Biological Sciences
Graduate Student Funding Policy

[Note: The graduate funding levels indicated in this document are the minimum amounts; financial support to individual students may exceed these amounts.]

1. This policy pertains to full-time thesis-based graduate students. It does not apply to self-funded and sponsored students.
2. The effective date of this policy is September 1, 2022.
3. Wherever there is a conflict between this policy and FGS – Graduate Student Funding Operating Standard, the latter will prevail.
4. The minimum funding for PhD and thesis-based Master’s students is $25,000 per year.
5. The minimum funding will be guaranteed for 2 years for Master’s students and 4 years for PhD students.
6. The funding and its continuation are contingent on maintaining satisfactory progress in the program and meeting the supervisor’s reasonable expectations.
7. All of the following count toward meeting the student’s minimum guaranteed funding amount:
   • Stipend/scholarship payment from supervisor’s research grant
   • Graduate Assistantships Teaching (GAT) and non-Teaching (GANT)
   • External or Internal scholarships such as the Graduate Awards Competition
8. Income from the following sources is not counted toward the student’s guaranteed funding amount:
   • Income as sessional instructor
   • Income earned through unrelated paid employment external to the University that does not exceed 612 hours/year.
9. Students are strongly encouraged to apply for all awards and scholarships for which they are eligible. If a student wins an award or scholarship, their funding will be affected as follows:
   • $1 - $3,000 per annum (cumulative awards): The student receives the award(s) in addition to the guaranteed minimum funding
   • $3,001 - $5,000 per annum (cumulative awards): The award goes towards the student’s base funding and the student receives a $3,000 top-up over their guaranteed minimum funding.
   • $5,001-10,000 per annum (cumulative awards) – The award goes towards the student’s base funding and the student receives a $4,000 top-up over their guaranteed minimum funding.
   • $10,001-15,000 per annum (cumulative awards) – The award goes towards the student’s base funding and the student receives a $5,000 top-up over their guaranteed minimum funding.
   • Over $15,000 per annum (cumulative awards) – The award goes towards the student’s base funding and the student receives a $6,000 top-up over their guaranteed minimum funding.
10. 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