

Faculty of Environment

Graduate Student Funding Information Sheet

NOTE: This form is to be signed by both the graduate student applicant and proposed supervisor after they have discussed funding. Pages 3 & 4 must be filled out and signed (even if the amount is “0”)

The applicant’s file will not be considered complete and a Letter of Offer for admission will not be sent until this form is completed and returned to the NRES administrative assistant or Graduate Admissions where it will then be added to the students application.

This form is intended to ensure that a feasible arrangement for personal and research funding of a graduate student applicant has been discussed and agreed upon by both the student applicant and the proposed supervisor in MNRES, MSc NRES, MA NRES or PhD. It is intended to help the student applicant decide whether or not he/she can accept a graduate position at UNBC if an offer of admission is made.

Current graduate students estimate that the minimum annual costs of living in Prince George as a single graduate student are between \$18,000 to \$22,000, including annual full-time tuition fees about \$6,500 per year for Master’s degree students. The targeted time to complete a Master’s degree at UNBC is 2-3 years and 3-4 years for a PhD. It must be recognized that actual completion times of individual students may be longer. The student applicant should discuss expected length of time required to completion with the proposed supervisor.

Sources of Funding for Graduate Students

The annual costs of pursuing a graduate degree at UNBC can be covered from several sources (either individually or in combination). Funding which is provided to the student by Scholarships, Financial Awards (internal or external to UNBC) or from Supervisor’s research grants is contingent upon the student remaining in good academic standing.

Scholarships & Awards

- Scholarships) or bursaries from Tri-Council funding or other competitive awards (i.e., MITACS).
- UNBC scholarships or awards (e.g., Graduate Entrance Scholarships, Graduate Entrance Research Awards and other non-entrance Graduate Awards). Students should review the University’s Award and Financial Aid webpage for application details. <http://www.unbc.ca/finaid/graduate/overview.html#app>.

Note: Most of the applications for scholarships must be received by the graduate admission deadlines..

Stipends from Research Grants:

Some financial support costs can be supported and provided to the student from the proposed supervisor's research grant. If this is the case, the student applicant should discuss and agree on the terms of the financial agreement with the proposed supervisor – see below..

Teaching Assistantships (TA):

A limited number of TAs are available each semester. These are awarded based on the best match between student teaching abilities and the needs of particular courses. In order to be considered for a TA award, the student applicant must have a minimum GPA of 3.33 and complete a TA application form. UNBC is unable, for budgetary reasons, to guarantee TA awards. A full TA requires approximately 12 hours per week of work during the semester. If you are interested in a Teaching Assistantship, you must apply separately to enter the TA competition on the form provided in your application package for each semester.

Self-financing:

Self-financing includes any source of funding contributed by the student. It may include part-time work, but it should be recognized that in many disciplines, part-time or summer work is not possible (e.g. due to required field work). Even where possible, part-time work may make it difficult for a student to successfully complete her/his graduate program in a reasonable time period. The student applicant should discuss this issue with the proposed supervisor.

Anticipated Research Costs

In addition to personal support costs associated with graduate study, some studies may require the student to pay all or part of the costs associated with carrying out the research (e.g. travel or other research expenses) associated with the Thesis or Project. The student applicant should discuss these expected research costs with the proposed Supervisor and reach an agreement on how they will be met.

Research Grant Funding Agreement – Stipend
(required to be filled out even if amount is “0”)

Supervisor will provide a maximum of \$_____ from their research grant(s) to ensure the student has a minimum level of funding from all sources of income of \$_____. Please specify whether this sum is per year or total. If the totals of outside and internal scholarships combined exceed the minimum level of funding, then funding from the grant will be devoted to support research, rather than a stipend. This commitment is made for _____yrs from start date.

Indicate below any conditions imposed on the funding, for example, performance reviews of the student and funding/funder restrictions. It should be acknowledged that funding from research grants or contracts which are “pending” is uncertain.

Signed: _____

Proposed Supervisor or Designate

Student Applicant

Date: _____
