

The Esri Canada GIS Scholarship at the University of Calgary

Overview

The Esri Canada GIS Scholarship award recognizes excellence in the academic achievement of University of Calgary graduate 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 the following:

1. A one-time payment of \$1750
2. A three-year term license of ArcGIS for Student Use, which includes the following:
 - ArcGIS Online with Professional Plus User Type and 1000 Service Credits
 - ArcGIS Pro Advanced Named User license with ArcGIS Pro Extensions (ArcGIS 3D Analyst, ArcGIS Data Reviewer, ArcGIS Geostatistical Analyst, ArcGIS Image Analyst, ArcGIS LocateXT, ArcGIS Network Analyst, ArcGIS Publisher, ArcGIS Spatial Analyst)
 - ArcGIS web and mobile apps (ArcGIS StoryMaps, ArcGIS Experience Builder, ArcGIS Dashboards, ArcGIS Instant Apps, ArcGIS Hub Basic, ArcGIS Field Maps, ArcGIS Survey123, ArcGIS Workforce, ArcGIS QuickCapture, ArcGIS Web Editor, ArcGIS Data Pipelines, ArcGIS Image for ArcGIS Online, and others)
 - Additional premium apps: ArcGIS Business Analyst Web App Standard, ArcGIS Insights, ArcGIS Urban
 - ArcGIS CityEngine Named User license
 - ArcGIS Living Atlas of the World
 - Installation support, software updates, and unlimited access to e-learning courses through the Esri Training site.
3. A three-year ArcGIS Developer Bundle subscription, which includes the following:
 - ArcGIS Enterprise with user type licenses (three Viewer, two Creator, one Professional and one Professional Plus) and user type extensions (ArcGIS Workflow Manager, ArcGIS Location Sharing, Advanced Editing)

- ArcGIS Enterprise Premium Organizational Capability Extensions, including ArcGIS GeoEvent Server, ArcGIS GeoAnalytics Server, ArcGIS Image Server, ArcGIS Knowledge, ArcGIS Video Server, ArcGIS Indoors Maps
 - ArcGIS GIS Server Extensions, including ArcGIS Data Interoperability, ArcGIS Data Reviewer, ArcGIS Locate XT, ArcGIS Network Analyst
 - ArcGIS Enterprise apps, including ArcGIS Navigator, ArcGIS Excalibur
4. Digital copies of select Esri Press Publications including:
 - Python Scripting for ArcGIS Pro, 3rd edition
 - Getting to Know Web GIS 5th Edition
 - Getting to Know ArcGIS Pro 3.2
 - Spatial Statistics Illustrated.
 5. Two instructor-led training courses offered by Esri Canada.
 6. Complimentary registration for the 2025 GIS in Education and Research Conference.
 7. A personal and editable profile in the Esri Canada GIS Scholarship Web Portal.
 8. Eligibility to apply for the Esri Canada Associate GIS Professional Program in their year of graduation.

Note: The term licenses and subscriptions will expire June 30, 2028. The instructor-led training courses are to be used within twelve months of the student being nominated for the scholarship.

Eligibility

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

1. Currently a full-time graduate 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 research 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 GIS Scholarship at the University of Calgary will be adjudicated by the Esri Canada GIS 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.

The selection for this award will be completed in two rounds:

Round One: 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.

Round Two: Following a review of the applications by the Selection Committee, a small number of applicants will then be selected as award finalists, and these finalists will be invited to prepare a report or ArcGIS StoryMap to showcase their projects. Award finalists will have to submit a digital copy of the report or ArcGIS StoryMap, see [Important Dates](#) below.

For the report and ArcGIS StoryMap:

- Audience: At submission, state who your report or ArcGIS StoryMap is intended for (e.g., researchers or academics in your field, non-experts/general public, grade 8 students, a specific community etc.). You will be assessed on whether your communication choices are appropriate for your target audience.
- 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:
 - The applicant must share their StoryMap publicly on ArcGIS Online and provide the full URL to the StoryMap.
 - The applicant may elect to keep their StoryMap private until the day of the application deadline, if they have privacy concerns.
 - It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the publishing of their work complies with any relevant licensing agreements, ethics reviews, and/or terms of use.

The Selection Committee will choose one candidate based on the report or ArcGIS StoryMap and the other submitted materials. The Selection Committee will notify Esri Canada about the outcome of the award competition. Typically, the candidate 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 graduate 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
- Student ID 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 and previous program of study (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 April 6, 2024**. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.

Important Dates

- Apr. 6: Deadline for students to apply (round one).
- Apr. 11: Notification of finalists and invitation to submit a report or ArcGIS StoryMap (round two).
- Apr. 20: Deadline for finalists to submit their report or ArcGIS StoryMap.
- Apr. 23: 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 GIS Scholarship Application."