

**From:** Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies <university.announcements@usask.ca>  
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## Important graduate studies information for programs and units

### **2021-2022 Graduate Student Tuition Offset**

As you may recall from the last term, a tuition offset was applied to continuing international graduate students' tuition accounts to offset the increase to the international differential. These offsets are available to students who began their program in the 2020-2021 academic year or earlier.

The graduate student tuition offset will once again be applied to the accounts of eligible continuing graduate students for the Spring/Summer term. All students currently eligible for the offset were notified on May 5th. This is the last term for the offset. Further offset details are available [here](#).

### **RMS Recruit Tips and Tricks**

If a student is having troubles accessing their offer letter in the online portal and you send them a copy, be sure to convert the file to a .pdf before sending it. When staff access offer letters from within the system, they are in editable .docx format. We only want to be sending .pdf versions to students.

### **[2022-2023 Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships Competition](#)**

Launched by the Vanier-Banting Secretariat, this program offers funding for individuals with PhD, PhD-equivalent or health professional degree completion between September 15,

2019 and September 30, 2023 (inclusive) and is open to both Canadian and international researchers. The Banting PDF competition is highly competitive and includes a rigorous internal review and selection process.

Important dates:

- June 15, 2022 – USask Notification of Intent (NOI) package deadline
- July 25, 2022 – Full Draft Application deadline (for applicants selected at the NOI stage)
- September 21, 2022 – Final submission to Banting (must be endorsed by USask)

[Find competition details here.](#)

### **Scholarship Competition - Spring/Summer Term Deadlines**

June 30, 2022

[Graduate Research Fellowships \(GRFs\)](#)

[Graduate Teaching Fellowships \(GTFs\)](#)

August 1, 2022

[English as a Second Language \(ESL\) Bursary – Fall 2022](#)

[John Spencer Middleton & Jack Spencer Gordon Middleton Graduate Bursary](#)

### **Registration for Dual Degree Students**

Beginning May 1, students who are pursuing a formal dual degree program will be able to register in a special placeholder class at USask during the portion(s) of their program in which they are studying and registered at the partner institution. This placeholder class will assess student fees and enable students to maintain fulltime status but will not assess tuition – preventing students from being required to pay tuition to both institutions simultaneously. Only CGPS staff can register students in this placeholder, so please be sure to notify your CGPS Programs Advisor if/when one of your Dual Degree students confirms their registration at the partner institution.

### **Advisory and Defence Changes (and processes) update**

A set of changes to enhance advisory committee composition and thesis/dissertation defence processes for master's and Ph.D. programs was approved by CGPS Council in January 2022. Key changes are summarized [here](#). In association with these policy changes, we have also been working to streamline defence processes and paperwork. As discussed at the recent joint Graduate Chair and Graduate Program Administrator Forum, moving forward, Graduate Program Administrators will be able to access all defence forms (aside

from those associated with the External Examiner for PhD defences) themselves online [here](#) including:

- GPS 403.4 – Report of the Oral Defence of a Master’s Thesis (the only form required following the defence of a Master’s thesis)
- GPS 403.5 – Report of the Oral Defence of a Doctoral Dissertation (the only form required following the defence of a PhD dissertation)
- Graduating Student Checklist
- Updated Policies and Procedures for PhD Defences document

For defences taking place on or after May 1, CGPS Program Advisors will no longer be sending PhD defence paperwork to respective units through defence tickets as they will be able to access the forms online. Please be sure to use the updated forms for all PhD and Master’s defences that take place on or after May 1.

Attached is a quick process map that outlines the various steps taken as part of PhD defence process. If you have any questions regarding this updated process, please contact your CGPS Program Advisor directly.

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The CGPS Operational Bulletin is sent to Graduate Administrators and Graduate Chairs

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 **Attachments:**  
[PhDDefenceProcess.pdf](#)