



Office of the Registrar - Awards & Financial Aid Unit  
3333 University Way  
Prince George, BC V2N 4Z9  
Fax: (250) 960-5604 Email: awards@unbc.ca

## GRADUATE ENTRANCE RESEARCH AWARD (GERA)

### Eligibility

Valued at \$5,000.00 each, these awards are available to full-time students who are entering a Master's or Doctoral program at the University of Northern British Columbia for the first time. PhD students may hold 2 (two) Graduate Entrance Research Awards per year for a total of \$10,000.00 annually. Consideration is based on academic proficiency (graduate admission GPA of 3.67 or greater). Students must be registered in a research/thesis-based degree.

The applicant's research must fall within the following priority areas:

#### **Humanities and Social Sciences**

- Life Sciences and Health
- Asia-Pacific Gateway Strategy
- Technology
- First Nations Students

#### **Sciences and Applied Sciences**

- Life Sciences
- Technology
- Natural Resources

### Instructions

**STEP 1** - Apply for graduate admission by via [www.unbc.ca/apply](http://www.unbc.ca/apply): December 15 (for September or May start)  
May 1 (for January start)

**STEP 2** - Complete the GERA application form, and submit it to the Awards and Financial Aid Unit along with your Research/Study Goals Statement\* via one (1) of the following methods by the above deadline:

- Scan/email to [awards@unbc.ca](mailto:awards@unbc.ca), OR
- Fax to 250-960-5604, OR
- Mail/courier using the address at the top of this page.

\* Applications submitted without a Research/Study Goals Statement will be disqualified. For more detailed information on what a Research/Study Goals Statement should include, please see the next page.

### Renewal

These awards are renewable for up to one additional consecutive year, provided that the recipients maintain a GPA of 3.50 or greater and must be judged to be making satisfactory progress in their program by submitting a Progress Report prior to renewal.

### Additional Awards

Please note that this application is award-specific. To be considered for other UNBC Graduate Awards or General Awards you must complete a separate awards application. Visit [www.unbc.ca/financial-aid](http://www.unbc.ca/financial-aid) for more information.

The deadline to submit GERA Application to the UNBC Awards and Financial Aid Unit:

**DECEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup> (for September or May start)**  
**MAY 1<sup>ST</sup> (for January start)**



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## Research/Study Goals Statement (Maximum Length = 2 Pages)

A research/study goals statement is a short document that provides a brief history of your past research experience, the current state of your research, and the future work you intend to complete.

The research statement may be similar to the statement of academic interests provided with your application for admission to UNBC. It is, however, important to remember that for the purposes of this award consideration, it is the primary way for UNBC's GERA Review Committee to evaluate award applications and make its recommendations.

Your statement should start by articulating the broader field that you are working within and the larger question or questions that you are interested in answering. It should then move to articulate your specific interest.

A Research/Study Goals Statement should always include the following:

- Your specific area of interest (i.e. the research topic you want to work on)
- How your past education and other experiences have prepared you to be successful in the graduate program
- What you hope to achieve in your graduate program
- Why this particular program at UNBC is the best place for you to pursue your interests
- Include the name of your proposed academic supervisor and how s/he is the best 'fit' for your research and the person most suited to helping you achieve your research goals

Other tips for a strong Research/Study Goals Statement:

- State any work you have done in this area already (mention specific skills/techniques you have picked up).
- Connect your area of interest to work being done in the program (mention specific faculty members and projects).
- Refer to academic publications that have informed your interest (ensure that these are properly cited in a footnote).
- Mention any publications, presentations or conferences you have been a part of.

\*Please note that supervisors/potential supervisors may be contacted for further information or clarification as part of the GERA adjudication process.

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## APPLICATION FORM GRADUATE ENTRANCE RESEARCH AWARD (GERA)

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Surname Given Name(s)

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City Province Postal Code

Telephone Number: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

UNBC Program you have applied for: \_\_\_\_\_

Starting Semester (Check the One Applicable to your Program):  
[ ] September  
[ ] January  
[ ] May

UNBC Student ID (If Known, If Not Known Leave Blank): \_\_\_\_\_ (9 Digits)

**DECLARATION:** I hereby declare that the information submitted in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. Should I be granted an award, I agree to the release of my name, city of residence, faculty/program, photograph and amount received for publication purposes. Furthermore, I agree that the University of Northern British Columbia has first claim to any monies awarded, and I understand that award proceeds will be credited to my UNBC student/tuition account. If you have any questions about the collection and use of this information, please contact the Awards and Financial Aid Unit, University of Northern British Columbia, 250-960-6319.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### MAKE SURE TO INCLUDE ...

- This application form – signed and dated
- Your Research/Study Goals Statement

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