Nanofellowship Program Guidelines – For Prospective Graduate Students

The Waterloo Institute for Nanotechnology is proud to announce the 2023 competition for Nanofellowships. The Nanofellowship competition is now open to accept applications.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: February 1st 2023

Value and Eligibility

WIN Nanofellowships are awarded to graduate students pursuing nanotechnology research at the University of Waterloo. These fellowships are valued at $10,000 CAD each and are awarded to top Canadian and International graduate students at the University of Waterloo. The fellowship funding is a supplement to the Research Studentship support provided by the supervising faculty member. Nanofellowships can be held simultaneously with other graduate awards. These prestigious fellowships are open to new graduate applicants and current graduate students who must have at least two terms remaining in their program at the time of receiving the award. A student may be awarded a maximum of two Nanofellowships valued at $10,000 for the duration of their graduate career at UW.

Applicants must satisfy the general eligibility requirements for the University of Waterloo Graduate Scholarships (i.e., you must register and maintain an active graduate student status during the award period of September 2023-April 2024). A student must be in good academic standing in their program to be eligible.

No late or incomplete applications will be considered.

Application Procedures

Applicants must complete the Nanofellowship application form for prospective graduate students (fillable PDF form which can be downloaded online at nano.uwaterloo.ca/nanofellowships). Applicants must submit the completed form by the application deadline of February 1st 2023.

I. Nanofellowship Application Form

The Nanofellowship application form contains your personal information, consent form, and research proposal. Ensure all portions of the application are complete upon submission.

Instructions to complete the Nanofellowship application form:
(Use 12-point font or larger for all entries.)

A. Personal Information

- Please provide your contact information (in case any additional documents for your application is needed). Email is the primary form of communication for the WIN office so please ensure your email address is entered correctly.

- Telephone number. Please include the area code and country code if not a North American number.
• If you do not have a UW 8 digit student ID# by the time of application, please enter “N/A”. **NOTE:** you must be admitted to UW as a graduate student to meet the eligibility criteria for receiving the award.

B. **Consent to Review of Graduate Studies Application by Nanofellowship Adjudication Committee**

• Please sign to allow consent of review of your full graduate studies application by the Nanofellowship Adjudication Committee, including full academic transcripts, letters of recommendation, and all other pertinent/supporting documentation included in your application to graduate studies at UW (full signature required).

C. **Description of Proposed Research, Relevance to Nanotechnology, and Alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDG) (800 words maximum)**

• Clearly and **concisely** describe your research project and its relevance to nanotechnology. The originality and relevance of the proposed research will be an important element of the evaluation.

• Provide research background, hypothesis, methodologies, results you have accomplished to date, and the expected outcomes or significant breakthroughs.

• Include how your research aligns with at least one of the four key research theme areas of nanotechnology: Smart & Functional Materials; Connected Devices; Next Generation Energy Systems; and Therapeutics & Theranostics

• You must also describe how your research aligns with one or more United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDG), including how your project takes into consideration the theme of equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) as outlined in UNSDG #10 – Reduced Inequality. Please see descriptions of nanotechnology research theme areas at [WIN Research Thematic Areas](https://www.nanowaterloo.ca/research) and the UNSDGs at [THE 17 GOALS | Sustainable Development (un.org)](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/).

D. **Publications and Presentations**

• Provide the contribution in the order indicated:

  (a) articles published, in press, and/or accepted in refereed journals
  (b) articles submitted to refereed journals with submission number
  (c) refereed conference proceedings and abstracts, and invited communications, reports, and book chapters
  (d) non-refereed contributions such as technical reports, conference presentations, invited talks, posters, and patents

• Provide full authorship (with applicants’ name in bold), year, title, publication name and volume and page numbers for each contribution.

**Administration of the Nanofellowship Awards**

The results of the annual Nanofellowship competition will be announced in coordination with UW’s Official Offer Letters to Graduate Studies. If the offer is accepted, payment of the award will be in two installments of $5000 deposited directly into your bank account over two successive academic terms. In some cases, you may conditionally defer your award upon approval by the WIN Nanofellowship Committee (see below for details). Acceptance of this payment arrangement is a condition of your award.
For all awardees, you must maintain active studentship for at least two terms at the time of receiving the fellowship to avoid automatic termination of the award. In the situation of less than one term remaining in the program, you are not eligible to receive a Nanofellowship. If you have at least one term left but less than two full terms, you may be allowed to receive half of the Nanofellowship (value of $5,000) for one term, presumably your last full term, upon approval of the WIN Nanofellowship Committee.

If your student status has changed during the course of the award period, you must notify the WIN office as soon as possible or you may be legally liable to return the full value of the Nanofellowship.

Requirements of Nanofellowship Winners

Mandatory Attendance of the Annual WIN Nanofellowship Awards Ceremony

Each year WIN hosts a research celebration for all Nanofellowship awardees, to showcase their research projects and findings to the WIN community, as requested by the WIN Nanofellowship Endowment donor. Participation in this event is mandatory. If you cannot attend (only under very exceptional circumstances), you must notify the WIN office at least 2 weeks prior to the ceremony, and be prepared to provide your project summary documentation.

Mandatory Attendance of WIN Seminars and Distinguished Lecture Series

Each Nanofellowship winner is also required to attend a total of nine (9) advertised WIN Seminar Series (including Joint Seminars), three (3) Distinguished Lecture Series for that academic year, and attend at least one (1) Pitches & Demos Event. Attendance by WIN Nanofellows will be monitored by WIN staff at each seminar or via signed attendance forms submitted to the WIN Office.

Failure to meet these requirements may result in forfeiture of the WIN Nanofellowship.

Deferment of Award

You may defer your award for a maximum of one year at a time ONLY for reasons of parental leave, child rearing, illness, or health-related family responsibilities. You may not defer your award in order to accept or hold another award, employment, or to pursue studies other than those for which you received funding. For students on co-tutelle or other programs requiring travel, the Nanofellowship payments will follow those guidelines recommended by the University of Waterloo.

You must complete the Request for Deferment of Award and send it to the WIN office as soon as possible, but no later than one month, after the scheduled start date of your award. Supporting documentation (e.g., birth, adoption or medical certificate) confirming the reason for deferment must also be included with the request.

To reinstate a deferred award, you must notify WIN in writing at least 4 weeks before the scheduled start date of your award.

For students who have not yet applied to Graduate Studies at the University of Waterloo at the time of application:

The Nanofellowship application DOES NOT replace the regular admission procedure for Graduate Studies at the University of Waterloo. Please visit https://uwaterloo.ca/discover-graduate-studies/application-process for general admission information.
In the case of delayed acceptance to the proposed graduate program at the University of Waterloo, the fellowship will not be released to the candidate until s/he is actively enrolled in a graduate program.

If you have any further questions on admission, please contact the Graduate Studies Office at the University of Waterloo:

**Graduate Studies Office**  
Needles Hall, Room 2201  
519 888 4567 ext. 35209  
[https://uwaterloo.ca/graduate-studies/about-graduate-studies/contact-us](https://uwaterloo.ca/graduate-studies/about-graduate-studies/contact-us)

**Application Overview**

I. Complete the Nanofellowship application form (submit completed form as LastName_FirstName.pdf to nanofellowship@uwaterloo.ca with subject line: Nanofellowship Application)
   
   A. Personal Information  
   B. Consent to Review of UW Graduate Studies Application Documents  
   C. Outline of Proposed Research, Relevance to Nanotechnology and Alignment with UNSDG (800 words maximum)  
   D. Publications and Presentations

**Important Contact Information**

- General inquiry about WIN Nanofellowship application: win@uwaterloo.ca  
- Nanofellowship Application submission: nanofellowship@uwaterloo.ca  
- Nanofellowship Reference submission: nanoref@uwaterloo.ca