

Why do I want one of these?

- Awards are well known within Canada
(useful on your CV or Resume)
- Allow for choice and flexibility in graduate school
- Decreases burden on supervisor's grant: more money available for equipment, travel, compatriots, or pay
- Allow you to apply for additional awards (e.g. foreign studies supplement)
- Will likely impress your grandparents

Who can get one?

NSERC

Canadian citizen /
permanent resident

A- average in *past two years*
of study

OGS

Student visa

A- average in *past two years*
of study

(please confirm this)

What if I already have funding?

- **Decreases burden on supervisor's grant: more money available for equipment, travel, compatriots, or pay**
- Allow you to apply for additional awards (e.g. foreign studies supplement)
- Will likely impress your grandparents

Tips and tricks

- Have something for every category / criteria
- Make sure your references have seen your application *before* they write their letter. Helps them emphasize. Don't worry about small stuff
- Get people to read your application under time constraints (e.g. 4 min)
- Edit, edit, edit, edit. Line by line. Non-native english speaks should not be shy about asking for assistance
- Choose referees wisely. They need to be able to write “statement, example”
- Choose a research topic you understand
- Volunteer (open house, homecoming, etc)
- Tutor
- Get involved in activities / leadership
- “Generate content”

Read the instructions!

(web)

How you're judged

1 Academic excellence

- 1 Academic record
- 2 Scholarships and awards held
- 3 Duration of previous studies

2 Research ability or potential

- 1 Quality of contributions to research and development
- 2 Relevance of work experience and academic training to field of proposed research
- 3 Significance, feasibility, and merit of proposed research, and justification for location of tenure
- 4 Ability to think critically
- 5 Ability to apply skills and knowledge
- 6 Judgment
- 7 Originality
- 8 Initiative and autonomy
- 9 Enthusiasm for research
- 10 Determination and ability to complete projects within an appropriate period of time

3 Communication, interpersonal and leadership abilities

- 1 The ability or potential to communicate scientific concepts clearly and logically in written and oral formats. For example, this could include:
 - 1 quality of the application's presentation;
 - 2 participation in preparing publications; and
 - 3 awards for oral presentations or papers.
- 2 Professional and relevant extracurricular interactions and collaborations. For example, this could include:
 - 1 mentoring;
 - 2 teaching;
 - 3 supervisory experience;
 - 4 project management;
 - 5 chairing committees;
 - 6 organizing conferences and meetings; and
 - 7 elected positions held.

Master's

Ph.D.

Selection Criteria Weightings

	CGS/PGS M (percent)	CGS/PGS D (percent)
Academic excellence	50	30
Research ability or potential	30	50
Communication, interpersonal and leadership abilities	20	20

Make sure your referees understand the evaluation criteria.