

## 2026-2027 Research and Health Science Education (RHSE) Ontario Student Opportunity Trust Fund (OSOTF) Award

### Award Overview:

<b>Graduate Unit (Internal Deadline):</b>	<b>Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup> by 11:59 PM (EST)</b>
<b>Level of Study:</b>	Master's or Doctoral (Depending on award)
<b>Required Legal Status:</b>	Domestic or International (Depending on award)
<b>RHSE Results:</b>	Expected August 2026

### Purpose:

Through the generous support of numerous donors, a number of OSOTF and endowed awards have been established at the Temerty Faculty of Medicine. This year, 23 awards with individual eligibility criteria and values are offered within the RHSE OSOTF and Other Endowed Awards competition. The OSOTF and Endowed Awards provide financial support for registered graduate students (primarily M.Sc. and Ph.D.) in the Temerty Faculty of Medicine.

[Click here to view the list of RHSE OSOTF Awards.](#)

### Value and Duration:

Amounts available from OSOTF and Other Endowed Awards offered through the Temerty Faculty of Medicine are generally limited by the amount of income (interest earned) from the endowments donated by various donors. For the 2026-27 competition, the funding period is generally from September 1, 2026 to August 31, 2027, or as determined by the Temerty Faculty of Medicine Graduate Awards Committee.

### Eligibility:

Criteria:	Details:
<b>Awards are open to UofT graduate students</b>	<p>Funding decisions will be given to students in the following year of study at time of tenure of award (e.g., 2021-22 academic year):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 1-2 of their MSc <u>or</u></li> <li>Year 1-5 of their PhD</li> </ul> <p>PhD students transferred from Masters have their PhD registration back-dated to the date of entry into the MSc program for calculating their year of study. E.g., a 2020-21 MSc student in year 1 transferring to PhD in 2021-22 will be considered PhD year 2 in 2021-22. Students beyond these years will only be considered under exceptional circumstances.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prospective and returning students are eligible to apply. These funds contribute towards the annual minimum funding commitment for doctoral-stream students.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students in professional masters programs with significant coursework and internship/practicum/clinical placement components are not eligible for these awards. Students enrolled in non-thesis and course-based M.Sc. programs who are guaranteed graduate stipend support may be eligible for these awards.</li> </ul>
<b>Demonstrated Academic Excellence</b>	Determined by analyzing whether the student meets the individual award’s eligibility criteria.
<b>Current Legal/Financial Need Status</b>	<p>OSOTF awards are restricted to individuals who meet all of the following criteria at the time of application:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Canadian citizen, Permanent Resident of Canada or Protected Person;</li> <li>2. Resident of Ontario; and</li> <li>3. Demonstrates financial need*</li> </ol> <p>*OSOTF awards require applicants to demonstrate financial need with an OSOTF Needs Assessment Form. Applicants may refer to the <i>FoM Expenses and Resources Guide for OSOTF Financial Need Assessment</i> for further information.</p>

- Awards categorized as “Other Endowed Awards” do not have the Canadian citizenship requirement.
- Each [individual award](#) has additional specific eligibility requirements.
- The funding period is for the 2026-27 academic year, generally September 1, 2026, to August 31, 2027.
- OSOTF and/or other endowed funding may be provided on top of the external and/or internal awards, up to the amount of the total base funding commitment offered by the student's Graduate Unit.
- Should a student's financial and/or academic circumstances change, RHSE may request some or full return of the award(s).

**Application Process:**

Applicants must submit an application to their graduate unit using the [RHSE OSOTF & Other Endowed Awards](#) online system by **Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 PM (EST)**.

Applicants must enter their Graduate Unit’s internal deadline date (Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>) to appear in the email to their referees to upload the reference letter on or before this date.

The awards are generally not transferable from one graduate unit to another; therefore, applicants must submit an online application to the graduate unit to which they are expected to register with.

Once a student starts an application online, the application will be available to the graduate unit for review.

The awards require an annual application and are not renewable but re-applications will be considered, if applicable.

## >>[CLICK HERE TO ACCESS RHSE APPLICATION](#)

### Application Package:

[Applications](#) are accessible from the Division of the Vice-President and Provost.

Applicants may apply for more than one award (up to four) within this competition by submitting one complete RHSE OSOTF & Other Endowed Awards online application by the internal deadline.

Complete applications must have “submitted” status with all the following required documentation completed online:

Required Items:	Details:
<b>1. Application Form</b>	To be completed <a href="#">online</a>
<b>2. Curriculum Vitae (CV)</b>	Use the CV template provided <a href="#">here</a> . Save as a PDF file and then upload (maximum of 4 pages).
<b>3. Research Description - Parts A and B in <u>one</u> PDF Document (see right)</b>	<p><b>Part A</b> - In easily understandable terms provide a 1 page (maximum) research description or statement of intent, including hypothesis, methods, and expected outcomes. Include your research title on top of the page. Bibliographies, endnotes and references are generally not necessary.</p> <p><b>Part B</b> - For each award that you are applying for, include a clear statement of how your research conforms to the conditions of the award. To review the conditions of eligibility for each award, view the list of awards above. Include the name of the award and have no more than 1 paragraph per award.</p> <p><b>Parts A and B should be in <u>one</u> PDF Document.</b></p>
<b>4. Two Letters of Recommendation</b>	<p>Including 1 Letter of Support from current Supervisor (total of 2 letters).</p> <p>Note: Letters of reference <u>must be uploaded online directly from your referees</u> by your graduate unit’s internal deadline.</p> <p>If a referee cannot find the email (e.g., login credentials or reference request) in their inbox, please ask them to check their “junk email” folder for this address: <a href="mailto:rhse.awards@utoronto.ca">rhse.awards@utoronto.ca</a></p>
<b>5. Academic Transcripts</b>	<p>All graduate <u>and</u> undergraduate level transcripts are required.</p> <p>Note: Unofficial or student issued copies are permitted. Official transcripts must be available in your graduate unit.</p>

<p><b>6. OSOTF Financial Needs Assessment Form (if applicable)</b></p>	<p>Financial need can be demonstrated by applying for the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) or by completing and attaching a <a href="#">Financial Needs Assessment Form</a>, available from RHSE or your graduate unit.</p> <p>If you have already been assessed for the OSAP or the University of Toronto Advance Planning for Students (UTAPS), complete the indicated sections of the <a href="#">Financial Needs Assessment Form</a>.</p> <p>If you have not applied for OSAP, or you applied for OSAP but have not received the result of assessment, complete the entire <a href="#">Financial Needs Assessment Form</a>.</p>
<p><b>7. Additional information is required for the Hunter Award and Toronto Rehab OSOTF</b></p>	<p><b>Hunter Award:</b> Applicant must identify their research area (1 of the 10 Hunter eligible areas).</p> <p><b>Toronto Rehab OSOTF:</b> Applicant must identify if they are internal to the Toronto Rehab. If yes, applicants must identify their position and provide a brief description of their role, including significant achievements at Toronto Rehab and how this relates to their graduate program.</p>

**Questions?**

- For more information, visit the RHSE [OSOTF and Other Endowed Awards Webpage](#).
- Questions regarding the nomination process: [sf.medscience@utoronto.ca](mailto:sf.medscience@utoronto.ca)
- For technical support and questions about the application: RHSE, Temerty Faculty of Medicine at [rhse.awards@utoronto.ca](mailto:rhse.awards@utoronto.ca)

Thank you & good luck!