

PSAC Local 555 Graduate Student Bursary Policy

The Graduate Student Bursary exists to provide assistance to PSAC Local 555 graduate student members who have gone beyond the length of their program and are in financial need. Graduate students who have exceeded their expected program length and are in Pool C of the TA hiring priority are eligible. This policy defines eligibility for the Graduate Student Bursary, guidelines for applications, and how PSAC Local 555 is authorized to respond to and assist applicants.

Eligibility

- The Graduate Student Bursary is open to all PSAC Local 555 Teaching and Research Assistant members who have exceeded the time specified in their support package, i.e. considered as Third Preference (Pool C) in TA hiring priority.
- All applications must be submitted with appropriate supporting documentation.

Fund Information

PSAC555 Graduate Student Bursaries are a maximum of \$1000 per award, per academic year.

Please consider and apply for any other sources of funding, such as internal and external scholarships and OSAP. For example, consider:

- The Student Awards and Financial Aid (SAFA) office offers many bursaries and donor awards that are needs-based.
- The OSAP Student Access Guarantee assists students in financial need.
- Personal and medical emergencies can be funded via the PSAC Local 555 Hardship Fund.
- The number of Bursaries is limited and, unfortunately, not all applications can be approved. You may receive an award that is less than the amount you requested. This is based on a number of factors, including need, available funds, and number of applicants.
- Please note that all fund decisions are at the discretion of the Adjudication Committee.

Deadlines

The deadlines for 2023-24 academic year contest submissions are August 1st, 2023, November 15th, 2023, and March 15, 2024.

Please note that the Adjudication Committee will be reviewing all submissions 3 times a year. And has the discretion to expedite these awards during these reviews.

How to Apply

- Complete the Graduate Student Bursary Application Form and submit it to PSAC Local 555 by the posted deadlines.
- Applicants must provide proof of Pool C status and an explanation of how the funding will assist their successful completion of graduate studies.
- PSAC Local 555 reserves the right to request verification for all claims made on the application.
- Applications must include all requested information. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- Please submit your completed application to Office@PSAC555.ca.

Application Review Process

Applications must be filled out in full, with supporting documentation (support package details), to receive consideration. The PSAC Local 555 Adjudication Committee will review all applications and notify applicants of the results within 30 days of the application deadline via email. The application review process assures your confidentiality:

- Each applicant is assigned an ID number before the application is sent to the Adjudication Committee.
- Applications are then reviewed and assessed by the Committee.
- Applications are kept on file for the purposes of characterizing members' needs for future rounds of negotiations.

Although the review process is anonymous, in the interests of transparency the recipients of the Bursary will be announced once the results have been finalized.