Psychology Graduate Program Funding Policy

1. The minimum stipend for domestic students enrolled full time in the Psychology Graduate Program is $20,500 annually for two years at the Master’s level and $21,000 annually for four years at the Doctoral level. The minimum stipend for international students enrolled full time in the Psychology Graduate Program is $20,500 annually for two years at the Master’s level and $22,000 annually for four years at the Doctoral level. 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 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 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 Psychology Graduate 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 may 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.
   - GAT/GANT income administered by the Department of Psychology.
   - External scholarships, including but not limited to SSHRC/CIHR/NSERC/AGES.
   - 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 competitive scholarships competitions will normally affect the student’s funding in the following way:

   - For awards of $3,000 or less per year (e.g., travel awards, tricouncil research stipends), funding as set out in the letter of admission will not be reduced.
   - For awards of over $3,000 per year, 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 $3,000, or ii) the amount of the external award.

   Note that some scholarships are not considered competitive because they are not adjudicated by an external committee and are therefore not eligible for top up (e.g., non-competitive Alberta Graduate Excellence Scholarship (AGES),).

6. 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 Psychology Graduate Program.
7. Students are responsible for paying tuition and fees annually. [http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/grad/current/gs-fees-expenses.html](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](https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/finances/tuition-fees/graduate-student-payment-plan)

8. 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.

9. Graduate student funding is at the discretion of the Graduate Program Director pending consideration of the overall program budget.

1The position of the Psychology Graduate 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 Graduate Program Director prior to beginning work to obtain approval, and to assess its impact on their program of study. Details should be provided regarding the nature of the work, time commitment, and remuneration. 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 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.

Approved: December 13, 2018

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