

STIPEND SUPPORT FOR MEDICAL GENETICS THESIS-BASED GRADUATE STUDENTS

Stipend Amount and Duration:

As of September 1, 2019, the recommended minimum yearly stipend for a full time Medical Genetics (MEDG) thesis-based graduate student is as follows:

- MSc and PhD (pre-advancement to candidacy): **\$24,300**
- PhD (post-advancement to candidacy): **\$27,000**

The student pays tuition from their stipend (the cost of tuition depends on whether the student is domestic or international as well as on the time spent in our graduate program). The stipend may come from an independent studentship award and/or from the Research Supervisor's research grant. Admission to the Medical Genetics Graduate Program normally includes a commitment from the Supervisor to ensure that each student is supported to the recommended funding level. Exceptions to this policy may be granted under unusual circumstances. Financial support from personal resources is not acceptable as "funding" for incoming students in the Medical Genetics Graduate Program.

The duration of the annual stipend is normally two years for an MSc student and four years for a PhD student. After the two-year MSc and four-year PhD point, continued funding is at the discretion of the Supervisor. The Supervisor should inform their student in writing (with a copy to the Medical Genetics Graduate Program office) at least six months prior to the end-date of the student's stipend.

Funding depends both on satisfactory academic and research progress, as determined by the Student's Supervisory Committee, and on the Research Supervisor's continued grant support. Termination of funding for other justifiable reasons must be approved by a majority of the Medical Genetics Graduate Advisory Committee.

Recommended MEDG Student Stipends for Award Winners:

- i. MSc / PhD student wins a one-year Rotation Program Award of \$18,200. Student's Supervisor tops up by \$7,800. Total Rotation Program Award and student stipend is **\$26,000**.
- ii. Student wins a one-year Tri-Agency Canada Graduate Scholarship Master's (CGS M) of \$17,500 from CIHR or NSERC. Supervisor tops-up by \$9,500. Total student stipend is approximately **\$27,000**.
- iii. PhD student wins **4YF** (\$18,200 / year plus tuition) funding through the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (G+PS). The student's Research Supervisor tops-up the stipend by \$9800. The total student stipend is approximately **\$28,000** (plus tuition support).
- iv. Student wins a NSERC Postgraduate Scholarship Doctoral (PGS D) award of \$21,000. The student becomes a 4YF holder and G+PS pays tuition. Student's Supervisor tops up by \$7,000. Total student stipend is **\$28,000** (plus tuition support).
- v. Student wins any award over \$30,000. Supervisor normally does not pay student a top-up. NSERC / CIHR Canada Graduate Scholarships Doctoral (CGS D) winners and Vanier winners become **4YF holders**.

- CIHR CGS-D awardees receive a \$30,000 stipend from CIHR (plus \$5,000 laboratory allowance for research/travel) and tuition support up to \$5,000.
- NSERC CGS-D awardees receive a \$35,000 stipend from NSERC and no tuition support.
- Vanier awardees receive a \$50,000 stipend and no tuition support.

Additional information on award values for 4YF holders is in the [4YF Guidelines](#) on the Faculty of Graduate Studies website under “Further Information”.

- vi. Student wins any award below \$18,200. Supervisor tops up **by \$2,000** over the minimum recommended stipend to \$26,300 (MSc) / \$29,000 (PhD) less the award \$ amount.

Other Funding:

Financial support from personal resources is not acceptable as “funding” for incoming students in the Medical Genetics Graduate Program.

Teaching Assistant (TA) Positions in Medical Genetics:

The Medical Genetics Graduate Program offers six part-time Teaching Assistant (TA) positions that are posted in March each year. The Program encourages every student to TA once during their graduate career and thus encourages the Research Supervisor to not reduce the student’s stipend the first time their student TA’s. Whether funding from subsequent TA positions is considered “part of” or “in addition to” a student’s stipend is at the discretion of the individual Supervisor and should be discussed between the student and the Supervisor before the student accepts a TA position (in Medical Genetics or another department). No student should spend more than twelve hours per week in employment at or outside of UBC that does not relate to their thesis research.

Hours Per Week and Salaries:

PhD students – GTA I; MSc students – GTA II

MEDG 520: five hours per week x 16 weeks (**80 hours total**). Salary: \$662.00/month (GTA I); and \$637.02/month (GTA II)

MEDG 419, 420, 505: nine hours per week x 16 weeks (**144 hours total**). Salary: \$1,191.60/month (GTA I); and \$1,146.64/month (GTA II)

MEDG 421 and 530: eleven hours per week x 16 weeks (**176 hours total**). Salary: \$1,456.40/month (GTA I); and \$1,401.45/month (GTA II)

Updated March 3, 2020