



Biology Graduate Program

Funding Information for International Graduate Students and Supervisors

Funding for international graduate students at York University is complex because it comes from a wide variety of sources, including employment income from Teaching Assistant (TA) contracts, Research Assistant (RA) income from the faculty member who is supervising the student, Fellowship income from the University (automatically applied to some of the tuition costs), an International Tuition Offset from the University (automatically applied to some of the tuition costs), and various others.

Depending on the source, the income is deposited into either the student's York U student account (e.g., the fellowship and international tuition offset) or into the student's personal bank account (e.g., TA and RA income).

The total annual funding a student is entitled to is not spread out evenly over the year. Students usually TA in only 2 of the 3 academic terms, and do not earn TA employment in the months that they do not TA. Therefore, the RA from the supervisor is normally paid in the term that the student does not TA. Nevertheless, the unequal monthly income can be a challenge for some students.

The Fellowship and International Tuition Offset are automatically applied to the tuition/fees but these are not sufficient to cover the full cost of the international tuition/fees. Students are required to pay the balance (\$4,453) owing for tuition/fees from their other sources of funding.

The amount of funding left after a student pays tuition/fees is just over \$21,000 CAD per year and the employment income (TA Wages) is taxable. For some students, this may not be enough to cover their costs of living in the Toronto area.

On the next page, we summarize a typical funding package for international students who have full TA load (1.0). These amounts are approximate and for illustration only, and do not include entrance or other scholarships that a student may receive.

For questions, please contact the Biology Graduate Program Assistant (biogpa@yorku.ca).

**Typical and approximate funding package
for first-year Biology international graduate students**

Source of Income	PhD	MSc	Notes
Deposited to Bank Account:			
TA Wages (1.0 load)	\$12,338	\$12,338	Paid monthly only during TA contract. TA contracts are usually in only 2 of 3 terms.
RA from supervisor	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	Usually paid monthly only in the term (usually summer) when student does not TA
Subtotal:	\$17,338/yr	\$17,338/yr	
Deposited to Student Account:			
Graduate Financial Assistance	\$ 3,583	\$ 3,582	Paid in 3 installments over the year (i.e., each term)
Grant-Aid	\$ 4,075	\$ 4,075	Paid in 3 installments over the year (i.e., each term)
Univ. Health Insurance Plan	\$ 624	\$ 624	Paid in 3 installments over the year (i.e., each term)
International Tuition Offset	\$ 6,709	\$ 7,534	Paid in 3 installments over the year (i.e., each term)
Fellowship	\$ 8,467	\$ 8,467	Paid in 3 installments over the year (i.e., each term)
Subtotal:	\$23,457/yr	\$24,282/yr	
TOTAL ANNUAL FUNDING:	\$40,795	\$41,620	
Tuition and Fees:	\$19,629/yr	\$20,454/yr	
TOTAL ANNUAL FUNDING minus Tuition/Fees	\$21,166	\$21,166	