

Faculty of Social Work Graduate Funding Policy

The purpose of this policy is to ensure appropriate funding for Doctoral and MSW thesis students in the Faculty of Social Work.

1. For the first four years, the minimum doctoral stipend for domestic students enrolled full-time in the PhD program is \$18,000 annually. For international students this minimum stipend is \$20,000 annually.

Domestic and international status are based on tuition residency.

Students who are externally sponsored (i.e. admitted with documented financial support from an external agency meeting the minimum amount) are not normally funded from university sources and are exempted from the minimum doctoral stipend.

2. All the following count toward meeting the student's guaranteed funding amount (i.e. the amount guaranteed in the student's offer of admission):
 - External scholarships, including SSHRC, NSERC, CIHR, AIHS, AITF, AGES
 - Internal scholarships, including program recommended graduate awards, faculty awards (e.g. FSW Recognition of Excellence Awards) or university competitions (e.g. Graduate Awards Competition)
 - Stipend/scholarship payments from supervisor's research grant
 - Graduate Assistantship Teaching (GAT) income
 - Graduate Assistantship Non-Teaching (GANT) income
 - Graduate Assistantship Research (GAR) income from supervisor's research grant, and
 - Income as sessional instructor.
3. Students are required to apply for internal and external (e.g. Tri-Council awards including SSHRC, CIHR) scholarships for which they are eligible.
4. To be eligible to receive financial support, a student must be registered full-time, active in their program and demonstrate satisfactory progress on annual progress report (APR).

- Students receiving scholarship funding from their supervisor's grant must fulfil their supervisor's reasonable expectations regarding attendance and activity in the research environment. If the expectations are not met, the allocated payment may be deducted from the annual funding offered to the student for that academic year, upon further evaluation.
 - Employment income as a graduate teaching assistant (GAT), research assistant (GANT or GAR), or sessional instructor is included in the guaranteed funding amount offered to students. Students must be available to take the employment as GAT, GANT, GAR or sessional instructor; otherwise, the amount of refused appointment will be deducted from the annual funding offered to the student for that academic year.
 - To be eligible for scholarships/stipends paid as scholarships offered by the Faculty of Social Work or competitive university scholarships (e.g. Open Doctoral), a student cannot hold paid employment for more than 612 hours a year while registered as a full-time student. This includes hours worked as a GAT or GANT.
5. Success in external or internal scholarship competitions will affect the student's funding in the following way:
- a) For awards of cumulative value of \$5000 or less, funding as set out in the letter of admission will not be reduced
 - b) For awards of cumulative value of over \$5000, funding as set out in the funding letter may be reduced, so that the student's total funding for the year will be the greater of:
 - guaranteed funding + \$5000, or
 - cumulative amount of awards that were won.
6. Master students (domestic and international) enrolled full-time in the thesis-based MSW program may receive \$2,500, if funding is available. This amount will be paid out in two installments. The first portion (\$1,875) of the scholarship will be paid when the student has received their Ethics Certificate. The second portion (\$625) will be paid when the first draft of the thesis is submitted to the supervisor or when the student's final defense is scheduled.
7. Students are responsible for paying tuition and fees annually.
<https://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>.