

ITEM: Reset maximum student stipend. (Revised Oct 28, 2014)

UPDATE (Oct 28): NEW for 2015-16: OGS award holders may concurrently hold other merit-based graduate awards up to a combined total of \$10,000. This restriction was not reported in the Oct 17, 2014 draft.

Top-Up Policy: Currently OGS and NSERC scholarships are topped-up by the department (their value is increased) by 11K, except when the total value of all scholarships exceeds the maximum stipend for top-up. In that case, the top-up is reduced until either the student's stipend is equal to the maximum or the top-up is zero.

Several years ago, DCS set the maximum MSc and PhD student stipend to be the minimum salary for an assistant professor at UofT. However we haven't updated that, even though the min faculty salary has increased. Currently the max stipend (for top-up) for a student is 41K.

Proposal 1. Update the max stipend for top-up to 47.6K, which is currently the minimum faculty salary. This would change the amount a winner of the NSERC CGSD receives. See below:

	Tuition (Dom):	7200				
	Incidental Fees	1200				
	Scholarship	Top-Up	Stipend	TA Support	Take-Home*	Extra above MSc/PhD stipend
MSc			21477	4500	17577	0
PhD			22977	4500	19077	0
OGS MSC	15,000	11000	26,000	4500	22100	4523
OGS PhD	15,000	11000	26,000	4500	22100	3023
NSERC PGSM	17,300	11000	28,300	4500	24400	6823
NSERC PGSD	21,000	11000	32,000	4500	28100	9023
NSERC CGSM	17,500	11000	28,500	4500	24600	7023
NSERC CGSD	35,000	6000	41,000	4500	37100	18023
Revision for NSERC CGSD	35,000	11000	46000	4500	42100	23023

* Take-Home = Stipend + TA - Tuition - Incidental Fees

Some examples of the top-up calculation when a student has multiple awards are given in the table below.

Award 1	Award 2	Total Award	Top-Up	Stipend	Comment
PGS-D 21K	DES 7.5K	28.5K	11K	39.5K	
CGS-D 35K	DES 7.5K	42.5K	5.1K	47.6K	Top up reduced according to max stipend for top-up
PGS-D 21K	BUL 20K	41K	6.6K	47.6K	ditto
CGS-D 35K	BUL 20K	55K	0	55K	ditto

Proposal 2. The department imposes a limit that a student can hold only one government scholarship (i.e., OGS, NSERC or SSHRC) at a time, and these scholarships cannot be held at the same time as any another scholarship valued at strictly more than 20K per year. (Except OGS restricts their award holders to at most an extra 10K in scholarships, starting in 2015-16.)

The idea of avoiding multiple governmental scholarships is to ensure the department spreads these government scholarships around.

Note the BUL scholarship is currently at 20K and can currently be held by students with an NSERC. We are proposing to continue to allow this, although for the BUL the student must argue for financial need.