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# News from the Research Granting Agencies

Canada Graduate Scholarships Harmonization  
& Updates on Tri-agency Programs

CAGS 53rd Annual Conference (Calgary, Alberta)  
November 1, 2015

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# Agenda

- CGS Harmonization Project
  - CGS M allocation formula
  - Harmonization of post-award policies
  - Harmonization of doctoral programs
- CGS Master's
  - CGS M interface
  - Feedback
  - Statistics from the 2014 competition
- Vanier CGS Doctoral Scholarships/Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships
- Agency-specific additional information

## CGS Master's allocation formula

### Current CGS M allocation formula

- With the incoming application model in place since 2014, CGS M awards must be taken up at the institution at which the award was offered and accepted.
- CGS M allocations are a function of the average number of CGS M awards held at each institution over the 2010-2012 competitions.
- Maintaining the current CGS M allocation formula is not feasible. The number of awards held at the university would remain static in future calculations and would not adapt to a changing environment.

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## CGS Master's allocation formula

### Guiding principles

- Excellence
- Accessibility
- Data - transparency, reliability and accessibility
- Stability/Predictability
- Simplicity

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## CGS Master's allocation formula

Proposed criteria for qualifying for a CGS M allocation (Step 1)

Proposed criteria for determining which institutions qualify for a CGS M allocation:

- A. Institution received grant and/or award funding in two of the three years of the data being reviewed;
  - OR
  - B. Institution was assigned a CRC allocation (based on most recent CRC Results of re-allocation – by agency)
- ❖ In order to receive an agency allocation, institutions need to have a graduate program which is eligible under the CGS M program.
  - ❖ Institutions qualifying for a CGS M allocation receive at least one allocation

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## CGS Master's allocation formula

Options – CGS M allocation formula to allocate remaining allocations (Step 2)

- A. 50% Grant funding received + 50% Award funding received
  - After provided qualifying institutions with one allocation, remaining allocations are calculated by applying the following weight: 50% on the proportion of grant funding received by each institution AND 50% on the proportion of award funding received by each institution.
- OR
- B. Total sum of grant and award funding received
  - After provided qualifying institutions with one allocation, remaining allocations calculated based on the proportion of the total sum of grant funding received by institution AND award funding received by institution.

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## CGS Master's allocation formula

Feedback on CGS M allocation proposals

- What are your initial thoughts on the CGS M allocation formula options presented?
- The agencies recommend recalculation on a 3-year cycle. Do you agree?
- How can the agencies confirm eligible graduate programs?

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## Harmonisation des politiques d'après-octroi pour les programmes de formation : aperçu

- Contexte du projet
  - Lors de l'analyse des politiques relatives aux titulaires de bourse qui a eu lieu dans le cadre de l'harmonisation des programmes de BESC Vanier, de bourses postdoctorales Banting et de BESC entre les trois organismes subventionnaires fédéraux (été 2012), il a été établi qu'il fallait réaliser la même analyse pour tous les programmes de formation à la recherche.
- Objectifs
  - Lorsque possible, continuer de simplifier et de rationaliser les politiques et les pratiques relatives aux titulaires de bourse et de les harmoniser entre les trois organismes subventionnaires.
  - Le cas échéant, mettre en œuvre de nouvelles politiques relativement aux titulaires de bourse tout en respectant l'autonomie qu'à chaque organisme en vertu de la loi.
- Résultat
  - Un document unique à l'intention des détenteurs de bourses et des administrateurs sur les politiques harmonisées d'après-octroi des bourses de formation. Ce document rassemblera toute l'information sur les politiques et les pratiques relatives aux titulaires d'une bourse de formation dans le cadre d'un programme administré par les trois organismes.

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## Harmonization of Post-Award Policies for Training Programs

- Examples of policies that are being considered for harmonization include:
  - Parental Leave\*
  - Medical Leave
  - Deferment of award
  - Interruption of award
  - Part time support

\*Key recent change:

Tri-agency policy on offering **Paid Interruption for Reasons of Parental Leave** for all recipients of training awards.

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## Harmonisation des politiques d'après-octroi pour les programmes de formation : échéancier

Aujourd'hui



2013-2014

2015

2016

- Recensement des politiques actuelles
- Analyse des politiques communes et des politiques divergentes

Élaboration et harmonisation des politiques d'après-octroi

Consultation externe

Annonce des politiques d'après-octroi harmonisées prévue à l'été 2016-17



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## Harmonization – Doctoral programs

- A team of tri-agency personnel responsible for the harmonization of doctoral award programs
- Complete review of doctoral programs: CGS, Agency-Specific Doctoral Programs
- Includes review of the CGS Michael Smith Foreign Study Supplement (CGS MS-FSS)
- National competition with central application interface
- Planned launch: 2017

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## Harmonisation des programmes de bourses de doctorat Principes et objectifs

Principe	Objectif
Excellence	Récompenser et retenir dans les universités canadiennes les meilleurs étudiants des cycles supérieurs.
Qualité de l'expérience de formation et flexibilité	Participer à l'offre d'une expérience de formation en recherche de grande qualité pour les titulaires de bourse.
Impact	Favoriser un impact au sein et à l'extérieur du milieu de la recherche.

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## CGS Master's

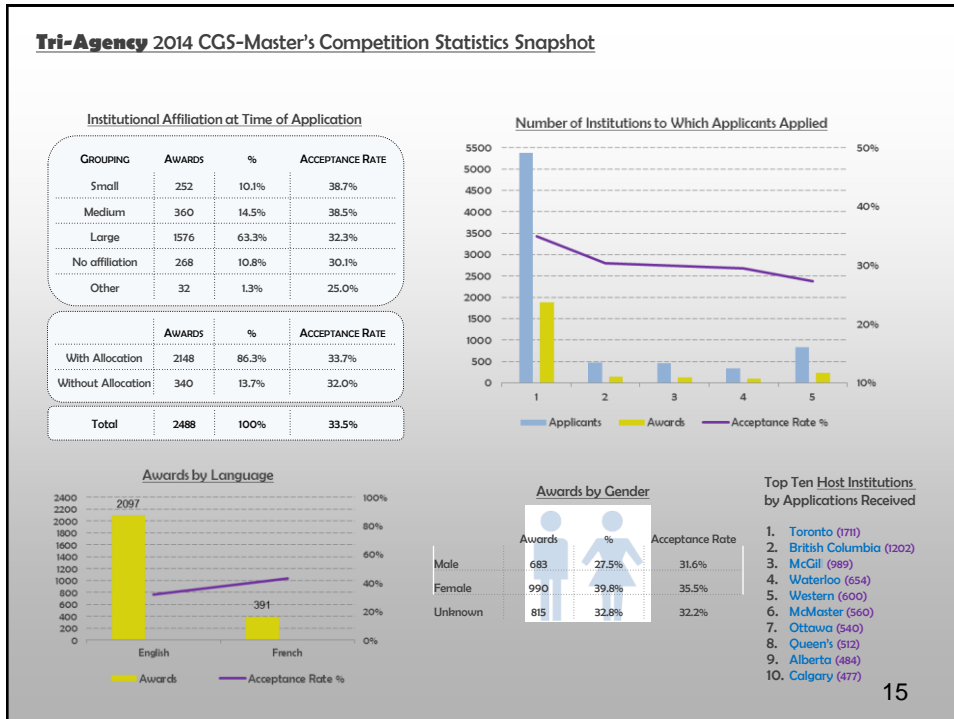
- CGS M application interface
- Statistics from the 2014 competition
- Feedback


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## CGS M application interface


- The 'Research Portal' project is having a direct impact on the CGS M application interface.
  - Unfortunately, this means that virtually no changes can be made to the CGS M interface for the next 2 competition years
- Examples of improvements have been approved, but which cannot be implemented:
  - List of departments to be made accurate
  - Add more detail to the Status of a 'declined' applicant
  - Give the CCV file and the application file similar file names
  - Add a citizenship checkbox to the application

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 **CRSNG  
NSERC**

 **CIHR IRSC**  
Canadian Institutes of Health Research / Institut de recherche en santé du Canada

## Feedback

- Open floor for feedback on any topic
- Some ideas
  - How could we work together to develop a robust quality monitoring scheme for the review processes at institutions?
  - How can we address issues of workload for universities and the researcher community?
  - For those who perceive mobility issues for Masters students, how do you recommend addressing them?

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## Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships (CGS) and Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships (PDF)


Canadian Institutes of Health Research


Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada


Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada




Instituts de recherche en santé du Canada


Conseil de recherches en sciences naturelles et en génie du Canada


Conseil de recherches en sciences humaines du Canada

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## Nouvelles des programmes BESC Vanier et BP Banting

### Évaluation des programmes

#### BESC Vanier

- Le rapport et la réponse de la direction ont été affichés sur nos sites Web.

#### BP Banting


- Le rapport est attendu à l'automne 2015.


### Réseaux d'anciens boursiers Vanier et Banting


- Deux groupes LinkedIn offrent aux boursiers, actuels et anciens, un forum pour échanger, collaborer et transmettre de l'information.
- Environ 40 % des boursiers Vanier et Banting sont membres du groupe.


### Annonce des décisions au grand public


- Nous encourageons les activités promotionnelles pour les récipiendaires des concours 2014-2015 maintenant que les élections fédérales sont terminées.



Canadian Institutes of Health Research


Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada



Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada




Instituts de recherche en santé du Canada


Conseil de recherches en sciences naturelles et en génie du Canada


Conseil de recherches en sciences humaines du Canada

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## Vanier CGS News

**Vanier CGS Quota**

- Revised quotas by Institution for the 2015-16 through 2017-18 competitions.
- Restrictions placed on carrying forward unused quotas (Management's response to Vanier CGS evaluation).

**Competition Timelines**

- Being reconsidered for Vanier CGS.

**Vanier Website**


- Has been redesigned and was launched in winter 2015.

**Scoring Process**

- Minimum threshold score for funding – all applicants must achieve a score of at least 3.1 in each individual criterion to be considered fundable.

**Next Competition**

- Nomination letter must now be completed and **signed by the Department Head**.




Canadian Institutes of Health Research



Instituts de recherche en santé du Canada

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Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en sciences naturelles et en génie du Canada



## Banting PDF News

**Revised Eligibility Requirements**


- For candidates who have completed their PhD outside the eligibility window, the allowable reasons for extensions have been expanded to include mandatory military service.

**Scoring Process**

- Minimum threshold score for funding – all applicants must achieve a score of at least 5.1 in each individual criterion to be considered fundable.

**Application Requirements**

- The number of institutional documents required to be attached to the application have been reduced to two: **Institutional endorsement letter** and **Supervisor's statement**.




Canadian Institutes of Health Research

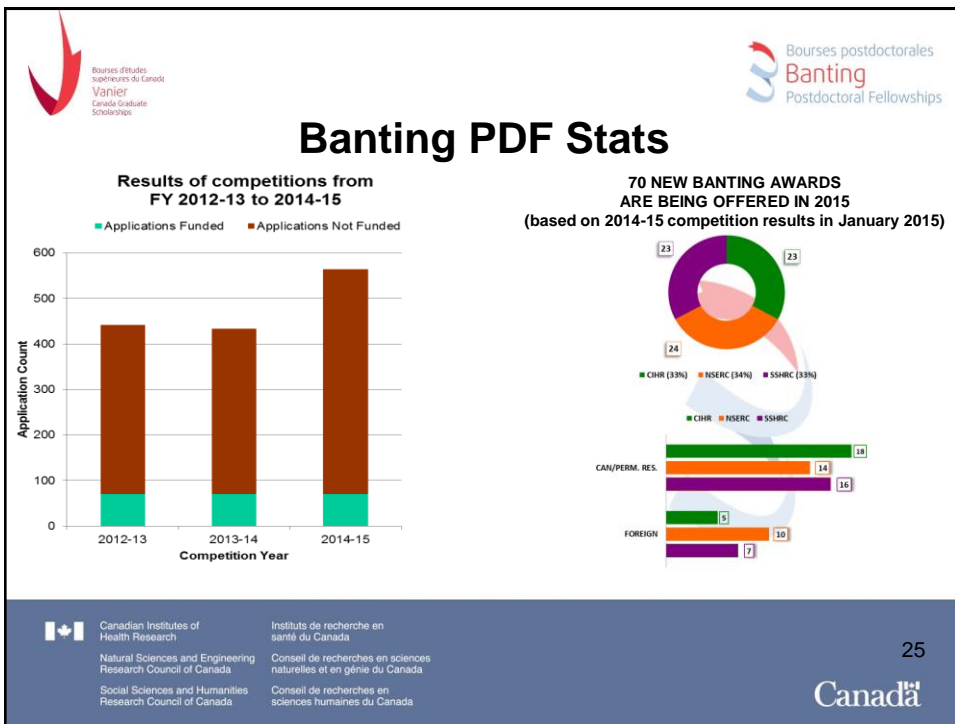
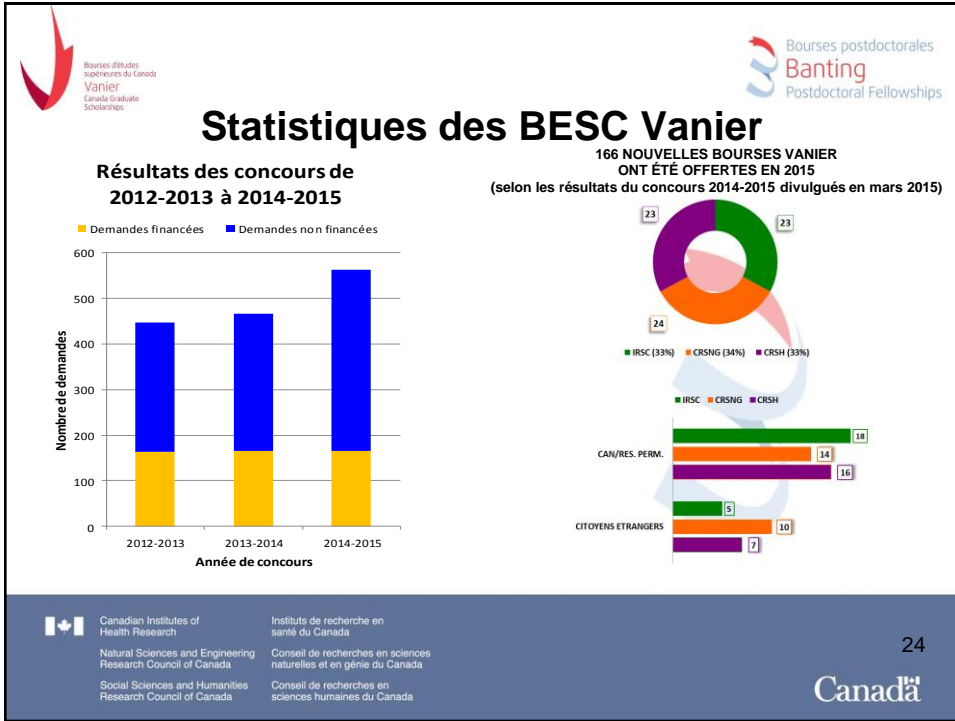
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## Our Strategy Builds on CIHR's Commitments to Training

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since 2000  
CIHR invested

\$1.2B

to support health researchers training

11% of total investment in research grants

- CIHR is very active in the training of health researchers
- Since 2000, CIHR has more than doubled its support for health research trainees
- CIHR Institutes have been at the forefront of training innovation within their communities

in 2014-15  
CIHR invested

\$200M

in training the next generation of researchers


- CIHR invests ≈ **\$65M/year** through direct awards to trainees in diverse health research areas in Canada and abroad
- CIHR invests ≈ **\$135M/year** to indirectly support trainees through stipends paid off of grants


in 2014-15  
CIHR awarded

1 900

training awards in diverse health research areas in Canada or abroad

- Canada Graduate Scholarships (CGS) for Masters and Doctoral students (including the Vanier-CGS)
- Fellowship programs for postdoctoral fellows (including Banting)
- Awards in targeted areas (e.g., Fellowship in Epigenetics, Fellowships within the Clinical Trials Networks in the U.S., etc.)

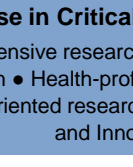




## Meeting the Challenges

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Training Challenges:	Future trainees must be:
<p style="margin: 0;"><b>Health Research is Evolving</b></p> <p style="margin: 0;">Increasing research complexity • Interdisciplinarity • Technology revolution • Globalization</p>	<p style="margin: 0;"><b>Research Leaders of Tomorrow</b></p> <p style="margin: 0;">who can lead high-impact, multi-disciplinary research in a rapidly evolving environment of advancing technologies and globalization</p>
<p style="margin: 0;"><b>Career Paths are Changing</b></p> <p style="margin: 0;">Limited academic path • Over-qualified • Under-qualified • Comparatively fewer PhDs in Canada</p>	<p style="margin: 0;"><b>Leaders Across Knowledge Sectors</b></p> <p style="margin: 0;">who can apply their scholarship and talent to lead innovation across different sectors of Canada's knowledge-based economy</p>
<p style="margin: 0;"><b>Expertise in Critical Areas is Lacking</b></p> <p style="margin: 0;">Data-intensive research • Aboriginal health research • Health-professional scientists • Patient-oriented research • Entrepreneurship and Innovation</p>	<p style="margin: 0;"><b>Experts in Critical Priority Areas</b></p> <p style="margin: 0;">who can establish and fill Canadian priority areas of specialized expertise and advance the frontiers of science</p>





## CIHR Strategies Being Explored

- Integrate innovation and interdisciplinarity training requirements into CIHR programs
- Accelerate research independence and leadership of CIHR funded trainees
- Empower trainees to take charge of their training and careers
- Provide trainees with opportunities for critical hands-on experience
- Support culture-rich research capacity building approaches to enhance the health and wellness of **Aboriginal peoples**
- Support research capacity consortia and professional training platforms to develop capacity in **data-intensive research** and **health professionals**
- Partner with key stakeholders to develop **entrepreneurial skills** and strengthen **patient-oriented capacity** to integrate research evidence to enhance patient experiences and outcomes

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Over to you!

Questions? Comments?

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