

Ask the Experts: Tri-Agency and OGS/QEII-GSST graduate scholarships Q&A Session

Tri-Agency CGS M Questions:

How competitive is the Tri-Agency CGS M?

- The CGS M is very competitive. We receive hundreds of applications. Our total combined quota for all of the agencies is 101. However, if you meet the eligibility criteria and feel that you have a strong application, we encourage you to apply.

How do you apply through the CGS M portal? I've followed their website and I am very confused by the 12 step process needed to fulfill an application.

- Please refer to the [Tri-Agency CGS M application instructions](#) for information on what constitutes a complete application. For further assistance, please contact your [Department Graduate Co-ordinator](#).

If I am 8 months into my two year master's thesis based program, can I still apply for these awards (Tri-Agency CGS M and OGS/QEII-GSST)?

- For the Tri-Agency CGS M generally you must have between 0 and 12 months of full-time studies in the program for which you are requesting funding. Please refer to the [Program Description](#) for full eligibility criteria. For the [OGS/QEII-GSST competition](#), selected recipients are normally within their program time limits but students over their term limits are still eligible to apply.

What does the status of my journal article have to be in order for it to be acceptable in the CGS-M application? For me, a draft is currently being sent for peer review and I am unsure if the journal will be published before December or whenever the application is due for CGS-M.

- Normally a journal article should at least be submitted in order to include it in a CV. If you have articles that you are working on, perhaps your referee could acknowledge it in their assessment

For SSHRC how important are publications/awards compared to the research proposal/referees? I'm an older student returning after a career in teaching but don't have as many awards/publications as peers who have been doing this straight from undergrad. Is this a set back for me?

- If you are referring to the SSHRC CGS M scholarship, please refer to the [Selection criteria](#) as indicated on the agency web page. If you feel you have special circumstances and want to explain why you may have less scholarships/publications than your peers due to your professional career, please review the instructions for this section and complete if appropriate. If you meet the eligibility criteria, then we definitely encourage you to apply.

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Tri-Agency CGS M Questions:

I work part-time at an industry research centre (e.g. non-university) and am a part-time student. Most of my publications and experience comes from that industry work - does this affect how competitive I am for the CGS-M?

- Please refer to the [Selection criteria](#) as indicated on the agency web page. If you feel you have special circumstances and want to explain that your publications and experience has come from your professional career, please review the [instructions](#) for this section and complete if appropriate. If you meet the eligibility criteria, then we definitely encourage you to apply.

I applied to the NSERC CGS-M last year as a 4th year undergrad. I am now a 1st years MASC student here at UW. My application was not successful but I plan on applying this year. Can I have one of my referees from last year's application write a reference letter for me? Also, is there any way to sit down (over the web) with one of these advisors to go over my application from last year to see what I can improve?

- Yes - you can use the same person as a referee - provided that they know you well enough to address your research and academic ability (the selection criteria). It's recommended you give them an updated transcript and summary of your accomplishments since they may have changed since your previous year's application. In regard to having your application from last year reviewed for feedback - we recommend first contacting your supervisor, then your [Graduate Officer](#).