



Canadian Dairy Commission Workforce Development Initiative

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM GUIDE



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE¹

Background and Objective

The Canadian Dairy Commission (CDC) is committed to supporting a highly skilled, diverse² workforce that is well adapted to meet the current and future needs of our dairy producing and processing sectors. The CDC will meet this objective by financially supporting programs under the Workforce Development Initiative (WDI).

This initiative encourages productivity, competitiveness, and innovation in the Canadian dairy industry by supporting the education and recruitment of a qualified workforce.

WDI Programs

The WDI is composed of four key funding programs:

1. **Scholarship Program:** Scholarships for graduate students in fields related to the dairy industry
 2. **Career Promotion Program:** Promotion of careers in the dairy industry
 3. **Education Program:** Creation of government-certified, full-time educational programs in order to train qualified staff to work in dairy plants
 4. **Continuing Education Program:** Opportunities for continuing education for current dairy plant and farm staff
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Scholarship Program

Purpose

The purpose of the Scholarship Program is to encourage and support dairy related graduate studies and to increase career opportunities in the Canadian dairy industry among aspiring students.

Budget and Term

A total budget of \$1.5 M has been committed. This program took effect on April 1, 2018, for a term of 3 years. The second round of this program started on February 1, 2019 with a budget of \$216,000 available to students who study outside Quebec and Ontario only³.

Scholarship Amounts

Full-time Master's students: maximum of \$20,000 per year for up to 2 years

Full-time Ph.D. students: maximum of \$30,000 per year for up to 3 years

¹ The components of the initiative and its programs are subject to change.

² A workforce that is reflective of Canadian society, which includes women, Indigenous persons, persons with a disability, and members of a visible minority group.

³ In the first launch of this program, the University of Guelph (Ontario) and Novalait (Quebec) received \$500,000 each to administer the program on behalf of the CDC for students who study in Quebec and Ontario. These students should communicate directly with the University of Guelph and Novalait to submit their candidacy.

Administration of Funds

Eligible Scholarship Awarders

In this second round, \$216,000 are available to Canadian universities and research organizations⁴ outside Quebec and Ontario⁵ and will be used for individual scholarships distributed through an application process administered by the CDC.

Successful awarders will sign a *Scholarship Program Funding Agreement for Eligible Scholarship Awarders* with the CDC once their application is approved. The funding provided to the successful awarder will be administered according to the terms and conditions set out in this agreement.

Eligible Students

Only Canadian citizens and permanent residents who apply through a pre-approved or eligible scholarship awarder may receive funding.

Evaluation Criteria

Applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- relevance of the research project to the Canadian dairy industry within the following topics of study (35%):
 - adding value to dairy ingredients
 - developing new applications and dairy food products based on bio-medicine
 - understanding the dairy matrix and the functionality of dairy products
 - understanding the microbiology of milk and dairy products
 - enhancing sustainable development and eco-efficiency
 - controlling water cycle and reducing water usage
 - improving farm efficiency
 - reducing cost of milk production
 - improving animal health and welfare
 - reducing risks of antimicrobial resistance
- student's academic excellence and ability (30%)
- experimental design (20%)
- expertise of the research/thesis director (10%)
- access to facilities and equipment (5%)

Application and Review Process

For Eligible Scholarship Awarders

Canadian universities and research organizations outside of Ontario and Quebec are eligible scholarship awarders and can submit applications. Eligible awarders must submit their students' application using the *Scholarship Program Application Form* which can be found at the end of this guide. The CDC will determine which eligible awarders will receive funds based on the applications received. Effort will be made to cover the various regions across the country excluding Ontario and Quebec.

⁴ Research organizations which are part of the Federal government are not eligible.

⁵ See footnote #4

Applications **must be submitted by May 31, 2019** and must meet all the evaluation criteria. Applications will be evaluated by the CDC Scholarship Program Evaluation Committee. Outside expertise may be called in to help with the assessment of the applications. The Committee will recommend applications for approval by the CEO.

Once applications are approved, the eligible awardee will sign a *Scholarship Program Funding Agreement* which outlines the terms and conditions for the use of funds.

Reporting and Auditing

Awardees are subject to the reporting and auditing requirements and obligations as stated in their respective *Scholarship Program Funding Agreement*. They must also maintain and provide detailed accounting records to the CDC upon request and give the CDC full audit rights.

CDC Contact for Scholarship Program

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