

The Esri Canada Higher Education Scholarship at the University of Calgary

Overview

The Esri Canada Higher Education Scholarship award recognizes excellence in the academic achievement of University of Calgary undergraduate students who use geographic information systems (GIS) within their program of study. The award is sponsored by Esri Canada, and students must demonstrate how the use of Esri technology (e.g., ArcGIS Platform) has significantly contributed to a recent project they completed as part of their coursework or research. One award is available to an eligible UCalgary student each year—this award competition will determine who the University of Calgary will nominate to Esri Canada to receive the award.

Award Details

The winner of this scholarship will receive a one-time payment of \$1000.

Eligibility

To be eligible to receive this award, applicants must demonstrate each of the following in their application:

1. Currently a full-time undergraduate student at the University of Calgary.
2. Minimum overall GPA of 3.3 (or equivalent) in the current program of study.
3. Applicant has completed significant coursework and/or using Esri technology.
4. The applicant has completed an interesting and innovative project that uses GIS and Esri technology. A suitable project could be based on a course project, course lab work, and/or independent research completed by the applicant. The project must be communicated in a digital poster that sufficiently describes the work completed by the student and how Esri technology was used to accomplish the project.

Evaluation Process

The Esri Canada Higher Education Scholarship at the University of Calgary will be adjudicated by the Esri Canada GIS / Higher Education Scholarship Selection Committee, which is composed of a representative from each of the following units: Campus IT's Geospatial Services unit, Department of Geography, Department of Geomatics Engineering, and the university library's Spatial and Numeric Data Services. The committee meets in the winter term of each year following the submission deadline to rank applicants on the basis of:

1. academic achievement, as indicated by overall GPA with emphasis on courses related to the geospatial sciences,

2. the clarity and visual appeal of their poster that describes the GIS project they completed, and
3. innovative use of GIS technology within the project, with emphasis on the use of Esri technology.

Eligible students are invited to apply for the award by providing the materials specified in the [How to Apply](#) section below.

All applicants will have an opportunity to deposit their poster into [PRISM](#), the UCalgary repository. Doing so will index your poster in Google Scholar and the UCalgary Library making it more discoverable and easily citable for others. This will also create a permanent URL link (DOI) for your poster which you can use, including on your CV.

Following a review of the applications by the Selection Committee, **one applicant will be asked to submit a report or ArcGIS StoryMap**, see [Important Dates](#) below. The report or ArcGIS StoryMap should include and expand upon the information outlined in the poster submission.

Report Specifications: The main body (excluding title page, captions, and references) should not be more than 1000 words. PDF format and double-spaced text.

ArcGIS StoryMap Specifications: Students who submit an ArcGIS StoryMap instead of a project report must share their StoryMap publicly on ArcGIS Online and provide the full URL to the StoryMap in their cover letter. Students may elect to keep their StoryMap private until the day of the application deadline if they have privacy concerns.

The Selection Committee will review the report or ArcGIS StoryMap and the other submitted materials. If all requirements are met, the Selection Committee will notify Esri Canada of this year's nominee to receive the award. Typically, the nominee will be offered the award by Esri Canada, pending the applicant's submission of all their application materials (poster, report/ArcGIS StoryMap, CV, transcripts, etc.) directly to the Esri Canada Scholarship Coordinator. Note that the final decision to award the scholarship will be made by Esri Canada.

How to Apply

Current UCalgary undergraduate students can [apply online](#). Sign in using your UCalgary email address and password to complete the application form.

You will need to provide some personal information, including:

- Legal name
- UCalgary email address
- Student ID number
- Telephone number

You will also be asked to provide biographical information, for example:

- Current degree program and department, school, or faculty name.
- Expected graduation year and term.
- Level of experience with components of the ArcGIS platform.
- Summary of your academic achievements, including overall GPA.

In addition to the information listed above, you will need to provide the following supporting documentation:

- Resume/CV.
- Academic transcripts for current program of study (unofficial copies are acceptable).
- Academic transcripts for previous program of study (optional, unofficial copies are acceptable).
- A digital poster describing the completed or in-progress course- or research-based project which showcases the innovative use of GIS technology, with emphasis on the use of Esri technology.

Note: submissions involving group / collaborative work will be accepted, however, only a single applicant will be considered for the award. Ensure your contributions to the project are highlighted in your poster submission.

- Poster Specifications:
 - Include first and last name, institutional name (University of Calgary), an appropriate title, and citations, attributions, and acknowledgements (if applicable).
 - The poster must be 24 inches by 36 inches (61 cm x 91 cm)
 - PDF format, file size limit of 25MB
 - All graphics should be minimum 300 dpi (recommended)
 - For guidance on how to create an academic research poster creation:
 - [Research Poster](#)
 - [Poster Presentation](#)

The **submission deadline is March 1, 2024**. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.

Important Dates

- Mar. 1: Deadline for students to apply.
- Mar. 15: One applicant notified and invited to submit a report or ArcGIS StoryMap.
- Apr. 5: Deadline to submit report or ArcGIS StoryMap.
- Apr. 12: Selection Committee announces outcome of award competition.

Questions?

If you have any questions, please reach out to Renna Truong at rdtruong@ucalgary.ca. Use the subject line "Inquiry: Esri Canada Higher Education Scholarship."