

HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION (HEC)

Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships

For any query please visit

<https://vanier.gc.ca/en/home-accueil.html>

Those wishing to apply for a Vanier CGS should verify that the institution to which they are applying for doctoral studies has a Vanier CGS [quota](#).

Candidates **must** be nominated by the institution at which they want to study. **Candidates cannot apply directly to the Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships (Vanier CGS) program.** Vanier CGS application packages submitted through ResearchNet will first be submitted to the Canadian institution that will be putting forward their nomination.

Candidates should verify institutional internal deadlines with the administrator at the nominating institution.

Candidates should read the [Selection Committee Guide](#) prior to commencing their application. This guide lists the three evaluation criteria and has useful information on how the criteria are evaluated. Vanier CGS selection committees are multidisciplinary, and applications should therefore be written with a non-specialist research audience in mind.

You must also review the [Equity, Diversity and Inclusion page](#) before beginning the preparation of an application.

Information provided in your application package must be self-contained. Links to external websites or documents hosted on a drive should not be included in the application.

To be considered eligible for funding, candidates must attain an average score of at least 3.1 in each of the three criteria.

DORA: The agencies have signed the [San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment](#) (DORA), a global initiative whose purpose is to support the development and promotion of best practices in the assessment of scholarly research. As signatories of DORA, the three federal granting councils recognize that research contributions are not limited to published journal articles but can include a broader range of contributions.

Accommodations and accessibility

If you need help completing online application forms because of a disability, contact your institution (scholarship liaison officer, research grant office or other applicant support office) as early as possible in the application process to investigate available supports. If your institution cannot help, or needs the Secretariat to collaborate on a solution, contact support@cihr-irsc.gc.ca. You can also contact VBS if you have questions or are seeking specific adaptation arrangements. You do not need to share your medical or sensitive personal information and, to protect your privacy, should avoid doing so.

Frequently requested accommodations include, but are not limited to:

- one-on-one phone or video appointment to clarify funding program information or the application process, or to receive technical support;
- alternative formats of online materials to enable access using assistive technology; and
- submission of the application (in full or part) through alternate means or format (e.g., hard copy, voice recording, or data entry by CIHR staff on the applicant's behalf).

Competition process

1. Applications are initiated in one of two ways. Either:
 - a. the student informs the faculty of graduate studies at the selected institution of their intent to apply to the Vanier CGS program; or
 - b. the institution initiates the nomination process by contacting the desired candidate.
2. Applications are prepared by the student and submitted to **the nominating institution by their internal deadline** (set in ResearchNet by the nominating institution) using the [ResearchNet](#) application system.
3. The nominating institution performs the internal candidate selection process. The institution is responsible for notifying candidates if their application is not selected for nomination to the Secretariat. The timing for this notification may vary by institution.
4. The nominating institution forwards recommended nominations to the Vanier-Banting Secretariat by **October 30, 2024 (20:00 Eastern Time)**.
5. The Secretariat coordinates the review process.
6. The Secretariat presents the recommendations to the Tri-agency Programs (TAP) Steering Committee.
7. The TAP Steering Committee endorses and approves final decisions for the Vanier CGS program.
8. Nominated candidates are notified of the competition results in **April 2025**.

Application/nomination instructions

IMPORTANT NOTE: Applications submitted in French are allowed an additional half a page for the Personal Leadership Statement and the Research Proposal. This provision will ensure an equitable amount of space for Personal Leadership Statement and the Research Proposal written in either official language, as evidence demonstrates that documents written in French require approximately 20% more space than similar documents in English.

Any pages over the allotted page limit for the Personal Leadership Statement and the Research Proposal (maximum of 2 pages for English applications and maximum of 2.5 pages for French applications) will be removed with no further notification to the Applicant.

Individual application documents can be submitted in either English or French. If another language is required to express a particular idea (e.g., specialized concept), be sure to provide an explanation in French or English.

A complete Vanier CGS application package includes:

- [ResearchNet application form](#) (includes two letters of reference, each with three sections)
- [CCV](#) (limited entries; please see [Completing the Common CV \(CCV\)](#) for complete information)
- [research contributions](#) (maximum one page)
- [personal leadership statement](#) (maximum 2 pages for English applications; maximum of 2.5 pages for French applications)
- [special circumstances](#) (maximum 1.0 page, optional)
- [two leadership letters of reference](#) (maximum 2 pages)
- [research proposal](#) (maximum 2 pages for English applications; maximum of 2.5 pages for French applications)
- [project references](#) (maximum 5 pages)
- transcripts

General application process

1. Applications must be prepared, finalized and submitted by applicants using ResearchNet.
2. Any information that is not required or exceeds the page/character limits will be removed from the application prior to the review without notification.
3. Applicants must preview **all components of their application** to ensure its completeness.
4. Applicants who wish to **self-identify as an Indigenous (First Nations, Inuk (Inuit) and/or Métis) applicant to their Canadian institution** may do so by completing the [Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships \(Vanier CGS\) : Voluntary Self-Identification Form for Indigenous Applicants \[PDF \(409 KB\) \]](#) and uploading it to their application. Please note that selection committee members will not be made aware of which applicants have self-identified as Indigenous (First Nations, Inuk (Inuit) and/or Métis).

5. The Vanier-Banting Secretariat cannot legally accept an application until the "Consent and Submit" task is completed on ResearchNet.
6. **Format of documents:** Refer to "[Presentation standards for documents](#)" for the required format. All attachments to your application must be prepared according to the standards provided. Applications submitted that are not prepared according to the instructions provided may be deemed ineligible.

For technical help, call 1-888-603-4178 or 613-954-1968 or email support-soutien@cihr-irsc.gc.ca from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

For program-related help, contact vanier@cihr-irsc.gc.ca.

Deadlines

There are **two deadlines** pertaining to the 2024–2025 competition:

1. **Institution internal deadline:** Following the student's identification in ResearchNet of the institution proposed for doctoral study (see Task 10), **an additional deadline date and time will appear at the top of each page**. This is the deadline by which your application must be submitted to the institution through ResearchNet. This deadline is set and controlled by each institution. You will not be able to submit your application past this precise date and time.
2. **Program deadline:** Institutions must forward their selected nominations to the Vanier CGS program by **October 30, 2024 (20:00 Eastern Time)**.