Canada Graduate Scholarships-Michael Smith Foreign Study Supplements (CGS-MSFSS) October 2018 Competition

The School of Graduate Studies is pleased to provide you with information in regard to the October 2018 Canada Graduate Scholarships Michael Smith Foreign Study Supplement (CGS-MSFSS) Competition.

School of Graduate Studies Deadline:  **Tuesday, September 25, 2018**
Departments will be required to submit complete candidates’ applications by email to graduatescholarships@mcmaster.ca by this date.

**Eligibility Criteria**

**To be eligible to apply for this program, applicants must:**
- be Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada by the application deadline date (October 10, 2018);
- be registered at an eligible Canadian institution at the time of application;
- be in a discipline area supported by the granting agencies and have accepted or currently hold one of the following CGS:
  - Joseph-Armand Bombardier (SSHRC);
  - Alexander Graham Bell (NSERC);
  - Frederick Banting and Charles Best (CIHR); or
  - Vanier CGS (if eligible);
- undertake the proposed trip abroad no earlier than the competition deadline date; and
- not hold, or have not held, any other CGS-MSFSS from any one of the tri-agencies during the course of their graduate studies.

**To remain eligible, a successful applicant must:**
- hold an active CGS at the time the research study period abroad starts;
- be registered full-time in a graduate research studies program at a Canadian institution for the duration of the research study period abroad;
- take up the award within one year of receiving the notice/offer of award for the CGS-MSFSS; and
- return to complete your degree at your Canadian institution.

**Duration and Value of Award**

The minimum length of stay abroad the CGS-MSFSS Program will support is **two months** (New-changed from three to two months), and the maximum duration of support is six months. The value of the award is up to $6,000 for a period of research study abroad.
Tri-Agency Allocations:

NSERC and SSHRC New
Allocations are no longer provided by NSERC or SSHRC. Institutions are still required to rank applications and forward all eligible applications to each agency.

CIHR’s Assigned Allocation:
As before, McMaster can submit all eligible applications, there is no assigned allocation

Important reminders:

- **New**-Candidates are no longer required to include a copy of their current CGS research proposal. The Canadian research supervisor must confirm the applicant’s research is related to their CGS research topic in their letter of support.
- **New**-Host supervisors are no longer required to submit a final report in which they confirm the award holder’s research study dates. In lieu of this report, the CGS research supervisor will sign the applicant’s activity report, confirming the award holder’s research study dates.
- Non-academic host supervisors must demonstrate they have experience supervising graduate student researchers.
- **New**-Award recipients of the CGS-MSFSS will now find all information regarding the payment and administration of their supplement in a single harmonized guide on NSERC’s website.

Selection Criteria:

The selection process and review procedures adopted by the institution must maintain a focus on excellence. Applications must be evaluated using the criteria listed below:

Linkage between the current program of research goals, the proposed research/study activities at the host institution and the candidate’s future research/career goals, including consideration of:

- significance, feasibility and merit of proposed research study activities at the foreign institution;
- justification for the choice of host institution and/or host supervisor (Note: eligibility guidelines require non-academic host supervisors to demonstrate that they have supervised graduate student research); and
- relevance and anticipated benefits of the proposed research study period abroad to the candidate’s current graduate-degree training.
How to Apply:

Candidates applying for the CGS-MSFSS will now access the application from a single harmonized program description hosted on NSERC’s website.

If you have any questions or require further details, please contact the appropriate agency.

CIHR:
CGS-MSFSS program
Program Design and Delivery Branch
Tel.: 613-952-0763
Email: CGSMSFSS-SEEMSBESC@cihr-irsc.gc.ca

NSERC:
CGS-MSFSS program
Scholarships and Fellowships Division
Tel.: 613-943-0703
Email: schol@nserc-crsng.gc.ca

SSHRC:
CGS-MSFSS program
Research Training Portfolio
Tel.: 613-943-7777
Email: uni.liaison@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

Please email graduatescholarships@mcmaster.ca if you have any questions.