



Graduate Support Initiative (GSI) Awards

The [Graduate Support Initiative](#) (GSI) is a program for funding graduate students through funding packages, tuition awards or scholarship top-ups. Allocation of GSI funds is made to the Faculty of Medicine, who in turn allocates funds to individual graduate programs. Graduate programs are responsible for establishing and publishing criteria by which the GSI funding will be distributed.

Reproductive and Developmental Sciences GSI Award Distribution Criteria

GSI funds are used by the RDS Program as salary top-ups for eligible students. GSI funds allocated to the RDS program annually will be divided into 3 equal parts, to be distributed at the start of each term: Winter Term I, Winter Term II, Summer Term. Students do not need to apply for this award.

PhD Students

Domestic and international PhD students are eligible for GSI award funding upon their entry to the RDS program, to a maximum of 4 years (or 12 terms).

PhD students holding Four Year Fellowships, Vanier Scholarships, or scholarships that provide tuition coverage will not be eligible while they hold this award.

Students who have transferred to the PhD program from the MSc program will be eligible for funding to a maximum of 4 years (12 terms), including terms in the MSc program in which GSI funding was received.

MSc Students

Effective September 1, 2021, domestic and international MSc students are eligible for GSI award funding, to a maximum of 2 years (or 6 terms), if the student has achieved and maintained an 85% or higher average in their graduate coursework in the RDS program.

MSc students will be assessed at the end their first academic year to determine their eligibility. The first possible payment of GSI award funding will therefore be the student's third term. Ex. If a student starts in September, and achieves 85%+ average in their coursework, GSI funding would be issued at the start of May.

The amount of the GSI award will be equal for PhD and MSc students, and will vary depending on the number of eligible students and the annual funding allocation.

Term award = (annual funding/3) / # eligible students