



INDIGENOUS GRADUATE LEADERSHIP AWARD APPLICATION

For information on eligibility criteria and the application procedure, see Appendix A (Eligibility Criteria), Appendix B (Summary of Contributions to Research and/or Scholarly Work), and Appendix C (Application Package Checklist).

Personal Information:

_____	_____
Last Name	First Name
_____	_____
Student Number	E-mail Address
_____	_____
Degree Program	Academic Unit

Indigenous Identity:

- First Nations (Status)
- First Nations (Non-status)
- Métis
- Inuit

Indicate up to five scholarships/awards received.

Name of Scholarship/Award or Source of Funding	Start Date (mm/yyyy)	End Date (mm/yyyy)	Value/Significance

Please provide

- Proof of Indigenous identity, including but not limited to, a Certificate of Indian Status or proof of registration, a Métis card, a letter from your community, a letter from an Elder
- A written submission (maximum one page), expanding on how you meet the eligibility requirements
- An oral submission (maximum 5 minutes – audio or video), expanding on how you meet the eligibility requirements. In respect for and to honour the oral traditions of Indigenous communities, the oral submission can include, but is not limited to, drumming, dancing, singing, talking, or presenting cultural objects
- One community reference speaking to your community/leadership involvement
- One academic reference speaking to your research potential
- A one page summary of your contributions to research and/or scholarly work
- Official transcripts

Declaration: I certify that the information provided in this application is true and complete in all respects and that no relevant information has been withheld. I understand that if I knowingly provide false information or withhold relevant information, I may be required to repay some or all of this scholarship.

Signature (electronic signatures are accepted but not typed names)

Date

Instructions for Referees (please provide a copy of this to your referees):

Letters of reference are given substantial weight in the assessment of demonstrated and potential leadership ability, and the assessment of research quality, productivity, and academic performance. The letters must be signed by the referee, be on institutional letterhead (if applicable), follow the requirements below:

- Maximum of one page in length, no larger than 8 ½" x 11"
- All text must be in 12 pt. Times New Roman font (condensed fonts will not be accepted)
- Margins must be set at a minimum of 1"

Community Reference Letter

The community/leadership letter should provide an assessment of demonstrated and potential leadership ability, elaborating on how the candidate has gone above and beyond the opportunities presented in order to achieve a goal, contribute to their community, or have taken on responsibility for others. Community leadership activities can include, but are not limited to:

- Band counselling or other positions
- Community involvement
- Entrepreneurial achievement
- Impactful involvement and achievement in Indigenous and non-Indigenous professional or academic programs/associations, such as sports, arts, science, business
- Internships, apprenticeships, or other experiential learning programs
- Involvement in student government or in an academic community, including committees, teams, senate, boards, ethics committees
- Leadership roles in Indigenous community, or family roles or cultural roles
- Mentoring/teaching/supervisory experience
- Organization of conferences, meetings, courses, community events
- Project management, capacity building, collaborative initiatives
- Roles in academic/professional societies
- Travel and study among Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities and countries

Note that high achievement, while admirable, does not necessarily constitute leadership. Be sure therefore to provide context for the committee that illuminates how the candidate's participation in activities (be they volunteer, work, sport, art, or any other participation) goes above and beyond active participation and becomes leadership.

Academic Reference Letter

The research/academic letter should discuss the following points:

- The length of time and capacity in which you have known the student
- The student's academic background and preparedness
- The student's research productivity and/or potential
- The quality of the venues in which the student's works have been published/presented
- The student's leadership and interpersonal skills
- Any outstanding achievements of the student

Reference letters can be submitted confidentially by email to gradstudies.awards@usask.ca or given to the applicant in a sealed envelope signed across the seal.

Appendix A – Eligibility Criteria

- Open to graduate students applying for admission or currently registered in a Master's or PhD program
- Be First Nations (status or non-status), Métis, or Inuit person of Canada
- Provide proof of Indigenous identity, including but not limited to a Certificate of Indian Status or proof of registration, a Métis card, a letter from community, a letter from Elder
- Have a minimum grade point average of 75%
- Demonstrate leadership through active community engagement and/or involvement
- Hold the award within the first 36 months of a Master's program or within the first 60 months of a PhD program

Appendix B – Summary of Contributions to Research and/or Scholarly Work

- Contributions must be organized into categories, possibly including, but not limited to, refereed journal articles, articles in refereed conference proceedings, conference presentations/abstracts, technical/government reports, Town Hall/Community talks, exhibitions, performances
- For refereed publications, please indicate whether the work is published, in press, or accepted
- Do not list work that is "in preparation" or "submitted"
- Do not list reports/submissions that were used to satisfy the requirements of a course

Appendix C – Application Package Checklist

- A completed Indigenous Graduate Leadership Award application form
- A written submission (maximum one page), expanding on how you meet the eligibility requirements
- An oral submission (maximum 5 minutes – audio or video), expanding on how you meet the eligibility requirements. In respect for the oral traditions of Indigenous communities, the oral submission can include, but is not limited to, drumming, dancing, singing, talking, or presenting cultural objects
- Proof of Indigenous identity, including but not limited to a Certificate of Indian Status or proof of registration, a Métis card, a letter from community, a letter from an Elder
- One community reference that speaks to your community/leadership involvement
- One academic reference that speaks to your research potential
- One page summary of your contributions to research and/or scholarly work
- Official transcripts

All written submissions must follow the formatting requirements below:

- Maximum of one page in length, no larger than 8 ½" x 11"
- All text must be in 12 pt. Times New Roman font (condensed fonts will not be accepted)
- Margins must be set at a minimum of 1"

Please note:

1. The information provided in the written and oral submissions should be complementary, not redundant, and should reflect the community and leadership components of the application.
2. Leadership extends beyond employment. It can be demonstrated additionally through, for example, academic and community endeavours.
3. Applicants should clearly demonstrate evidence of a cultural connection and engagement with an Indigenous community.