council of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR), the GSC administers and adjudicates the various awards competitions, approves new awards, and develops policy for graduate awards managed by the University of Alberta. The information in this Handbook is based on policies approved by the Graduate Scholarship Committee. The GSC is chaired by the Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research or designate. More information on the GSC is posted on the FGSR website.

## **2.5 University Term**

"University Terms" means the three terms in the academic year (i.e., Fall Term (September 1 to December 31); Winter Term (January 1 to April 30); and Spring/Summer Term (May 1 to August 31)).

## **2.6 Criteria used to Determine Academic Standing**

[The University of Alberta Equity Diversity and Inclusion Strategic Plan](#) sets out a commitment to provide equitable access for students to scholarly opportunities and to address barriers to inclusion and success. Under this umbrella, the FGSR is committed to the equitable adjudication of all graduate scholarship applications. This is done by evaluating academic achievement in a manner appropriate to graduate students that

includes consideration not only of previous education, GPA and course work, but also research training, contribution and significance, and the impact of lived experiences on individuals and communities. The adjudication processes take into account graduate program types, a student's time in program, fundamental differences in approaches and contributions between research fields, and unique individual experiences that affect a student's success and the impact they have on society. The aim is to review graduate scholarship applications in a manner that is inclusive of all programs, research areas, and individuals and in so doing to remove barriers to diversity in our graduate student award recipients.

### **3. Honorary Scholarships & Fellowships**

Students are encouraged to accept external awards offered to them, as doing so will not adversely affect their University of Alberta award, unless otherwise stated in [Section 15](#). Some University of Alberta graduate awards can be held in some form together with specific external awards. In some cases, the University of Alberta award is then designated as being an Honorary award, and its value, if greater than the value of the external award, may be reduced by the value of the external award. See [Section 15](#) for the specifics. Honorary scholarships are noted on a students' transcript.

### **4. Eligibility**

#### **4.1 Registration Status**

- *Part-time*  
Part-time students are not typically eligible, unless specified in the terms of reference for the award. If a student is selected as the recipient of one of the limited number of department-specific awards for which part-time students are eligible, the student is required to register either part-time or full-time in each term for the duration of the award.
- *Full-time*  
Full-time students are required to be registered full-time in each Fall and Winter term.

#### **4.2 Research Requirement**

Unless otherwise indicated in the terms of reference or eligibility description for a scholarship, award or prize, applicants must be engaged in a graduate degree program with a significant, independent research component that results in a peer reviewed research output (for example a thesis, dissertation, publication, performance, recital, or exhibit) that is a required part of the graduate program.

#### **4.3 Graduate Certificate & Diploma Registrants**

Students registered in Graduate Certificate and Diploma programs are not typically eligible, unless specified in the terms of reference for the award. If a student is selected as the recipient of one of the limited number of awards for which Graduate

Certificate and Diploma students are eligible, the student is required to register in each term for the duration of the award.

#### **4.4 Ineligible Student Categories**

Qualifying students, special students, students on academic probation, and visiting students are not eligible to hold FGSR-administered awards, unless specified in the terms of reference for the award.

#### **4.5 Years in Program**

Unless otherwise stated in [Section 15](#) or specified in the terms of reference for the award, applicants registered in master's programs are eligible to hold awards during the first four years of their program. Applicants in doctoral programs are eligible to hold awards during the first six years of their program.

### **5. Payment of Tuition and Fees**

Unless otherwise stated in [Section 15](#), the students are responsible for paying their [tuition and related fees](#) directly to Financial Services. Tuition cannot be deducted from the award stipend.

### **6. Concurrent Awards**

- *University of Alberta Awards*

A student may hold any number of University of Alberta awards (unless specified in the terms of the award) concurrently and at full value, except for certain combinations of awards as noted in [Section 3](#) and [Section 15](#).

- *External Awards*

The Graduate Scholarship Committee does not limit the number or total value of external awards that a student may hold. However, the external agencies for these awards may have their own restrictions. A student should consult the external agencies directly for their policies.

### **7. Employment While Holding an Award**

#### **7.1 Devotion of Hours to Degree**

A student is expected to devote most of their working time to completion of their graduate degree. Before accepting employment, for example, a graduate assistantship, first a student should discuss this action with, and receive consent from, the supervisor and department to ensure the total workload is compatible with the expected activities as a full-time graduate student and award holder. Graduate students who work under the [CAST agreement](#) are treated as graduate assistants for matters related to awards.

## **7.2 Graduate Assistantships**

If a student accepts awards from any source, and the regulations for the award(s) and the department permit, the student may hold a graduate (teaching or research) assistantship at any point in the duration of the award(s) (please also refer to Sections [7.1](#) and [7.3](#)). Certain University of Alberta awards stipulate or restrict the graduate assistantship duties a student may perform. No decisions regarding assistantship appointments or their payment are made by FGSR; Students are advised to contact their department or [Human Resource Services](#) with questions. For additional information contact the Graduate Student Association (GSA).

## **7.3 External Granting Agencies**

External granting agencies may restrict the number of hours of employment permitted. Students should consult the external agencies directly for their policies in this regard. Accepting or Declining an Award

# **8. Acceptance or Declination of Awards**

## **8.1 Acceptance Required for Payments**

Unless a student is offered an award that does not require acceptance, the student is required to accept the award offered in order to receive payments. To view the status of the award offer, the student should login to the Awards GSMS Portal. Instructions are available on [FGSR's website](#).

## **8.2 Acceptance or Declination Response Deadlines**

A status of "Offer Made" will be present in the online Award Applications panel if an offer has been made to the applicant. The applicant may accept or decline the offer online after reviewing the status letter and this Manual. The letter of offer includes a deadline for acceptance/declination (30 days from the date of the letter of offer). If FGSR does not hear from the applicant by the date stipulated in that letter, the award cannot be guaranteed beyond the deadline and it may be offered to another eligible student.

## **8.3 Deferrals**

If an applicant accepts an award but wishes to defer the date the award begins due to a program deferral or approved leave of absence, the applicant must notify FGSR Award Services and the graduate department with the details of the specific case. These situations are dealt with on a case-by-case basis and the offer may be subject to expiration. To notify FGSR Award Services directly, the applicant may email ([grad.awards@ualberta.ca](mailto:grad.awards@ualberta.ca)), phone, or send a message through the online Awards GSMS Portal by selecting the relevant award and clicking the Action "Send Request".



## **9. Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act**

Acceptance of an award administered through the FGSR indicates that the applicant understands that certain elements of the personal information may be shared for publicity or reporting purposes with the broader University community, the public (e.g. the University website) or certain agencies. Any collection or sharing of information is conducted under the authority of Section 33(c) of Alberta's FOIP Act for authorized purposes including admission and registration; administration of records, scholarships and awards, student services; and university planning and research. Students' personal information may be disclosed to academic and administrative units according to university policy, federal and provincial reporting requirements, data sharing agreements with student governance associations, and to contracted or public health care providers as required. For details on the use and disclosure of this information call the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research at 780-492-3499 or see <http://www.ipc.ualberta.ca/>

## **10. Award Renewals & Progress Reports**

### **10.1 Initiating a Renewal**

If the graduate award is renewable and to ensure there is no disruption to a student's payments, it is the student's responsibility to initiate payment for the renewal year by logging into the Awards GSMS Portal at least 6 weeks before the start of the renewal year (instructions are available on FGSR's website). Any awards with the status "Awaiting Renewal" will be present in the online My Awards panel. If eligible for renewal, authorization will be provided by the FGSR and may include changes to the award value, status or duration.

### **10.2 Renewal Eligibility**

To be eligible for renewal of a graduate scholarship, First Class academic standing (equivalent to a grade point average of 3.5 or greater) must be maintained, unless the terms of reference for the specific award indicate otherwise. All courses (extra to degree, transfer credit, exchange) are included in GPA calculation.

To be eligible for renewal of a graduate award, satisfactory academic standing (equivalent to 3.0) must be maintained, unless the terms of reference for the specific award indicate otherwise. All courses (extra to degree, transfer credit, exchange) are included in GPA calculation.

### **10.3 Additional Documents or Progress Reports**

Renewals may require additional documentation or progress reports as required by the terms of the award. Applicants are asked to follow all instructions on the GSMS website to ensure they have submitted all the required documentation.

## 11. Payment of Awards

### 11.1 Tenure and Value

The duration and value of an award are outlined in the letter of offer, available in the GSMS Awards Portal.

### 11.2 Payroll Deadlines

In order to ensure timely payment, acceptance must be received in FGSR well before the payroll deadline date of the relevant semi-monthly pay period, as defined by Payroll Operations, in which award payments are expected to begin ( see the Payroll Operations [payment schedule](#) for details on pay dates).

### 11.3 Direct Deposit

Payment of awards is processed by direct deposit to the applicant's personal Canadian bank account. The applicant must set up direct deposit in order to receive payment. Applicants can set up and manage their [Direct Deposit on-line](#) in [BearTracks](#). Additional information is available on the [Human Resource Services](#) website.

### 11.4 Payment Disbursement

Award payments are made in arrears:

- Awards valued up to and including \$6,000 are paid in a one-time payment, within the time frame noted on the offer letter.
- Awards valued over \$6,000 up to and including \$11,999.99 are typically paid in two equal lump sums, usually at the beginning of each of two successive university terms, after confirmation of full-time registration (if required). Such awards may have their second installment canceled after the first term, if the requirements of the award are no longer met.
- Awards valued at \$12,000 and over will be paid in equal semi-monthly installments in accordance with [Payroll Operations'](#) semi-monthly pay dates over a 12 month period. Such awards may have their remaining instalments canceled if the requirements of the award are no longer met.
- Some awards payments may not follow the schedule outlined above for reasons which may include specific payment structure dictated by an external agency. Students are encouraged to check [Section 15](#) for additional regulations, and/or review the terms of reference of the award.

### 11.5 Changes to Payment Disbursement

It is not possible to change the method and timing of payments. As noted in [Section 5](#),

unless otherwise stated in [Section 15](#), the student is responsible for paying his/her tuition and related fees directly to Financial Services. A student's tuition cannot be deducted from the award stipend.

## **12. Income Tax**

Currently, most awards income is non-taxable, though the [Canada Revenue Agency](#) regulations and Income Tax Act are subject to change at any time; students are to contact the CRA with questions about any income tax payable from award income (CRA Individual income tax enquiries: 1-800-959-8281).

## **13. Changes Affecting A Student's Award**

It is the students' responsibility to notify FGSR in writing ([grad.awards@ualberta.ca](mailto:grad.awards@ualberta.ca)) or through the FGSR Awards GSMS Portal of any changes that will affect their registration, immigration, student or employment status, or affect the assessment of the international differential fee. Depending on the situation, the value of the award may be prorated or the award may be terminated.

### **13.1 Changes in Student Status**

If a change to the student status makes the student ineligible to hold all or some specific portion of the award, any award funding that the student is ineligible to hold will be terminated on the date the change to the program is effective. A student may be required to repay all, or a portion of, the award stipend (including any tuition and fees paid on the student's behalf). Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the guidelines of our "Forgiveness Policy" ([Section 13.5](#)). Changes affecting an award may include:

- Being placed on academic probation;
- Withdrawing from the program, being required to withdraw;
- Change in registration from full-time to part-time status;
- Change in program;
- Not being registered;
- Accepting another award that precludes holding concurrent awards;
- Change in employment status

### **13.2 Repayment of Funds**

If for any reason a student continues to accept award funds in excess of amounts forgiven under [Section 13.5](#) after they become ineligible for the award, or if the value of the award is prorated, the student will be required to reimburse the University of Alberta.

### **13.3 Changes to Immigration Status**

If the student's immigration status changes and the student is no longer required to pay the international differential fee, or if the student holds an award that provides payment of [tuition and fees](#), the student may be required to repay all or a portion of the tuition and fees paid on the student's behalf or any payments the student has received for a tuition and fees component.

#### **13.4 Prizes**

Prizes are awarded in recognition of past accomplishments. With the exception of the President's Doctoral Prize of Distinction (PDPD – see [Section 15.6](#)), a student will not be required to return any portion of the prize monies received should the student's enrolment status change.

#### **13.5 Forgiveness Policy**

In the event of a change to the student's status affecting the student's eligibility to hold an award, and unless otherwise stipulated by an external funding agency or by the terms of reference of an award, FGSR will not pursue a refund of award monies paid to the following situations:

- For an award valued at or under \$6,000, FGSR will not pursue a refund of award monies paid to the student.
- For awards valued over \$6,000 up to and including \$11,999.99, if the student has been paid for a university term in which the student registered, then FGSR will not pursue a refund of award monies paid to the student, but will withhold the second half of the award if the student does not register for the following university term.
- For awards valued at \$12,000 and over, FGSR will terminate semi-monthly installments based on the date the status change is effective.

This policy is enforced at the sole discretion of FGSR and may change at any time, without notice

#### **13.6 Exceptions and Compelling Circumstances**

Under certain compelling circumstances, exceptions to the rules in this Section may be approved by the Dean, FGSR (or designate). Compelling circumstances include unanticipated events unrelated to the academic program that could not have been avoided, such as medical emergencies, compassionate leave, or unique program requirements. The department should submit a written request to FGSR Award Services at [grad.awards@ualberta.ca](mailto:grad.awards@ualberta.ca).

## 14. Program Completion and Awards

### 14.1 Thesis-Based Programs

For thesis-based programs, payment of awards will be terminated:

- For awards paid semi-monthly - at the end of the month following the month in which FGSR receives the Thesis Approval/Program Completion form. Tri-Council Awards will be terminated due to the completion of degree requirements. FGSR will follow Tri-Council regulations and FGSR's end-of-program registration deadlines re: submission of the Thesis Approval/Program Completion form to terminate Tri-Council award payments.
- For awards paid in one or two installments - the installment will be canceled if there is no registration in the university term in which it was scheduled to be paid.

### 14.2 Course-Based Programs

For course-based programs, payment of awards will be terminated at the end of the month following the month in which FGSR receives the Report of Completion of Course-based Master's Degree form. If a student has completed all coursework and is not required to register in a Fall/Winter term in which the student holds an award, the student may be allowed to continue holding the award if FGSR receives a confirmation from your department that the student is working on their program while not registered. Tri-Council Awards will be terminated due to the completion of degree requirements. FGSR will follow Tri-Council regulations and FGSR's end-of-program registration deadlines.

## 15. Additional Specific Regulations

### 15.1 Izaak Walton Killam Memorial Scholarship

**15.1.1** The scholarship is offered to students registered full-time in a doctoral program. The award may begin either May 1st or September 1st. The award is valued at \$45,000 for 12 months and it is renewable for a second 12-month period provided all renewal conditions, including first-class standing are met (refer to [Section 2.1](#)).

**15.1.2** Students are responsible for payment of their [tuition and fees](#). However, the scholarship will cover the International Graduate Student Differential Fee associated with full-time registration, if applicable. The differential fee, if applicable, will be paid directly to [Financial Services](#) on their behalf. If a student's immigration status changes and they are no longer required to pay the differential fee, any inapplicable portion of the international differential fee paid on the student's behalf must be returned to the University of Alberta.

**15.1.3** A student may hold any number of University of Alberta awards concurrently with the Izaak Walton Killam Memorial Scholarship.

**15.1.4** If a student wins an external scholarship, the student is required to accept the external award, and to inform FGSR of their offer. The Izaak Walton Killam Memorial Scholarship might then become Honorary (see [Section 3](#) for details). The Honorary Killam Scholarship is renewable for a second year (subject to the conditions outlined in [Section 9](#)), and the student must complete a renewal request online through the Awards GSMS Portal and submit it to the FGSR for a renewal to be activated (see [Section 9.1](#) for details). A full-value Killam Scholarship is available in the renewal year (subject to the conditions outlined in [Section 9](#)) should the external award not be available for a second year.

**15.1.5** Before commencing the Killam Scholarship, a student may defer it for up to a maximum of one year, but only for reasons of maternity, child rearing, illness, or health-related family responsibilities. A student may not defer their award in order to take up another award, or to accept or hold employment, or to pursue studies other than those for which the student received funding. The student must request the deferral as soon as possible **but no later than one month after** the scheduled start date of the award. The student must be on an approved leave of absence from the program to be eligible for the deferral.

## **15.2 University of Alberta Graduate Recruitment Scholarship**

**15.2.1** The scholarship is offered to University of Alberta applicants who will be registered full-time in a thesis program after the offer of the award. The award commences in the first term of registration. The award value and duration vary. Additional program-specific conditions may also apply.

**15.2.2** Students are responsible for payment of their [tuition and fees](#).

**15.2.3** Students are strongly encouraged to apply for a scholarship from one of the [Tri-Council agencies](#) (CIHR, NSERC, or SSHRC), if eligible. The expectation is that students will also apply for all other scholarships for which they are qualified during the duration of the Recruitment Scholarship.

**15.2.4** Students may hold any number of FGSR-administered University of Alberta awards concurrently with a Recruitment Scholarship.

**15.2.5** If a student wins an external or non-FGSR administered award, the student will retain the University of Alberta Recruitment Scholarship unless prohibited by non-FGSR external funding regulations.

## **15.3 Andrew Stewart Memorial Graduate Prize**

**15.3.1** This prize is valued at \$5,000 and is available to full-time doctoral

students who have completed two or more years of their doctoral program and are actively engaged in thesis research at the time of the award offering.

**15.3.2** A student may hold any number of awards concurrently with an Andrew Stewart Memorial Graduate Prize.

#### **15.4 University of Alberta Graduate Entrance Scholarship**

**15.4.1** The Graduate Entrance Scholarship is offered to University of Alberta applicants who will be registered full-time in a doctoral and master's degree program. The award is valued at \$17,500 for master's and \$21,000 for doctoral and it may commence September 1<sup>st</sup> or January 1<sup>st</sup>. The scholarship is not renewable.

**15.4.2** A student may hold any number of University of Alberta awards concurrently with this scholarship, however the student cannot hold the Tri-Council Top-up awards including the Walter H Johns Graduate Fellowship, the President's Doctoral Prize of Distinction, and the Graduate Entrance Scholarship tuition fees top up at the same time.

**15.4.3** If the student is awarded and accepts an external award, the student must inform FGSR about the external award offer. The University of Alberta Graduate Entrance Scholarship may become Honorary. If the tuition and fees are covered by another award, whether external or from University of Alberta, tuition and fees will not be covered by the Graduate Entrance Scholarship.

**15.4.4** This scholarship will also receive a top up amount applied directly to tuition and fees. Any tuition and fees above and beyond the top up are the responsibility of the student to pay.

#### **15.5 Alberta Graduate Excellence Scholarship (AGES)**

**15.5.1** The Alberta Graduate Excellence Scholarships (AGES) recognize outstanding academic achievement of students pursuing graduate studies in Alberta. Students must be registered full-time in a course-based Master's degree program or thesis-based Master's or Doctoral degree program, a Master's degree program or a graduate level credential program that can ladder into a Master's degree program, approved by the Minister of Advanced Education.

**15.5.2** The full-value of the AGES will be paid in one lump sum before March 31. Note that the payment schedule for this award differs from the standard schedule as outlined in [Section 10](#).

**15.5.3** Students are responsible for payment of your [tuition and fees](#).

**15.5.4** Students may concurrently hold any number of University of Alberta awards with the AGES. This scholarship is not renewable, but

the student's department may nominate the same student for a new award in each year during which the student meets the eligibility requirements.

**15.5.5** Indigenous students may apply for the AGES through the Faculty/Department that they reside in or directly to the FGSR. A student may only hold one AGES in a given academic year.

## **15.6 President's Doctoral Prize of Distinction (PDPD)**

**15.6.1** This prize is awarded to students registered full-time in a doctoral degree program who have won one or more of a [specific list of external doctoral-level scholarships](#). In 2022-23 the prize is valued at \$10,000 for the first year that the student holds the eligible external award. If there are subsequent years that a student holds the eligible external award, the PDPD has a value equal to that of the Walter H Johns Graduate Fellowship (see [Section 15.7](#)).

**15.6.2** Students cannot receive PDPD payments in those terms in which they do not receive payments from their eligible external award.

**15.6.3** This prize is awarded automatically. No additional application is required.

**15.6.4** Students are responsible for payment of their tuition and fees, including the international differential fee, if applicable.

**15.6.5** Recipients of [eligible scholarships](#) will be awarded the President's Doctoral Prize of Distinction (PDPD). Recipients of eligible NSERC, SSHRC, CIHR, Vanier, or Trudeau Foundation Awards should forward their Notification of Award, and their email accepting that award, 6 weeks in advance of their start date, to FGSR AwardServices via email at [grad.awards@ualberta.ca](mailto:grad.awards@ualberta.ca).

**15.6.6** The PDPD will be paid upon receipt of the required external Acceptance Form(s). Refer to the external award's website for the external acceptance form.

**15.6.7** Renewal of the PDPD is contingent upon the successful renewal of the eligible scholarships. Refer to Section 9 for more information.

**15.6.8** As long as the student continues to hold the eligible external doctoral-level scholarship, the student can continue to receive payments beyond regular eligibility as identified in [Section 4.5](#).

**15.6.9** This funding is not guaranteed, and is subject to availability each year.

## **15.7 Walter H Johns (WHJ) Graduate Fellowship**

**15.7.1** This fellowship is awarded to students registered full-time in a



graduate degree program who hold eligible Tri-Council master's-level scholarships. Students are to contact FGSR Award Services at [grad.awards@ualberta.ca](mailto:grad.awards@ualberta.ca) for the current value.

**15.7.2** A student cannot receive WHJ payments in those terms in which the student does not receive payments from the [eligible external award](#).

**15.7.3** Students are responsible for payment of their [tuition and fees](#).

**15.7.4** Recipients of eligible scholarships will be awarded the WHJ upon receipt of the Graduate Award Acceptance Form of the eligible Tri-Council scholarship. The student needs to manually accept this award through GSMS.

**15.7.5** This funding is not guaranteed, and is subject to availability each year.

## **15.8 FGSR Graduate Travel Awards**

Detailed regulations are on the [FGSR website](#). A student is not required to manually accept this award. It will be automatically paid to the student following the offer.

## **15.9 Departmental and Interdepartmental Awards**

GPA for departmental and interdepartmental awards are calculated using a minimum of 15 credits in the current program. If there are less than 15 credits, the Admission Grade Point Average (AGPA) is used in combination with the current program. If there is no graded coursework, the AGPA of the current program (or newly admitted program) will be used. NOTE: The Terms of Reference will always supersede this calculation.

## **15.10 Friends of the University of Alberta Society Graduate Award**

This fee based award will directly pay up to \$5,000.00 of tuition. Any funds not used are returned to the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research.

## **15.11 Special Awards**

At the discretion of FGSR, special awards may be created with additional funding that may not follow payment or eligibility requirements of the awards outlined in this document. These awards are often one-time awards with no renewals and are not guaranteed to exist past the year given.