



University of Calgary Graduate Students' Association  
1030 ES, 844 Campus Place  
NW Calgary, Alberta T2N  
1N4  
Tel (403) 220-5997 Fax (403)282-8992  
[www.gsa.ucalgary.ca](http://www.gsa.ucalgary.ca)

## Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Bursary

### 2025 – 2026 Academic Year

Fall Intake Period: October 10 – October 25, 2025

Intake Deadline: **Friday, October 24, 2025, 6:00 PM MT**

Winter Intake Period: January 23 – January 30, 2026

Intake Deadline: **Friday, January 30, 2026, 11:59 PM MT**

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#### Submit applications online

Applications and/or letter of reference received outside of the intake period will **NOT** be evaluated. Late applications will **NOT** be evaluated. Incomplete applications (unanswered questions or additional information) will **NOT** be evaluated. It is the sole responsibility of the applicant to ensure completeness of the application.

This document and application link are available on the GSA's [website](#).

Questions regarding this application should be directed to the GSA Awards Committee Chair or Vice Chair at [awards.gsa@ucalgary.ca](mailto:awards.gsa@ucalgary.ca)

*This information is collected following the standards set by the Personal Information and Privacy Act (PIPA). It is required to determine your eligibility for the award and may be used for research and statistical analysis. If you have any questions about the collection or use of this information, please contact the Awards Committee Chair at [awards.gsa@ucalgary.ca](mailto:awards.gsa@ucalgary.ca).*

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#### **Purpose**

The GSA Bursary provides financial assistance to graduate students facing hardship arising from diverse and interconnected factors, including limited employment opportunities, caregiving responsibilities, disability or chronic illness, systemic barriers, discrimination, displacement, or global crises. It aims to address immediate financial strain while fostering academic success, well-being, and inclusion across the graduate community. Application assessment is grounded in fairness, transparency, and respect for diverse forms of communication.

#### **Value**

Up to \$1,500 CDN. Applicants will not receive more than their demonstrated need.

#### **Eligibility**

To be eligible for this bursary, applicants must:

1. Be an Active Member of the GSA (currently enrolled graduate student at the University of Calgary) during the academic year of application.
2. Demonstrate a financial shortfall for the current academic year.
3. Not have received a GSA Bursary within the same academic year.
4. Agree to provide information for statistical and process improvement purposes (no identifying information will be shared beyond what is required for processing)

## Documents Required

Applications should be completed online on the [GSA awards website](#) (click “Submit Application” to access the application portal) using a UCalgary email address and consist of:

1. Upload proof of enrollment.
2. Upload a completed Income & Expenses Budget Worksheet.
3. Answer all Personal Statement questions.

**Please note:** Incomplete applications (e.g., missing documents, inclusion of extra/unrequested documents, or incorrectly completed forms) and late submissions will not be considered.

## Application Specifications

1. Confirmation of enrollment
  - Log into your UofC Student Portal – MyUCalgary (<https://my.ucalgary.ca/>)
  - In the white side banner click “Program and Advising Info”
  - Screenshot this page including your current program information: your name, year of program, degree stream, area of study, and academic load
  - Attach this screenshot as proof of enrollment for the 2024-25 academic year.
2. **The inclusion of any extra documents or material will not be evaluated as part of the adjudication process.**

## Adjudication Criteria

Applicants must meet eligibility and submission requirements as described above. All eligible applications will be assessed using the following criteria:

- **Severity of Need** – Considering financial deficit, living situation, dependents, and cost of living.
- **Impact of Bursary** – The likely effectiveness of this support in reducing financial strain and improving well-being.
- **Efforts Within Capacity** – Actions taken to address the situation, acknowledging systemic and personal constraints.
- **Systemic & Contextual Barriers** – Circumstances beyond the applicant’s control that limit access to resources or employment.
- **Clarity & Completeness** – Application provides sufficient detail for fair evaluation.

## Additional Regulations

- All applications will be kept anonymous during the period of review;
- The GSA Bursary is evaluated by the Awards Committee under the supervision of the GSA VP Academic;
  - As the number of applicants far surpasses the number of available spots, we are unable to award all graduate students who apply
- Questions about the application process must be directed to the Awards Committee Chair at [awards.gsa@ucalgary.ca](mailto:awards.gsa@ucalgary.ca).
  - The Awards Committee Chair is committed to answering questions regarding this award when possible. Questions that arrive less than 72 business hours before the Intake Deadline may not be answered.
- The Awards Committee will evaluate all application packages based on the adjudication criteria stated above.

- GSA Bursary decisions will be made approximately 10 – 12 weeks from the intake deadline and application feedback will NOT be provided;
- The GSA will not be responsible for any tax liability incurred from awarding funds;
- Applications must be written in English

**Committee Approval Date:** September 29, 2025

**Elected Council Approval Date:** October 03, 2025

**Revised Date:** October 03, 2025