



CANADIAN STATISTICAL SCIENCES INSTITUTE GRADUATE STUDENT ENRICHMENT SCHOLARSHIPS (GSES)

The GSES program supports graduate students enrolled in statistical sciences at a Canadian university to undertake training experiences that enhance traditional graduate education. The GSES program is designed to foster acquisition of new knowledge and skill sets, provide exposure to new areas of research and application, encourage co-discovery of new statistical methodology, provide co-supervision of thesis research, and create new and/or strengthen existing collaborations.

A primary evaluation criterion for applications is the quality of the proposed experience in terms of training the student and furthering their research interests.

There are three varieties of GSES available:

Applied Immersion (AI): supports M.Sc. and Ph.D. students to undertake an immersive interdisciplinary or applied experience with a faculty sponsor outside of statistical sciences.

Visiting Scholarship (VS): supports Ph.D. students to work closely with a faculty member in statistical sciences at another university for an extended period of time.

New Researcher (NR): provides M.Sc. and Ph.D. students with the opportunity to work with new researchers and helps new researchers gain mentoring experience by partnering with an experienced mentor.

The eligibility, requirements, length of support, and funding levels vary depending on degree (MSc or PhD) and type of experience, see below for details.

Application Process

Applications are prepared by the lead supervisor. In the case of the AI and VS scholarships, supervisors are encouraged to involve the trainee in writing the application. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis but must be received at least one month before the beginning of the proposed visit. Funds are limited so early application is advised. Applications should be sent to canssi_sc@sfu.ca

General Eligibility Requirements:

1. Students
 - a. GSES scholarships are available for graduate students currently enrolled in a graduate degree program in statistical sciences at a CANSSI member university.
 - b. Participating students are required to maintain registration at their home university during the tenure of the award.
 - c. A student may hold only one GSES scholarship.
2. Supervisors
 - a. The lead (main, principal, formal academic) supervisor of the student must be a faculty member in statistical sciences at a CANSSI member university.
 - b. The sponsor or co-supervisor must be appointed to position in which they are eligible to supervise graduate students. *The graduate student supervision record of the sponsor or co-supervisor is a review criterion.*

Specific Eligibility Requirements:

Applied Immersion (AI)

- a. The student proposed in the activity must be named in the application along with the required information.
- b. The student may be enrolled in a master's or doctoral program.
- c. The sponsor for an Applied Immersion scholarship must be in a discipline other than mathematics or statistical sciences.

Visiting Scholarship (VS)

- a. The student proposed in the activity must be named in the application along with the required information.
- b. The student must be enrolled in a doctoral program.
- c. The sponsor or co-supervisor for a Visiting Scholarship must be appointed to a position at a different institution than the lead supervisor.

New Researcher (NR)

- a. The NR scholarship is available for students in statistical sciences who are currently enrolled in a master's or doctoral degree program and new students who will be entering a master's or doctoral degree program. *The student does not have to be named in the application.*
- b. The following requirements must be satisfied by the faculty member applying for the NR Scholarship:
 - i. They are serving or will serve as the academic supervisor of the student.
 - ii. Their current position is the first academic tenure track position held.
 - iii. Their current appointment is within three years of the start date for the position at the time of application. Supervision may take place during the fourth year.

- iv. They have not supervised a student previously supported by a NR scholarship.
- c. The co-supervisor or sponsor must have supervised at least one Ph.D. student who has graduated. *The experience of the co-supervisor is a review criterion for applications.*

Budget:

Applied Immersion (AI):

Support is available for a period consisting of a minimum of two months and a maximum of two semesters for a doctoral student and a period consisting of two months for a master's student. The maximum budget is \$7,500 for a visit of at least one semester duration. Periods of less than a full semester have a pro-rated maximum budget, e.g., a two-month visit has a maximum budget of \$3,750. The support can be used for any combination of travel and housing expenses or stipend.

Visiting Scholarship (VS):

Support must be used for a period of at least one semester in length but not more than one year from the start date of the scholarship. The maximum budget is \$7,500, which can be used for any combination of travel and housing expenses or stipend.

New Researcher (NR)

Provides up to \$15,000 towards a student stipend that can be used over a one year period. The funding must be completed within one calendar year from the start date of the scholarship.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Requirement

Students receiving a GSES Scholarship take part in CANSSI EDI (CANSSI's annual program of activities related to equity, diversity and inclusion), including completion of at least one CANSSI EDI event. The student's supervisor will also take part in at least one activity in CANSSI EDI.

Application Ingredients:

1. A cover page (available [here](#));
2. CANSSI Bio Templates for GSES for the supervisors and/or sponsor (available [here](#));
3. A summary of the intended research program and a detailed plan for the interactions of the student with the sponsor or co-supervisor (maximum 700 words);
4. A letter from the proposed sponsor or co-supervisor explaining interest in and support for the activity and the relation to the lead supervisor (maximum 400 words);
5. A statement stating agreement to satisfy CANSSI EDI requirements (maximum 200 words);
6. A proposed budget for the experience that includes a description of non-CANSSI financial support to be provided along with the requested CANSSI support (maximum 300 words plus a table)

7. Specific ingredients:
 - a. Applications for AI and VS programs include a statement naming the student, confirming their eligibility and agreement to take part in the experience, describing their capability and readiness to undertake the experience, and describing the benefits of the experience for their training (maximum 400 words).
 - b. Final confirmation of support for NR scholarships is sent upon receipt of a statement confirming registration status of the student, eligibility of the student for the scholarship, and the student's agreement to participate in the experience. This must be submitted before the start of the semester in which the scholarship is to commence.

Post Scholarship Requirements

Responsibilities for CANSSI GSES support include:

- Following CANSSI financial policies and requirements for activities reporting;
- Fulfilling CANSSI EDI requirements within one year of the beginning of the semester in which the scholarship is first used;
- Encouraging the trainee to participate in CANSSI communication activities;
- Submitting a brief final report summarizing the experience and research outcomes.