Two Graduate Positions in Earthquake Seismology

The Department of Earth & Environmental Sciences at the University of Ottawa invites applications to fill two fully funded graduate positions (Ph.D. or M.Sc.) in the uOttawa Geophysics group (https://www.uogeophysics.com). The students will work on projects related to the study of lithosphere structure and dynamics at the Hikurangi (New Zealand) subduction zone. Projects will involve processing and modelling seismic data collected at sea from the Earthquakes and Locking inVEstigation of Subduction (ELVES) project. The successful candidates will be expected to design and implement data-processing tools, combined with modern statistical learning methods, to investigate the seismic velocity structure of the crust and lithosphere in relation to seismogenesis at Hikurangi. There is financial support for overseas conference attendance and a potential research placement with colleagues in New Zealand.

Eligibility

Ph.D. position:

- Completed M.Sc. (or equivalent) in Geophysics, Geosciences, Physics, Civil or Mining Engineering or related fields
- Open to international or domestic students

M.Sc. position:

- Completed B.Sc. (or equivalent) in Geophysics, Geosciences, Physics, Civil or Mining Engineering or related fields, with the possibility to fast-track to the Ph.D. program
- Open to Canadian students or permanent residents of Canada

Necessary Qualifications or Skills:

- Good written and spoken English and/or French
- Python programming experience is highly desirable

Tasks:

- Developing and testing methods to build seismic velocity models using broadband seismic data
- Evaluating, understanding, interpreting and comparing seismicity and seismic velocity models
- Interacting with scientists from different disciplines (collaborators within the project(s)), communicating and disseminating results at conferences and through publications

Program Start Date: September 2026 (preferred) or January 2027

How to Apply: Send the following application material as PDF documents before December 12, 2025, to pascal.audet@uottawa.ca:

1. One-page cover letter outlining your suitability and motivation for the position and any factors that influenced your ability to perform academically (family responsibilities, medical leaves, etc.)
2. Official transcripts
3. Full CV outlining education, research experience and contributions, and contact of two referees

Interviews will take place the week of December 15, 2025. The selected applicants will be asked to submit a formal application for either the MSc or PhD program in Earth Sciences at the University of Ottawa before February 1, 2026. The University of Ottawa and the Geophysics Group are committed to diversity and equity in employment (https://www.uottawa.ca/research-innovation/equity-diversity-inclusion). We encourage applications from women, indigenous people, persons with disabilities, ethnic minorities, persons of minority sexual orientation or gender identity, visible minorities, and others who may contribute to diversity. The two positions are fully funded through NSERC grants, which offer financial support for parental leaves and extension of the degree (https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/policies-politiques/Wleave-Fconges_eng.asp).