Faculty of Science
Department of Mathematics and Statistics

Graduate Student PhD and Thesis-based MSc Funding Policy

1. This policy pertains to full-time PhD and full-time thesis-based MSc students.
2. The graduate funding levels indicated in this document are the minimum amounts; financial support to individual students may exceed these amounts.
3. The effective date of this policy is August 1, 2022.
4. Wherever there is a conflict between this policy and FGS – Graduate Student Funding Operating Standard, the latter will prevail.
5. The minimum funding for full-time PhD and full-time thesis-based MSc students is $24,288.82 per annum during the guaranteed funding period.
6. The guaranteed funding period is 4 years for full-time PhD students and 2 years for full-time thesis-based MSc students.
7. The funding and its continuation are contingent on obtaining an evaluation of Satisfactory or higher on the Graduate Student Annual Progress Report.
8. 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)
   • Graduate Assistantships Research (GAR)
   • External or Internal scholarships such as the Graduate Awards Competition
   • Income for up to two sessional appointments as outlined in the TUCFA Collective Agreement.
9. Income from the following sources is not counted toward the student’s guaranteed funding amount:
   • Income as sessional instructor beyond the two outlined in the TUCFA Collective Agreement.
   • Income earned through unrelated paid employment external to the University.
10. Students are strongly encouraged to apply for all awards and scholarships for which they are eligible. If a student receives an award or scholarship, their funding will be affected according to the Funding Policy for Graduate Scholarship Holders on next page.
11. Students are responsible for their living expenses and 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

Approved by the Faculty of Graduate Studies: March 7, 2022

Graduate Program Committee
February 24, 2022


Funding Policy for Graduate Scholarship Holders

A variety of research scholarships, both internal and external to the University, are available to graduate students on a competitive basis. These awards recognize and financially reward research excellence, with the expectation that recipients dedicate additional time to their research. Accordingly, the Department reduces GAT obligations for students who win substantial scholarships, along with the corresponding funding. This frees up time that is usually spent on teaching and allows scholarship recipients to devote extra time to research.

Award recipients should enjoy a substantial financial benefit despite the decrease in GAT funding, and the overall financial net gain should increase with the value and prestige of the award. Consequently, GAT funding reductions must be undertaken in an equitable manner, and the corresponding workload reductions must be appropriate and equally fair.

Table 1 below lists the funding deductions for different graduate scholarship amounts, based on 2021-22 GAT rates, while Table 2 describes the typical workloads corresponding to the GAT fractions appearing in Table 1. The funding reductions listed in Table 1 apply to both MSc and PhD graduate recipients. The scholarship amounts listed in Table 1 are the total amount if more than one scholarship is received. Regardless of how high the total scholarships received is, the recipient will receive at least ½ GAT each year to gain teaching experience. Deductions and the corresponding teaching reductions will normally take place during the scholarship funding period, and recipients of awards paid over multiple terms will be given a choice during which term to take the funding and TA workload reduction. For deductions of one GAT or more, the portion of 1 GAT may be taken as a full GAT during fall or winter, or as ½ GAT each in fall and winter.

Notes:

- Due to its high marking workload, MATH 271 is exempt from the list of 200 level courses referred to in Table 2.
- Remuneration for teaching of spring and summer courses is subject to sessional instructor pay rates governed by the TUCFA Collective Agreement. Funding reductions for holders of major graduate scholarships who are hired by the Department to teach a course as the instructor of record during a spring or summer term will be handled on a case-by-case basis.
- Graduate students may opt to take GAT reductions exceeding those specified in this policy. Indeed, all GAT-funded students, irrespective of whether or not they hold scholarship funding, have the option of taking a reduced GAT load in any given term of their funding period.
- This policy does not apply to graduate student internships (e.g. MITACS Accelerate, NSERC CREATE). Internships generally provide payment for work on a particular project or for specific services. Depending on the work expectations, internship holders may wish (or even need) to decline portions of their GAT funding and obligations. Such instances will be handled on a case-by-case basis, in consultation with the supervisor(s) and the Graduate Program Director.
Table 1: GAT funding reductions for recipients of scholarships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scholarship amount</th>
<th>Deduction (in GATs)</th>
<th>Deduction amount*</th>
<th>Financial gain (up to)</th>
<th>Total funding** (up to)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[0, 5,000]</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>29,288.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[5,001, 10,000]</td>
<td>1/4</td>
<td>2,223.60</td>
<td>7,776.40</td>
<td>32,065.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[10,001, 15,000]</td>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>4,447.20</td>
<td>10,552.80</td>
<td>34,841.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[15,001, 20,000]</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8,894.41</td>
<td>11,105.59</td>
<td>35,394.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[20,001, 25,000]</td>
<td>1½</td>
<td>11,118.01</td>
<td>13,881.99</td>
<td>38,170.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[25,001, 30,000]</td>
<td>1½</td>
<td>13,341.61</td>
<td>16,658.39</td>
<td>40,947.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[30,001, 50,000]</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>17,788.82</td>
<td>32,211.18</td>
<td>56,500.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* 2021-22 GAT rate is $8,894.41

** 2021-22 base funding is $24,288.82 (1 GAT for Fall, 1 GAT for Winter, and $6,500 Spring/Summer funding consisting of 1/2 GAT plus research stipend)

Table 2: GAT fractions and typical workload equivalents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GAT fraction</th>
<th>Number of hours per term</th>
<th>Typical Workload</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/6</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>one 200 level lab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/4</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>one 300-400 level lab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/3</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>one 200 level lab + two continuous tutorials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>two 200-level labs + one continuous tutorial OR one 300 level lab + one 200 level lab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>three 200 level labs + two continuous tutorials OR two 300-400 level labs + one 200 level lab</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>