

Funding Opportunity Details

Program Name Master's Award: 2010-2011
(Frederick Banting and Charles Best Canada Graduate Scholarships - Master's Award)

Program Launch Date 2010-06-24

Important Dates

Competition	201102GSM
Application Deadline	2011-02-01
Anticipated Notice of Decision	2011-07-15
Funding Start Date	2011-09-01

Notices

The content of this funding opportunity has been updated

Date updated: 2010-09-23

Section updated: How to Apply

Date updated: 2010-09-02

Section updated: How to Apply

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Description

The Canada Graduate Scholarships Master's Awards administered by CIHR are intended to provide special recognition and support to students who are pursuing a Master's degree in a health related field in Canada. These candidates are expected to have an exceptionally high potential for future research achievement and productivity.

Funds Available

CIHR's and partner contribution to the amount available for this initiative is subject to availability of funds. Should CIHR or partner funding levels not be available or are decreased due to unforeseen circumstances, CIHR and partner reserve the right to [defer or suspend payments](#) to grants received as a result of this funding opportunity.

Applications are invited in all areas of health research.

For this competition, applications will be accepted in all areas of health research.

- \$1,750,000 per annum over 1 year will be available through the current funding opportunity, enough to fund approximately 100 awards.
- The maximum amount awarded for a single award is \$17,500 for up to one year:
 - Trainee stipend: \$17,500 per annum.

- This award is non-renewable.

Funds Available for Specific Research Areas

Funds are also available for this competition to support Master's Award applications in specific research areas:

- [Master's Award: Winter 2011 Priority Announcement \(Specific Research Areas\)](#)

Partner Participation

CIHR is dedicated to identifying and developing collaborations with other funding organizations and stakeholders to enhance the availability of funding for this strategic initiative, and to create, where appropriate, opportunities for knowledge exchange and translation related to the scope of this particular initiative. Applicants are invited to visit the [Partner Description section](#) to find a list of partners/collaborators and their respective mandates and/or strategic interests. This list will continue to evolve as new partners/collaborators join in this initiative. The specific research foci and requirements for each partner/collaborator are outlined in the "Objectives" section.

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Objectives

The objective of the Government of Canada's Canada Graduate Scholarships program is to help ensure a reliable supply of highly qualified personnel to meet the needs of Canada's knowledge economy.

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Eligibility

Eligibility criteria for all CIHR research funding programs apply. The business office of the institution of an eligible Nominated Principal Applicant generally administers CIHR funds. Please refer to the [Individual Eligibility Requirements](#) regarding the eligibility requirements for individuals and institutions.

Eligibility to Apply:

In order for your application to be eligible:

1. The Nominated Principal Applicant must be:
 - a. A [Trainee](#)
 - b. a Canadian citizen or a permanent resident;
 - c. applying for support to pursue their **first** graduate degree (i.e., Master's or PhD). All previous studies at the graduate level, regardless of discipline, either course-based or research-based, will be included in determining eligibility; and
 - d. at the time of the CIHR deadline for application (February 1, 2011):
 - i. have completed or be in the last year of a Bachelor's degree; or
 - ii. have been registered for no more than ten months as a full-time student at the Master's level; and/or
 - iii. have been registered for no more than ten months as a full-time PhD student and were admitted to the PhD program directly from the Bachelor's degree;
 - e. not have already held an award from SSHRC, NSERC, CIHR or any other federal source to undertake and/or complete a Master's or PhD degree.
2. If applicable, at least one project participant, other than the Nominated Principal Applicant, must be a [Supervisor](#).

Persons with a health professional degree who seek support for Master's or PhD research training may be eligible to apply to this program, but should also consult the guidelines for the [CIHR Fellowship award program](#). Those eligible for both have the option of applying to either program but not to both in the same year (i.e., September through August). Please note that a person holding a health professional degree would receive a higher stipend only through

the CIHR Fellowship award program.

All studies at the master's level will be considered in the evaluation of eligibility; For example, two months of part-time or special student status study will be counted as one month of full-time study.

The maximum duration of award funding from all federal sources to undertake graduate studies is four years, including a maximum one (1) year at the Master's level. The only exception is in the case of a Health Professional funded through the CIHR Fellowship award program.

Individuals eligible to apply to the [Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships program](#) may submit an application to both programs. This is the only exception where an individual may submit two applications in the same year (i.e. September through August).

Randomized Controlled Trials:

Applications involving Randomized Controlled Trials (RCTs) are accepted and encouraged where appropriate based on scientific and methodological grounds.

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Guidelines

General CIHR Guidelines

This funding opportunity will comply fully with the [policies and guidelines outlined in the CIHR Grants and Awards Guide](#). Applicants are encouraged to demonstrate the use of [Gender and Sex-Based Analysis](#) in applications.

Allowable Costs

The award consists of a stipend.

Global Health Research and International Collaborations

As outlined in the CIHR Grants and Awards Guide [Global Health Research Section](#) and [International Collaborations Section](#), applicants who are eligible for CIHR funding may apply to CIHR's funding opportunities for funds to support research to be carried out in, or in direct collaboration with researchers and/or decision-makers based in, other countries. CIHR contributes to, and supports international research projects and international collaborations to address a range of research areas, including but *not* limited to established priorities in [global health research](#) and contributes to the development of health-research capacity both internationally and at home.

Conditions of Funding

Successful applicants funded through this funding opportunity and any other persons working on the project must comply fully with the "[policies and guidelines in the conduct of research](#)". Policies and guidelines cover areas such as Applicant Responsibilities, Official languages policy, Access to Information and Privacy Acts, and Acknowledgement of CIHR's Support. Successful applicants will be informed of any special financial requirements prior to the release of funds or when they receive CIHR's Authorization for Funding (AFF) document.

Eligibility to Hold an Award

In addition to CIHR standard guidelines and requirements, the following special requirements shall apply:

- Successful candidates must be registered full-time in the first or second year of a Master's or PhD program in which research is a major component (awards will not take effect until after proof of registration is received); and
- Successful candidates must not have already held, or hold, an award from SSHRC, NSERC, CIHR or any other federal source to undertake and/or complete a Master's or PhD degree.
- Awards must be taken up within six months of the date of offer and must start September 1 or January 1 following the offer of award.
- **Awards must be accepted within 15 working days of the date of offer or the award will be cancelled and offered to the next fundable applicant.** Note: This requirement supersedes all other policies or

guidelines published by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, including, but not limited to, the Grants and Awards Guide.

Access to Information Act and Privacy Act, and the Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA)

All personal information collected by CIHR about applicants is used to review applications, to recruit reviewers, to administer and monitor grants and awards, to compile statistics, and to promote and support health research in Canada. Consistent with these purposes, applicants should also expect that information collected by CIHR may be shared as described in CIHR's [Policy on Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality in the context of Merit, Relevance and Peer Review](#) (CCIP).

CIHR as a federal entity is subject to the *Access to Information Act* and the *Privacy Act*, therefore the requirements of these two statutes will apply to all information located in CIHR's premises including, without limitation, cost-sharing agreements related to this funding opportunity and all matters pertaining thereto.

While respecting the application of the *Privacy Act* to federal entities, all signing parties involved in a collaborative agreement will also be bound by the *Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act* (PIPEDA). All personal information (as identified by the PIPEDA) collected, used or disclosed in the course of any commercial activity under collaborative agreements related to the Funding opportunity will be collected, used and disclosed in compliance with the PIPEDA.

CIHR Guidelines for Health Research Involving Aboriginal People

The [CIHR Guidelines for Health Research Involving Aboriginal People](#) came into effect as policy for CIHR-funded research on July 1, 2008. Applicants whose proposed research will involve Aboriginal People are strongly encouraged to familiarise themselves with these guidelines and in particular with the section "Application of the Guidelines," which outlines the situations in which these guidelines apply.

Communication Requirements

Award recipients are required to acknowledge CIHR, its institutes and partners in any communication or publication related to the project. See [Communication of Competition Results](#) for details on CIHR's communication requirements. The contributing institutes/partners will be identified on the Authorization for Funding and decision letter.

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Performance Measurement

CIHR is committed to collecting and disseminating information on the outputs and impacts of the research it funds. This information is an important part of CIHR accountability within the Federal Government and to Canadians.

- **End of award reports:** Funding recipients may be required to complete an End of Award report within two months of termination of the award. Details regarding this report will be communicated to the recipients when the funds are released.
- The funding recipient must contribute to the monitoring, review and evaluation of CIHR's programs, policies and processes by participating in evaluation studies, surveys, workshops, audits and providing data or reports as required for the purpose of collecting information to assess progress and results.
- The Nominated Principal Applicant must also encourage their associates, trainees and administration to participate in the monitoring, review and evaluation of CIHR's programs, policies and processes as required.

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Review Process and Evaluation

Review Committee

A CIHR review committee will evaluate the full applications. The committee may be drawn from one of CIHR's pre-existing committees or may be created specifically for this funding opportunity. Committee members are selected based on suggestions from many sources including the institute(s) / branch(es) and partner(s), following CIHR's [Policy on Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality in the context of Merit, Relevance and Peer Review](#) (CCIP). For information on CIHR's peer review process in general, see the [Understand Peer Review](#) section of CIHR's website.

Evaluation Criteria

Master's Awards are reviewed in accordance with the [Guide for Reviewers – CIHR Master's Award](#).

The following general criteria for evaluating training award applications will be used:

- Achievements and Activities of the Candidate
- Characteristics and Abilities of the Candidate
- Research Training Environment

Funding Decision:

Upon completion of peer review, we will generate a ranking list, ratings and recommendations. The list will be used for funding decision-making purposes and will remain anonymous unless applicants have provided written consent to share nominative information.

Applications will be funded from the top down in order of ranking as far as budgets will allow.

Applications that receive a rating below 3.5 will not be funded.

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How to Apply

- The application process for this funding opportunity is comprised of one step: Application.
- To complete your Application, follow the instructions identified in the [Master's Awards - ResearchNet "Application" Phase Instructions](#).
- An overview of CIHR's application processes can be found under [Apply for Funding](#).
- **Reminder to applicants:** Please ensure that your application is [complete](#) (including all required signatures) and submitted on time to CIHR. Effective September 1, 2008, CIHR will assume no responsibility in following-up with applicants who submit an incomplete application. Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted into the competition.

Submission Requirements

- Your Application will be submitted using [ResearchNet](#). Scan and upload the signed signature pages including the routing slip in the Print/Upload Signature Pages task in ResearchNet prior to submitting your application.
- **New:** The required Official Transcripts* (including Undergraduate & Graduate transcripts and transcripts from the fall session prior to the CIHR deadline) must be provided in one of the following ways:
 - 1) Scan both sides of all the required transcripts as a single .pdf document (not to exceed 30 Mb) and attach it under "Transcripts" in the "Attach Other Application Materials" task;

OR

- 2) Upload a document (1 page maximum) under "Transcripts" in the "Attach Other Application Materials" task indicating that the transcripts are being sent via courier, and explaining why they could not be transmitted electronically. Transcripts must be courier stamped no later than the application deadline date and sent to:

RE: CIHR Masters Awards
Canadian Institutes of Health Research
Room 97, 160 Elgin Street
Address locator: 4809A
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0W9

* CIHR considers transcripts issued by the Registrar's Office to the student to be official transcripts. Opening the envelope to scan the transcript will not render it unofficial for CIHR's purposes. (Updated: 2010-09-23)

Specific Instructions:

- There are two methods of applying for this opportunity, Through a Canadian Institution or Directly to CIHR. **You must apply using the correct method for your application to be eligible:**
 - Through the Canadian institution at which the candidate will be registered* during the Fall semester prior to the CIHR deadline.
 - (*I.E.: registered in any level course, or in any other capacity; for example, part-time, full-time, one course only, course not related to the master's program, or special student, etc.)
 - **Deadlines are set by the university; please contact them for deadlines, as a pre-selection process may be held at the university level.** CIHR will provide each eligible Canadian institution an allocated number of submissions allowed by that institution.
 - Institutions must submit their applications to CIHR no later than **February 1, 2011** for them to be considered in the competition.
 - Directly to CIHR, for candidates who will not be registered at a Canadian institution during the Fall semester prior to the CIHR deadline.

Updates to applications

In order to ensure fairness in the evaluation of the Master's Award applications, equivalent time must be guaranteed for each reviewer to assess each complete application. As a result, CIHR will accept specific updates to applications (notices of acceptance of publications and notices of any other funding requested or received only) for one month after the CIHR deadline date, until **March 1, 2011**. (Updated: 2010-09-02)

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Contact Information

For questions on CIHR funding guidelines, how to apply, and the peer review process contact:

CGS - Master's Award Program Delivery Coordinator
Research Capacity Development
Canadian Institutes of Health Research
Telephone: 613-954-1968
Toll-free: 1-888-603-4178
Fax: 613-954-1800
Email: CGSMA@cihr-irsc.gc.ca

If you are experiencing technical difficulties with your ResearchNet account or the e-Submission process contact:

CIHR ResearchNet Support

Canadian Institutes of Health Research
Telephone: 613-941-9080
Email: support@researchnet-recherchenet.ca

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