

2023-24 Ontario Graduate Scholarship (OGS)-Indigenous

Additional Application\*

\*Due to an OGS Indigenous award becoming available, the School of Graduate Studies has re-opened only the OGS Indigenous competition and will receive applications until May 29, 2023 at 12noon.

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# **Instructions**

## Academic Year: This award is for the 2023-24 academic year.

Deadline to Apply**: Monday, May 29, 2023 at 12PM**

## Terms

Tenable for one academic year once enrolled, beginning May 2023 or September 2023 for a minimum of two terms to a maximum of three terms. The Ontario Graduate Scholarship Indigenous award not exclusive to students from the Six Nations of the Grand River communities; the application is open to any current graduate student (or applicant to a graduate program at McMaster University) who identifies as First Nation, Inuit, or Métis.

## Eligibility

* incoming or returning graduate students (Master’s or PhD) of First Nation, Inuit, or Métis descent
* enrollment in a graduate program for a minimum of two terms from the start of the proceeding academic year.

## Selection criteria

* exceptional promise in community leadership
* mentorship to other Indigenous students
* mentorship within First Nation, Inuit, or Métis communities
* leadership to advance Indigenous education, either inside or outside of a university setting
* high academic achievement

## Intent

This award is intended to recognize and acknowledge the academic achievement and exceptional promise of an Indigenous graduate student or students at McMaster University. Consideration is also given to Indigenous scholars who have demonstrated mentorship within community settings. In addition, the School of Graduate Studies would like applicants to be aware that the OGS-I scholarships can be awarded to Indigenous graduate students at McMaster University who face significant financial hardship, with priority given to women with family responsibilities.

## Value

Ontario Graduate Scholarship-Indigenous award is valued at $15,000 ($5,000 per term). Note: If the student only holds the award for two terms the value will be $10,000.

## Award Announcement and Impact

Awardees agree to the publication of their name and program information by McMaster University. Awardees may be invited to participate in promotional opportunities in support of the impact and celebration of the awards.

## Application Package Checklist

* Application
  + a) Applicant Information
  + b) Candidate Statement
  + c) Community Involvement
  + d) Plan of Study
  + e) Transcripts (scanned from all postsecondary institutions attended)
  + f) Personal Statement: Identify any family responsibilities, financial or other hardship you experience
  + g) Budget
* Community Reference Letter – Referee completes the Community Reference Letter Template. The [23-24 OGSI Community Reference Letter Template](https://gs.mcmaster.ca/current-students/scholarships/ontario-graduate-scholarship-for-indigenous-students-ogs-i/) can be found on our website.
* Academic Reference Letter – Referee completes the Academic Reference Letter Template. The [23-24 OGSI Academic Referenc Letter Template](https://gs.mcmaster.ca/current-students/scholarships/ontario-graduate-scholarship-for-indigenous-students-ogs-i/) can be found on our website.

## Tips for Students Requesting Reference Letters

Referees are encouraged to consider the intent and selection criteria included above when writing their letters. For this award, an academic referenßce is typically a university instructor who is familiar with the candidate’s ability or potential ability to meet the award criteria in academic settings. A community reference is typically a community member, elder, supervisor or mentor who is familiar with the candidate’s ability or potential ability to meet the award criteria in community settings.

## How to Submit

1. Applicants - Combine completed application portion and transcripts as one PDF and submit it by using the [MacDrive upload link for the OGS Indigenous applications](https://macdrive.mcmaster.ca/u/d/c6988700554f49d794ab/). Naming convention for your application: Student Last Name\_OGSI\_2024.
2. Referees - An applicant’s reference letters (one academic and one community letter) are to be sent separately by the referees themselves. Upload reference letters directly by using the [MacDrive upload link for the Ontario Graduate Scholarship-Indigenous reference letters.](https://macdrive.mcmaster.ca/u/d/c6988700554f49d794ab/) Naming conventions for the reference letters: Student Last Name\_Community Reference\_2024 or Student Last Name\_Academic Reference\_2024.

## Questions?

Please direct any questions to the School of Graduate Studies [graduatescholarships@mcmaster.ca](mailto:Questions: graduatescholarships@mcmaster.ca) and/or

Senior Advisor, Indigenous Student Services [indigsc@mcmaster.ca](mailto:indigsc@mcmaster.ca)

# **Application**

# Applicant Information

First Name (I.e., given name):

Last Name (I.e., family name):

Candidate’s McMaster Student Number or Application Number:

Email Address:

Mailing Address:

Phone:

Email: @mcmaster.ca

Gender Pronouns (optionally, please let us know of your gender pronouns):

## Indigenous Community Ancestry

Please indicate the name of your Indigenous community or nation affiliation:

Please introduce yourself and tell us about your connections to your Indigenous community (identified above) (max 250 words):

## 

## Previous Postsecondary Education

Please list the colleges or universities you have previously attended, beginning with the most recent school, degree, program/subject major, and academic average for the last completed year at that school:

## McMaster Graduate Program Information

Your graduate department/program:

Your program’s academic faculty:

Academic Supervisor (if known):

### For New Graduate Students/Applicants

* Incoming Master’s
* Incoming PhD

### For Returning Graduate Students

* Returning Master’s
  + Degree level in September (I.e., level 1, 2, 3, 4, 5+)
* Returning PhD
  + Degree level in September (I.e., level 1, 2, 3, 4, 5+)

## Enrollment

Will you be enrolled for at least two terms of the 2023/24 academic year beginning in May 2023 or September 2023? Y/N

Applicants are encouraged to consider how their experiences and interests reflect the award criteria:  
• Exceptional promise in community leadership   
• Mentorship to other Indigenous students   
• Mentorship within First Nation, Inuit, or Métis communities   
• Leadership to advance Indigenous education, either inside or outside of a university setting   
• High academic achievement

# Candidate Statement

Please explain why you are an excellent candidate for this award. Include where possible how your experiences relate to Indigenous (First Nations, Inuit, and/or Metis) communities and the award criteria.

# Community Involvement Statement

Please describe your volunteer and work experience, scholarships, and awards, including experiences related to Indigenous communities and the award criteria.

# Plan of Study Statement

Please outline your academic plan of study for your current/prospective academic program.

# Transcripts

Instructions: Scan copies of official transcripts.

# Personal Statement

Using a maximum of one-page, identify the family responsibilities, financial or other hardship you experience.

# Budget

Your budget should be based on one acade,oc year of estimated finances. Please use the [OGS-I Written Submission and Budget Templates from the school of Graduate Studies website](https://gs.mcmaster.ca/current-students/scholarships/ontario-graduate-scholarship-for-indigenous-students-ogs-i/).