

Schulich School of Engineering

Minimum Funding Policy for all MSc and Ph.D. programs

Approved December 06, 2022

Note: The graduate funding levels indicated in this document are the minimum amounts; financial support to individual students may exceed these amounts. The purpose of funding thesis-based students is to provide financial support to individuals pursuing their studies full-time and in the absence of significant outside work. Working professionals may not be eligible for stipend support from their supervisors or program funding and are encouraged to pursue the self-funding option.

1. This SSE policy pertains to full-time graduate students registered in either MSc or Ph.D. program at the Schulich School of Engineering. It does not apply to MEng students.
2. The minimum funding will be guaranteed for 2 years for MSc students and 4 years for Ph.D. students, as long as the student is in good standing (section H.2 of the graduate calendar), meets the supervisor's reasonable expectations and maintains satisfactory progress in the program (section H.3 of the graduate calendar).
3. Wherever there is a conflict between this SSE policy and the Faculty of Graduate Studies – Graduate Student Funding Operating Standard, the latter will prevail.
4. All fully-funded domestic MSc and Ph.D. students will receive a minimum funding of \$23,300 per annum. All fully funded international MSc and Ph.D. students will receive a minimum funding of \$25,000 per annum. The International Graduate Tuition Assistance (IGTA) provided by FGS do not form part of the minimum funding.
5. The following count towards meeting the student's guaranteed minimum funding:
 - Stipend from supervisor's research grant
 - Up to two ¼ units (or equivalent) of Graduate Teaching Assistantships (GATs) per year
 - Any departmental, SSE, FGS, or university funds that are not given as an award, scholarship, or fellowship on a competitive basis directly to a student
6. Additional GATs (beyond the two ¼ unit GATs per year) may be awarded by Departments/Centers based on the needs of a Department/Center. These will be paid additionally and will not count toward the guaranteed minimum funding.
7. Graduate students during the first 2 years of an MSc program or during the first 4 years of a Ph.D. program will have priority for TA assignments.
8. Students are encouraged to apply for awards and scholarships. Awards and scholarships are defined as those to which a student applies on their own in Canada and wins in a competitive environment. Departmental support, assistantships through supervisor's grants, and support that the supervisor may have procured to advance their research, do not qualify as scholarship in this policy. If a student wins an award or scholarship, their funding will be affected in the following way:
 - \$0 - \$ 3,000 per annum (cumulative awards): The student receives the award(s) in addition to the guaranteed minimum funding
 - \$ 3,000 - \$ 33,000 per annum (cumulative awards): The student receives the award(s), but the guaranteed minimum funding is prorated, based on the following formula:

Domestic Students: Total Student Support (including awards) = 23,300 + [3000+ 0.3*(award amount-3000)]

International Students: Total Student Support (including awards) = 25,000 + [3000+ 0.3*(award amount-3000)]

- > \$ 33,000 per annum: The student receives the award(s), but is not guaranteed any additional minimum funding
- Exclusions: TOR for specific scholarships/awards where there is a minimum contribution required from the supervisor/department.

9. Students are responsible for paying tuition and fees annually.

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/grad/current/gs-fees-expenses.html>

Students with funding from university sources can apply for a payment plan.

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/finances/tuition-fees/graduate-student-payment-plan>