

# 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 their GRA has been decreased or eliminated. 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.
- And those who do not have enough external or internal support to cover their tuition fee and their living expenses.
- Priority will be given to those with a monthly income less than \$1000.00 (after tuition) from all sources.
- Applications must be submitted with all supporting documentation:
  - verification of enrollment,
  - current TA/RA allocation,
  - last graduate support package or offer letter.

## Fund Information

In the last Annual General Meeting you, the PSAC Local 555 membership, allocated \$5000.00 for five awards of \$1000.00 for the Graduate Student Bursary.

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.

## Deadlines

The deadline for application submissions are June 15th, 2026, September 15th, 2026 and January 15, 2027.

The PSAC Local 555 Adjudication Committee will review all submissions as they are submitted. **And PSAC Local 555 Adjudication Committee has the discretion to expedite these awards.**

## How to Apply

- Complete the Graduate Student Bursary Application Form and submit it to PSAC Local 555 by the posted deadlines.
- Applicants must provide an explanation of how the funding will assist your 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](mailto: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.