



Faculty of Medicine Harmonized Student Stipend Agreement 2017-18

The following constitutes the Agreement reached by the Chairs of Departments of Biochemistry, Immunology, Laboratory Medicine and Pathobiology, Medical Biophysics, Molecular Genetics, Nutritional Sciences, Pharmacology and Toxicology, Physiology, the Institute of Medical Science and the Vice-Dean, Graduate and Academic Affairs at the Faculty of Medicine. This agreement excludes graduate students registered in the Clinician Investigator Program.

1. Total Stipend

The FoM will be increasing the student living allowance by 1.5% in 2017-2018:

2017-2018 Student Stipend Package for doctoral-stream Masters and PhD				
Domestic		International		
MSc	PhD		MSc	PhD
18,270.00	20,300.00	Living Allowance	18,270.00	20,300.00
8,480.14	8,480.14	2017-18 Tuition Fees	23,692.14	23,692.14
26,750.14	28,780.14	Total (Base Stipend)	41,962.14	43,992.14

2. Merit-based Entrance Scholarships (MES)

Merit-based Entrance Scholarships, valued at no more than \$2,000 each, can be offered to up to 20% (based on previous year's enrollment) of the most highly rated applicants as determined by the participating graduate units. A student who receives such an Entrance Scholarship, approved by the Graduate Unit offering admissions, will be eligible to retain the full amount over and above his/her total stipend. No other "admissions" or "recruitment" incentive scholarships may be offered by individual graduate units. Doing so would be considered a violation of the Harmonized Student Stipend Agreement.

3. Top-Up Practices (excluding Ontario Graduate Scholarships)

There are three basic principles that guide Top – Up practices:

- A student who receives \$15,000 or more, as a **major, competitive, external** award, will be eligible for up to an additional \$4,000 *Top-Up* in recognition of receiving an external award which the student can keep for his/herself.
- Awards/scholarships count towards a student's stipend package, with the exception of University of Toronto awards less than \$2,000 (i.e., up to a total maximum of \$2,000 can be kept by the student and not deducted from the stipend package).
- Students who receive an award(s) exceeding the amount equivalent to the Base Stipend and Top-Up (e.g., MSc: 30,750.14 and PhD: 32,780.14), will not be eligible to receive the Top-Up).



**2017-2018 Student Stipend Package doctoral-stream Masters and PhD
who receive major, competitive, external award(s) of \$15,000+**

Domestic		International		
MSc	PhD		MSc	PhD
18,270.00	20,300.00	Living Allowance	18,270.00	20,300.00
8,480.14	8,480.14	2017-18 Tuition Fees	23,692.14	23,692.14
26,750.14	28,780.14	Total (Base Stipend)	41,962.14	43,992.14
4,000.00	4,000.00	Top-Up	4,000.00	4,000.00
30,750.14	32,780.14	Total (Base + Top-Up)	45,962.14	47,992.14

Payment of *Top-Ups* will occur annually for the duration of the award. Thereafter, the student will revert back to the appropriate Base graduate student funding package amount.

Awards eligible for *Top-Up*, must be major, competitive, external and not restricted to a limited group of students, such as those at a hospital-based research institute. They may, however, be restricted by research topic area. For example, eligible awards include but are not limited to CIHR, NSERC, Canadian Cancer Society, Canadian Diabetes Association, and other national and international funding agencies. Additional awards that meet these criteria may also be eligible for *Top-Up*.

4. Top-Up Practices for Recipients of the Ontario Graduate Scholarship (OGS)

There are four basic principles that guide the OGS Top-Up practices:

- In the Faculty of Medicine, an OGS is not an external award.
- The OGS is counted towards a student’s funding package.
- OGS recipients will be rewarded with a Top-Up of up to \$2,000 which the student can keep for his/herself.
- A student, who receives an OGS and other award(s) exceeding the amount equivalent to the Base Stipend and Top-Up, will not be eligible to receive the Top-Up.

Please note the Queen Elizabeth II Graduate Scholarships in Science and Technology is ineligible for any Top-Ups. This is an OGS related award but is considered a Faculty of Medicine internal competitive award.

2017-2018 Student Stipend Package for doctoral-stream Masters and PhD who receive an OGS

Domestic		International		
MSc	PhD		MSc	PhD
15,000.00	15,000.00	OGS	15,000.00	15,000.00
3,270.00	5,300.00	Living Allowance	3,270.00	5,300.00
8,480.14	8,480.14	2017-18 Tuition Fees	23,692.14	23,692.14
26,750.14	28,780.14	Total (Base Stipend)	41,962.14	43,992.14
2,000.00	2,000.00	OGS Top-Up	2,000.00	2,000.00
28,750.14	30,780.14	Total (Base + Top-Up)	43,962.14	45,992.14



5. Awards Under \$2,000

Starting in Fall 2017, any University of Toronto awards under \$2,000, up to a total maximum of \$2,000, regardless of the number of awards, can be kept by the student over and above the total student stipend. This includes all internal University awards, such as OSOTF awards.

6. Ontario Student Opportunity Trust Funds (OSOTF) Awards

Students who receive funding from needs-based/merit awards, such as OSOTFs are required to consider such funds as part of their total stipend. Because many of these awards are hospital-based and each hospital has its own rules regarding Top-Up practices (some allow it and some do not), it was decided that until the practice can be harmonized across all the awards that these awards will remain as part of students total stipend.

7. Bursaries

Non-repayable grants, such as the UTAPS and SGS Emergency Grant, which assists students with sudden and/or unexpected financial need, are **not** part of the total stipend outlined above. A student under these circumstances is therefore eligible to retain the entire amount of such an award.

8. Funding Terms

In general, provided that he/she remain “in good standing”, a doctoral stream student will be funded for his/her thesis-based program. There are four basic principles that guide these funding terms, as follows:

- MSc students are guaranteed funding for their first 2 years.
- PhD students admitted with completed master's degree are guaranteed student stipend funding for a minimum of 4 years.
- Transfer students (i.e., transfer from MSc to PhD students), are guaranteed minimum funding for their first 5 years, which includes 1 year as an MSc student.
- Direct-entry PhD students admitted with a bachelor's degree are guaranteed student stipend funding for a minimum of 5 years.