

The content of this document is designed as a guideline for post-secondary education administrators and faculty. It outlines in detail the criteria for administering the NB Graduate Scholarships Initiative. If you are a student, note that you can only apply for a scholarship through the admissions and/or awards officer at your school.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Offered by NBIF with funding from the Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training & Labour, the purpose of this initiative is to retain and attract excellent graduate students to the province of New Brunswick. These new scholarships are for eligible students who register to complete a graduate studies program at one of New Brunswick's publicly funded post-secondary institutions. This scholarship initiative is implemented as part of the province's innovation strategy to recognize student merit and excellence.

2.0 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible for a scholarship, a New Brunswick graduate student must:

- Be nominated by a Canadian post-secondary institution to receive a tri-council (NSERC, SSHRC, or CIHR) scholarship award¹, or
- Be studying in a discipline related to social innovation² or in one of the STEM disciplines (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics). These students must have their nomination put forth to the NBIF by a publicly funded New Brunswick post-secondary institution. For this category of scholarship, students from outside of New Brunswick with an excellent Grade Point Average (GPA) can ask a New Brunswick institution to nominate them for a New Brunswick graduate scholarship,
- Be willing to undertake graduate studies at one of New Brunswick's publicly funded post-secondary institution,
- Have an excellent student record,
- Be enrolled full-time in a graduate program approved by the Maritime Province's Higher Education Commission (MPHEC).

Foreign students who receive a peer-reviewed Canadian scholarship and are nominated by a publicly-funded New Brunswick post-secondary institution to receive a scholarship are also eligible if they enroll in one of that institution's graduate study programs.

The institution must match all scholarships with a \$3,000 top-up scholarship to the student. Multi-year scholarships require multi-year institutional matching.

1. A modification of the tri-council scholarship's attribution process could result in a review and modification of the scholarship's attribution process as well.

2. A social innovation is a novel solution to a social problem that is more effective, efficient, sustainable, or just than present solutions and for which the value created accrues primarily to society as a whole rather than private individuals.

NOTE: Scholarship recipients are also eligible for funding under the Research Assistantships Initiative. However, the NBIF reserves the right to assess overall funding levels awarded to any one individual through its programming and determine an appropriate ceiling based on the level and nature of the studies or the research undertaken.

3.0 SCHOLARSHIPS

Students that receive a tri-council scholarship:

A new graduate student (i.e. master's degree) receiving a tri-council scholarship will receive a one-year top-up of \$7,000. The top-up can be used by the student during the first or second year of his/her graduate study program. The funding can also be used in tranches during the first and second year of the graduate study program.

A new doctoral student receiving a multi-year tri-council scholarship will also receive a \$7,000 per year top-up for each year of their tri-council scholarship up to a maximum of \$21,000.

Students nominated for but do not receive a tri-council scholarship:

Both graduate and doctoral students nominated by a New Brunswick institution that apply for and are denied a tri-council scholarship will receive a one-year scholarship of \$6,000. The scholarship can be used by the student during the first or second year of his/her graduate study program. The funding can also be used in tranches during the first and second year of the graduate study program.

Social Innovation and STEM scholarships:

Students that register in a graduate study program related to social innovation or in one of the STEM disciplines are eligible to receive a one-year scholarship of \$4,000. The scholarship can be used by the student during the first or second year of his/her graduate study program. The funding can also be used in tranches during the first and second year of the graduate study program.

4.0 APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Students nominated for a tri-council scholarship by one of New Brunswick's publicly funded post-secondary institutions **do not** have to apply for a scholarship. They are automatically eligible. The names of these students are to be sent to the NBIF by the institution with the proper documentation. The NBIF will review this documentation and award the scholarships as per section 3.0. The funds for these scholarships will be transferred by NBIF to the pertinent post-secondary institution, who will manage the scholarships as per their internal scholarship guidelines.

Students studying in social innovation or one of the STEM disciplines **do** need to apply for these scholarships. Here is what is required:

1. A full application, prepared by the student, will be sent to the institution's scholarship award office. The institution will determine its own internal guidelines and policies for these scholarship applications. However, the application form used by the institution will need to clearly state that the application is for an NB Graduate Scholarship, and will have the logos of the NBIF and the government of New Brunswick in the header.
2. The scholarship's award personnel will assess these applications and will transfer to the NBIF those that best fit NBIF's mandate (applied research with a potential for commercialization and economic or social impact), strategic industries, and the province's growth sectors. The documentation sent to the NBIF by the institution's scholarship award office will minimally include:
 - a. The Student's general demographic information, (citizenship, province of residence, home address, and other pertinent information as permitted by the Canadian Charter of rights),
 - b. The student's official transcript issued by the registrar's office including the student's cumulative GPA,
 - c. A letter from the Institution's registrar attesting that the student is registered in a qualifying graduate study program,
 - d. A description of the student's research interests (maximum 1 pages),
 - e. Two brief academic assessment reports from previous professors; these academic reports should refer to the academic excellence of the student and his/her ability to engage and succeed in a graduate study program (maximum, 1 page),
 - f. A list of significant academic achievements to date,
 - g. A list of scholarships received during past studies,
 - h. A list of scholarships held or applied for by the student,
 - i. Other pertinent information, (Maximum of 1 page, if necessary).

All students receiving a scholarship will need to create a user account and profile on the NBIF website to receive their scholarship. The institution will not transfer the scholarship to the student before the student has created this user profile.

The following user profile information will be public:

- Student's full name
- Institution at which the student is registered
- Type of scholarship awarded
- Citizenship
- Graduate study program in which the student is enrolled
- A summary of the student's research interests

5.0 DISCLAIMER

NBIF reserves the right to make changes in scholarship eligibility, funding, and other aspects of the scholarship program at any time and at its sole discretion.

QUESTIONS?

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