The Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) is pleased to announce the details of the 2022 NSERC Doctoral competition, now available on FGSR’s website. The University of Alberta’s quota for the number of applications that can be forwarded to NSERC for consideration in the 2021 – 2022 competition is 78. There is a single application and review process for the CGS D and the PGS D programs. The top-ranked applicants are awarded the CGS D ($35,000 per year, tenable only in Canada) and highly-ranked applicants in the next tier are awarded the PGS D ($21,000 per year, tenable in Canada and abroad).

This is a direct application, whereby students apply through the appropriate portal. There is no nomination, list, or ranking required by the department. The Departments will be notified of students successfully forwarded to the national competition, and of any winners. To assist in the promotion of this doctoral scholarship, we request Departments disseminate information about this year’s national competition to their students and potential applicants. Note that institutions are permitted to recommend an unlimited number of self-identified Indigenous applicants to the PGS D Program above the application quota.

2021/22 recipients of the UofA Graduate Entrance Scholarship and the UofA Graduate Recruitment Scholarship are encouraged to apply for Tri-Agency funding if they are eligible (i.e. citizenship status is Canadian/Permanent Resident).

Applicants may apply in the same year to both the NSERC Doctoral Scholarship program and the NSERC Vanier CGS program. At the U of A, those applicants who have completed the 2022 NSERC Vanier CGS application are strongly encouraged to also complete an application for the NSERC PGS-D competition if they are eligible (ie. citizenship status is Canadian/Permanent Resident). NOTE: Students cannot hold an NSERC PGS-D and Vanier CGS scholarship simultaneously, but applying for both may increase a student’s probability of obtaining a Tri-Council Scholarship.

**Application Process and Timelines**

Refer to, and ensure applicants are directed to, NSERC’s website for clarification concerning the value, duration, and eligibility criteria. See FGSR’s website for the complete application and transcript submission process, timelines, and instructions for students leading up to the application submission deadline. FGSR will not provide copies of students’ applications or reference letters to Departments. Should Departments want a copy of the student’s application for advisement purposes, they may request this directly from the student. As referees are required to submit a confidential online form, letters are not available to students.

**Transcript Submission**

**Wednesday, September 22, 2021, 11:59 pm (MST):** Deadline for students to submit copies of official transcripts to FGSR.
Application Deadline and Submission

Monday, October 4, 2021, 11:59 pm (MST): Deadline for students to submit their completed application via NSERC’s On-line Services portal.

- The deadline above is for applications submitted through the University of Alberta only. Failure to submit an application through the correct channel may result in an application being removed from the competition. For more information, refer to the flow chart “Where should I submit my application?” of the CGS D Scholarships descriptions. This flowchart details which option should be selected within the online application form. Note: all applicants registered in a degree program at the UofA (with a quota) at any time during the calendar year of application must apply through the UofA, even if they intend to pursue their studies elsewhere.

- Only completed applications will be reviewed. Changes cannot be made after the application has been submitted.

- Edits or corrections such as spelling, grammar, formatting, attachments, etc. are the responsibility of the student and will not be checked by FGSR. Students who do not follow NSERC’s application instructions and On-line Presentation and Attachment Standards may jeopardize their application. See FGSR’s Application Procedures for complete details.

- Submission of an application does not mean it has been forwarded to the national NSERC competition. All eligible applications will be shared with the Graduate Scholarship Committee (GSC) adjudicators for review.

FGSR Award Services Review

October 5-15, 2021: FGSR Award Services reviews applications for eligibility and completeness.

- Students will not be offered the opportunity to revise their applications.

University Adjudication

October 16- Mid November, 2021: FGSR’s GSC reviews applications and selects nominees to be forwarded to NSERC for review at the national level.

University Results

Mid - End of November, 2021: Results of the NSERC competition at the University level will be released. Students whose applications have been forwarded to NSERC will receive a notification email from FGSR. Unsuccessful students will be notified via the NSERC portal.

University Deadline

November 22, 2021: deadline for FGSR to forward university nominations to NSERC for the national competition.

NSERC National Results

April 2022: final NSERC doctoral results are expected to be announced.

We wish all students and departments success in the upcoming competition!