New Emergency Bursary for International Graduate Students

April 9, 2020

Queen’s values our graduate students and we are responding to their needs in the face of unprecedented challenges. Effective today, we are announcing a new emergency bursary to help international graduate students with immediate financial needs.

All international graduate students who previously applied for a Queen’s General Bursary and demonstrated unmet need will now receive a $1,500 emergency bursary to help them address their immediate needs due to the impact of Covid-19.

The emergency funds for our international graduate students are only part of the bursary funding disbursed as part of the University’s response to Covid-19. The University continues to offer supplemental bursary assistance to graduate and undergraduate students in an effort to help with immediate and short-term needs for those encountering extenuating and unplanned financial challenges as our community takes necessary steps to respond to COVID-19.

Some students may be eligible for the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB); if so, Queen’s bursary assistance will help until the CERB becomes available. The University is looking into what other provincial and federal aid programs may be available to help, and the administration is already working with the Office of Advancement to explore how we can enhance our bursary funds. We know students will have other needs for assistance as the summer and fall terms progress and we continue to explore further tailored solutions to help support students being impacted by COVID-19 responses.

This is an unprecedented situation and things change quickly. The university is sharing information regarding financial assistance on the Student Awards Website as information becomes available. International graduate students are also encouraged to contact their embassies to see what, if any, help may be available to them through their home countries.

In addition to financial assistance, students are reminded that they can access other supports, including the Queen’s University International Centre, Four Directions Indigenous Student Centre, Student Academic Success Services, the Office of the Vice-Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies, and their department and faculty offices.

These are challenging times for us all. This long weekend is an opportunity to pause and reflect on things we can be grateful for, and to communicate with loved ones (while respecting physical distancing protocols). We hope all of our students, and their friends and family, are safe. We will continue to look for additional ways to support them through the days and months ahead.

Respectfully,

Mark Green, Provost and Vice Principal (Academic)
Fahim Quadir, Vice-Provost and Dean, School of Graduate Studies
Ann Tierney, Vice Provost and Dean of Student Affairs