

2022-2023 SGS University-Wide Awards

Award Overview

Application Deadline:	February 26, 2023
Level of Study:	Master's or doctoral
Required Legal Status:	Domestic or international
Results:	April 2023

Purpose

The School of Graduate Studies offers approximately 20 awards annually through the University Wide Award (UWA) competition. Awards vary in terms of the specific eligibility criteria (merit, financial need, student citizenship, area of research etc.). Accordingly, applicants are encouraged to review the award-specific criteria outlined within each award description, to ensure they are eligible before submitting their application. See description of each award below.

Eligibility to Apply

At minimum, all applicants must:

- Be currently registered to a full-time U of T graduate degree program; and
- Demonstrate one or both of the following as per the specific award criteria:
 - academic merit / excellence
 - financial need

Additionally, students must meet the award-specific eligibility criteria as described within each award description.

Please review the full eligibility criteria for each award on the [SGS University Wide-Award webpage](#) to ensure you meet any additional award-specific criteria (e.g. citizenship, research or discipline of study etc.) and can provide the required documentation for the award.

Academic Merit Awards

Several awards within the University Wide Competition require that applicants demonstrate academic excellence. These awards are categorized as Academic Merit Awards.

Eligibility for academic merit awards requires that applicants:

- Have achieved at least A- ("A-" = 80%) or equivalent in each of the last two completed years of study (full-time equivalent); or
- Demonstrate an overall average of at least A- ("A-" = 80%) or equivalent on all graduate courses completed (if the student has completed two years of graduate studies at the time of application; and
- Meet the award specific eligibility criteria, as outlined within the individual award.

Academic Merit with Financial Need Awards

Several academic merit awards require that students demonstrate both academic excellence *and* financial need for the current academic year, in addition to any other requirements stated for the specific award. All awards that include demonstration of financial need in the award criteria, require that students upload a completed [SGS Financial Need Assessment form](#) and provide any necessary supporting documents to their UWA online application.

OSOTF Awards: Some academic merit awards are reserved for *Ontario residents* who demonstrate financial need. These awards are categorized as "OSOTF awards" (Ontario Student Opportunity Trust Fund) and are open to applicants who meet specific criteria in addition to any other requirements stated for the award. Please review the [SGS OSOTF webpage](#) for additional information on OSOTF eligibility.

Need Based Awards

Need based awards (grants or bursaries) are available to students who meet the specific award criteria and demonstrate financial need for the current academic year. Students are not required to demonstrate academic excellence for these types of awards. To determine for which need-based award(s) you may be eligible, review the [award descriptions](#). Awards that include demonstration of financial need in the award criteria, require that students upload a completed [SGS Financial Need Assessment form](#) and provide any required supporting documents to their UWA online application.

Application Process

1. Review the list of awards and specific eligibility requirements for each award to determine your eligibility;
2. Login using your UTORid to complete the online [SGS University-Wide Awards Application](#) and select each award for which you would like to apply;
3. Upload the following supporting documents. All documents must be combined and saved as one PDF before uploading:
 - **A Personal Statement for each award selected on your application.** The Personal Statement will describe why you should be considered and how you meet the award criteria required for the specific award (each Personal Statement should be no more than one page in length);
 - **One letter of Reference** (one page maximum); the letter must address the applicant's academic merit from an academic supervisor/advisor or a faculty member familiar with the applicant's academic work. The letter must be dated and clearly state the referee's name and complete contact information;
 - **One Plan of Study / Research Proposal** (one page maximum) in non-technical language. Students who have an OGS Plan of Study/Research Proposal may use it for this application; and
 - **One Curriculum Vitae**;

And, if you have selected awards that require the demonstration of financial need:

- **One [SGS Financial Need Assessment Form \(PDF\)](#)** and any supporting documentation requested on the form (e.g. annual funding letter, OSAP assessment).

Unfortunately, ineligible, or incomplete applications cannot be considered.

Results

Applicants will be contacted directly by SGS regarding the outcome by April 30, 2023

Contacts & Resources

For more information, please visit the [SGS University Wide Awards webpage](#) or contact:

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