

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL
SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
FOR INFORMATION ONLY

PRESENTED BY: Jason Perepelkin, Chair Scholarships and Awards Committee

DATE OF MEETING: June 12, 2025

SUBJECT: Annual Report to Council: Undergraduate and Graduate Scholarships and Awards

COUNCIL ACTION: For information only

ORIGIN OF REQUEST AND ADVANCED CONSULTATION:

This report summarizes the activities of the Scholarships and Awards Committee for two overlapping time periods:

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|--------------|---|
| 1) 2024-2025 | Annual summary of centrally administered and college administered awards distributed to students |
| 2) 2024 | Calendar year description of Committee Activities |

The Committee has four responsibilities and this report outlines the Committee's activities with respect to undergraduate scholarships and awards within the framework of the four areas of responsibility.

The Student Finance and Awards Office disbursed approximately \$17 million in undergraduate student awards in 2024-2025 on behalf of the Scholarships and Awards Committee of University Council, the college deans, and Huskie Athletics. Most of this funding is awarded as Guaranteed Entrance Scholarships, Competitive Entrance Awards, Transfer Scholarships, and Continuing Awards (both scholarships and bursaries).

DISCUSSION SUMMARY:

Part A – Undergraduate

Responsibility #1: Recommending to Council on matters relating to the awards, scholarships and bursaries under the control of the University.

This Committee last reported to University Council on June 13, 2024.¹ The Committee had three regular meetings during the 2024 and 2025 calendar years. The Committee collectively reviewed 263 Best and

¹The 2023-2024 Report to Council was based on data compiled **April 19, 2024**.

Brightest Scholarship applications, selecting 17 recipients who were then offered awards valued between \$30,000 and \$40,000. The Committee also formed three subcommittees to select recipients for lower-valued awards with subjective criteria.

Responsibility #2: Recommending to Council on the establishment of awards, scholarships and bursaries.

The Awards Development Liaison, Student Finance and Awards, and Development Officers within University Relations and the respective colleges work with donors to establish new scholarships, bursaries, awards, and prizes, and revise Terms of Reference for previously existing awards. During the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the University of Saskatchewan signed Terms of Reference agreements to accept donations establishing 87 new awards for undergraduate students and 10 new awards for graduate students. Of the 87 undergraduate awards, 57 are merit-based, 14 are need-based, and 16 are a combination of merit and need. Of the 10 graduate awards, all are merit-based. Of the three new awards for Indigenous students, two are for undergraduates and one is for graduates.

New Awards (Graduate and Undergraduate) by College	
Agriculture and Bioresources	5
Arts and Science	5
Dentistry	2
Education	5
Engineering	6
Edwards School of Business	15
Huskie Athletics	7
Law	9
Medicine	6
Pharmacy and Nutrition	4
Veterinary Medicine	12
Multi-College Awards	8
Graduate and Postdoctoral Awards	10
Indigenous Awards	3
Total New Awards	97

Responsibility #3: Granting awards, scholarships, and bursaries which are open to students of more than one college or school.

Four primary undergraduate award cycles exist: Entrance Awards, Transfer Scholarships, Scholarships for Continuing Students, and Bursaries for Continuing Students.

Entrance Awards

Entrance Awards are available to students who are entering the University of Saskatchewan with no previous post-secondary experience.² There were two components to the Entrance Awards cycle in 2024-2025: Guaranteed Entrance Scholarships and Competitive Entrance Awards. The Guaranteed Entrance Scholarships are distributed to students upon applying for admission and are guaranteed to students, so long as they meet the average requirements outlined in Table 1.

Students who did not proceed directly from high school to the U of S but had less than 18 transferable credit units were considered for Guaranteed Entrance Scholarships based on their final Grade 12 marks.

² 18 credit units or less of transferable credit if they have attended another post-secondary institution.

Table 1 - Guaranteed Entrance Scholarship Distribution for 2024-2025³

Award Tier		Number of Recipients Paid	Total Value
\$3,000 Guaranteed Entrance Scholarship (95% +)			
	Agriculture and Bioresources	40	\$120,000
	Arts and Science	339	\$1,017,000
	Education	34	\$102,000
	Engineering	102	\$306,000
	Edwards School of Business	73	\$219,000
	Kinesiology	49	\$147,000
Total \$3,000 Guaranteed Entrance Scholarships		637	\$1,911,000
\$2,000 Guaranteed Entrance Scholarships (93 - 94.9%)			
	Agriculture and Bioresources	30	\$60,000
	Arts and Science	174	\$348,000
	Education	26	\$52,000
	Engineering	53	\$106,000
	Edwards School of Business	49	\$98,000
	Kinesiology	29	\$58,000
Total \$2,000 Guaranteed Entrance Scholarships		361	\$722,000
\$1,000 Guaranteed Entrance Scholarships (90 – 92.9%)			
	Agriculture and Bioresources	32	\$32,000
	Arts and Science	275	\$275,000
	Education	36	\$36,000
	Engineering	94	\$94,000
	Edwards School of Business	62	\$62,000
	Kinesiology	47	\$47,000
Total \$1,000 Guaranteed Entrance Scholarships		546	\$546,000
\$500 Guaranteed Entrance Scholarships (85 – 89.9%)			
	Agriculture and Bioresources	60	\$30,000
	Arts and Science	344	\$172,000
	Education	50	\$25,000
	Engineering	84	\$42,000
	Edwards School of Business	110	\$55,000
	Kinesiology	18	\$9,000
Total \$500 Guaranteed Entrance Scholarships		666	\$333,000
Total Guaranteed Entrance Scholarships		2,210	\$3,512,000

The Competitive Entrance Awards Program requires a separate application, and includes both centrally and donor-funded scholarships, bursaries and prizes. The majority of the awards are one-time, but there are several awards which are renewable if certain criteria are met each year. Prestigious renewable entrance awards include the George and Marsha Ivany - President's First and Best

³ Data as of May 20, 2025.

Scholarships, valued at \$40,000 over four years; the Chancellors' Scholarship, valued at \$30,000 over four years; the University of Saskatchewan Entrance Scholarship, valued at \$24,000 over four years; and the Dallas and Sandra Howe Entrance Award, valued at \$32,000 over four years.

Based on a policy exception approved by University Council in 2012, entering students were eligible to receive both a Guaranteed Entrance Scholarship and a Competitive Entrance Award in 2024-2025. There are also a few very specific awards which are also listed as an exception in the *Limits on Receiving Awards* section of the Undergraduate Awards Policies approved by University Council. Because of their very specific nature, these awards with subjective criteria may be distributed to students who have won another Competitive Entrance Award. Also, most college-specific awards⁴ may be received in addition to the Guaranteed Entrance Scholarship and Competitive Entrance Awards governed by the Scholarships and Awards Committee.

Table 2 - Competitive Entrance Awards Distribution for 2024-2025⁵

	Number of Recipients	Total Value
University of Saskatchewan Funded Competitive Entrance Awards		
Agriculture and Bioresources	1	\$6,000
Arts and Science	22	\$145,500
Education	1	\$7,500
Engineering	3	\$19,500
Edwards School of Business	2	\$15,000
Kinesiology	4	\$29,500
Total U of S Funded	32	\$223,000
Donor Funded Competitive Entrance Awards		
Agriculture and Bioresources	15	\$134,600
Arts and Science	48	\$340,250
Education	9	\$66,100
Engineering	24	\$261,100
Edwards School of Business	15	\$106,250
Kinesiology	9	\$59,300
Total Donor Funded	120	\$967,600
Total Competitive Entrance Awards	152	\$1,190,600

Transfer Scholarships

Students who are transferring to a direct entry college at the University of Saskatchewan from another post-secondary institution are not eligible for entrance awards or awards for continuing students.

⁴ College-specific entrance award recipients are selected by the Student Finance and Awards Office but are reported in Table 8 - College Administered University of Saskatchewan Undergraduate Awards.

⁵ Rounded to the nearest dollar.

Consequently, a transfer scholarship program was developed to provide scholarships, based solely on academic achievement, to students transferring to the University of Saskatchewan. Students are awarded U of S Transfer Scholarships when they apply for admission. Scholarships are guaranteed to students based on their transfer average, as outlined in Table 3. Students with the highest academic average from 18 specific institutions targeted are offered Transfer Scholarships valued at \$2,500.

Table 3 - Transfer Scholarship Distribution for 2024-2025

Transfer Average	Scholarship Amount	Number of Recipients Paid	Total Distributed
Incentive Institution ⁶	\$2,500	0	\$0
85% +	\$2,000	24	\$48,000
80-84.9%	\$1,500	12	\$18,000
78-79.9%	\$1,000	6	\$6,000
TOTAL		42	\$73,000

Continuing Awards

Continuing students are defined as students who attended the University of Saskatchewan in the previous fall and winter terms (September to April) as full-time students. Students who completed 18 credit units⁷ or more in 2023-2024 were eligible for the 2024-2025 continuing scholarships and continuing bursaries. Awards are offered to these students both centrally (because the awards are open to students from multiple colleges) and from their individual colleges (because the awards are restricted to students from that specific college). Table 4 outlines the **centrally-administered awards** (excluding the Transfer Scholarships) distributed to continuing students in 2024-2025.

⁶ Incentive institutions include: Athabasca University; Beijing Institute of Technology (BIT), China (Dual degree program, flagship partner institution); Briarcrest College; Camosun College; Columbia College; Coquitlam College; Douglas College; Grand Prairie Regional College; Huazhong Agricultural University (HZAU), China (Dual degree program, flagship partner institution); INTI College, Malaysia; Lakeland College; Langara College; Lethbridge Community College; Medicine Hat College; Red Deer College, Saskatchewan Polytechnic; Taylor's College, Malaysia; Xi'an Jiaotong University (XJTU), China (Dual degree program, flagship partner institution). The list of institutions is reviewed annually.

⁷ Students registered with Access and Equity Services (AES) and approved to study on a Reduced Course Load (RCL) are required to complete 12 credit units in the previous fall and winter terms.

Table 4 – Centrally-Administered⁸ Continuing Awards Distribution for 2024-2025

	Number	Total Value
University of Saskatchewan Funded Continuing Awards		
Agriculture and Bioresources	66	\$183,710
Arts and Science	737	\$1,803,040
Dentistry	52	\$77,433
Education	262	\$395,570
Edwards School of Business	165	\$409,042
Engineering	115	\$362,570
Kinesiology	45	\$146,756
Law	41	\$80,068
Medicine	70	\$114,430
Nursing	159	\$289,546
Pharmacy and Nutrition	38	\$91,500
Western College of Veterinary Medicine	54	\$116,878
Graduate Studies and Research ⁹	313	\$431,117
Language Centre	6	\$15,000
Total University of Saskatchewan Funded	2,123	\$4,516,668
Donor Funded Continuing Awards		
Agriculture and Bioresources	17	\$112,850
Arts and Science	90	\$421,840
Dentistry	12	\$16,000
Education	64	\$286,400
Edwards School of Business	20	\$71,800
Engineering	103	\$227,700
Kinesiology	8	\$55,500
Law	33	\$52,000
Medicine	15	\$29,000
Nursing	33	\$148,000
Pharmacy & Nutrition	40	\$134,000
Western College of Veterinary Medicine	34	\$84,750
Graduate Studies and Research ¹⁰	12	\$48,300
Total Donor Funded	481	\$1,687,640
Total Continuing Awards	2,604	\$6,204,308

⁸ Some continuing awards are funded from U of S funds but selected by the college/department (e.g., U of S Scholarships, U of S Undergraduate Scholarships, etc.). Also, the Indigenous Achievement Book Prizes and Indigenous Students with Dependent Children Bursaries are paid in two installments and counted as such.

⁹ There are a few select Continuing Awards administered by the Student Finance and Awards Office that are open to both undergraduate and graduate students. This number also includes travel awards.

¹⁰ There are a few select Continuing Awards administered by the Student Finance and Awards Office that are open to both undergraduate and graduate students.

University of Saskatchewan Faculty Association (USFA) Scholarship Fund Program

Each year \$250,000 is contributed to the USFA Scholarship Fund. The amount in the fund is divided by the number of credit units eligible applicants have successfully completed. In 2022-2023, 145 applications were received. Thirty-seven of the applicants were considered ineligible for consideration. The total paid out for the credit units completed during the 2023-2024 academic year was \$251,910. Eligible applicants received \$90 per credit unit they successfully completed, with a maximum award value of fees assessed in the academic year. The 2024-2025 USFA Scholarships have not been awarded yet.

Table 6 – University of Saskatchewan Faculty Association (USFA) Scholarship Fund 2023-2024 Distribution¹¹

Number of Recipients	
Undergraduate	91
Graduate	17
Total	108

Administrative and Supervisory Personnel Association (ASPA) Tuition Reimbursement Fund

In 2023-2024, there were 130 applications for the ASPA Tuition Reimbursement Fund. Five applicants were considered ineligible. Eligible applicants received partial tuition reimbursement for the credit units completed during the academic year of May 1, 2023-April 30, 2024. The funds available were divided among the number of eligible credit units the applicants successfully completed. Given the number of completed credit units, eligible applicants received \$59 per credit unit they successfully completed. The total payout for tuition reimbursements in 2023-2024 was \$181,513.50. The 2024-2025 ASPA Tuition Reimbursements have not been awarded yet.

Table 7 – ASPA Tuition Reimbursement Fund 2023-2024 Distribution¹²

Number of Recipients	
Undergraduate	91
Graduate	19
TOTAL	110

Responsibility #4: Recommending to Council rules and procedures to deal with appeals from students with respect to awards, scholarships and bursaries.

In 2010, Policy #45 *Student Appeals of Revoked Awards* was implemented. As such, the Awards and Financial Aid Office, on behalf of the Scholarships and Awards Committee of University Council,

¹¹ The funding source for the USFA Scholarship Fund is the University of Saskatchewan, as negotiated in the USFA Collective Agreement. The USFA Scholarship Fund awards are based on credit units completed in the 2022-2023 academic year.

¹² According to Article 12.4 of the old Collective Agreement (May 1, 2011 – April 30, 2014), “Effective 1 May 2012, the university will provide an annual allotment of \$180,000 to the TRF.” Based on this agreement, two allotments are anticipated one on May 1, 2012 and the second on May 1, 2013 for a total of \$360,000. The ASPA executive agreed to divide the \$360,000 over three years in order to provide tuition reimbursement to applicants for the 2011/12, 2012/13 and 2013/14 academic years. In May 202, \$180,000 was received. The ASPA TRF is based on credit units completed in the 2023-2024 academic year.

adjudicates the student appeals of revoked awards. There were ten student appeals submitted to the Student Finance and Awards Office during the 2023-24 academic year, and in all ten cases, the appellant was allowed to retain their award.

Additional Section 2: 2023-2024 Total Distribution of College Administered University of Saskatchewan Undergraduate Awards

Although awards distributed by the colleges are not within the purview of the Committee except the requirement that they are created and disbursed in compliance with the Undergrad Awards Policy, the members felt it appropriate to include them in order to give an accurate picture of the total state of awards on campus. The following table indicates how many college-specific awards were given to undergraduate students in each college.

Table 8 – College-specific Awards at the University of Saskatchewan 2024-2025 ¹³

College	Total Payouts	Total Value
Agriculture and Bioresources ¹⁴	326	\$632,519
Arts and Science ¹⁵	306	\$664,226
Dentistry	3	\$21,500
Education	210	\$193,850
Edwards School of Business ¹⁶	349	\$773,458
Engineering ¹⁷	201	\$543,850
Kinesiology	14	\$20,150
Law	236	\$702,186
Medicine	138	\$509,950
Nursing	63	\$160,553
Pharmacy and Nutrition	77	\$82,550
Veterinary Medicine	157	\$404,558
Huskie Athletics	656	\$1,064,376
TOTAL	2,736	\$5,973,926

¹³ Number and values reported as of **May 20**, 2025. Totals are rounded to the nearest dollar.

¹⁴ Numbers include awards and values for College of Agriculture and Bioresources entrance awards administered by Student Finance and Awards.

¹⁵ Number does not include Indigenous Student Learning Community Award, as the fund is under the University Registrar Organization.

¹⁶ Numbers reported include the Edwards Undergraduate Scholarships and other Edwards-specific entrance awards administered by Student Finance and Awards.

¹⁷ Numbers include awards and values for College of Engineering entering and continuing awards administered by Student Finance and Awards.