

Clinical Psychology Funding Policy

1. The minimum stipend for students enrolled full time in the clinical psychology program is \$20,500 annually for two years at the Master's level and \$21,000 for three years at the Doctoral level. (Note that students in the fourth year of the Doctoral program are funded through residency programs with remuneration exceeding \$21,000.) Normally, students who are externally sponsored (i.e. admitted with documented financial support from an external agency meeting the minimum amount for five years) are not normally funded from university sources, and are thus exempted from the minimum stipend.

2. To be eligible to receive financial support a student must be registered full time and be active in the clinical psychology program.¹

- Students must be available to take employment as a Graduate Assistant Teaching (GAT) or Graduate Assistant Non-Teaching (GANT); otherwise the amount of the GAT/GANT refused may be deducted from the annual funding offered to the student for that academic year.
- As per the Faculty of Graduate Studies policy, to be eligible for scholarships/stipends paid as scholarships offered by the clinical psychology program, or competitive university scholarships, a student cannot hold paid employment for more than 612 hours a year while registered as a full-time student. This includes hours worked as a GAT or GANT.

3. All of the following sources of funding count toward meeting a student's guaranteed funding amount (i.e., the amount guaranteed in the student's offer of admission):

- Stipend/scholarship payment from the supervisor's research grant, over \$10,000.
- Research assistantship income from a faculty member's research grant, over \$10,000.
- GAT/GANT income administered by the Department of Psychology.
- External scholarships, including but not limited to SSHRC/CIHR/NSERC/QEII.
- Internal scholarships, including from the program or university competitions, such as the Graduate Awards Competition.

4. Students are required to apply for all external scholarships for which they are eligible.

5. Success in external and internal scholarship competitions will affect the student's funding in the following way:

- a. For awards of \$7,000 or less, funding as set out in the letter of admission will not be reduced.
- b. For awards of over \$7,000, funding as set out in the funding letter may be reduced, so that the student's total funding for the year will be the greater of: i) guaranteed funding plus \$7000, or ii) the amount of the external award.

6. Students who are on residency will not normally be eligible for funding from the clinical psychology program.

7. Students who exceed time to completion limits (i.e., 2 years for the Master's degree and 4 years for

the Doctoral degree) will not normally be eligible for funding from the clinical psychology program.

8. Students are responsible for paying tuition and fees annually.

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/grad/current/gs-fees-expenses.html>. Students with funding from university sources can apply for a payment plan.

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/finances/tuition-fees/graduate-student-payment-plan>

9. Faculty who are currently supervising five students but are seeking to admit additional students may be required to provide funding for at least two years at the base level of annual funding. Note that students who are on residency but have defended their dissertations will not be counted in this total.

¹The position of the clinical psychology program is that students should concentrate first on their academic work, and secondly on outside work as a means of income. However, from time to time students may need to pursue outside work due to personal circumstances. Students who find that they must engage in work outside the program must discuss this with their Supervisor and the Director of Clinical Training prior to beginning work to provide details (i.e., nature of the work, time commitment, remuneration), to obtain approval, and to assess its impact on their program. Students may have internal funding limited or denied if engaged in outside work. The decision to limit or deny internal funding will be made on a case-by-case basis.

Note that the Canadian Psychological Association's accreditation standards stipulate that students must not work more than an average of 20 hours a week in employment outside of the program. These hours do not include teaching and research assistantships or sessional appointments. Students should also be aware that there are liability issues associated with non-Program clinical work that should be considered before accepting any such positions. Finally, students holding external awards must comply with the university's and respective agency's guidelines regarding other sources of income while holding a scholarship. Failure to do so may result in the loss of an award.

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