



Faculty of Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies

Killam Centre for Advanced Studies
2-29 Triffo Hall, University of Alberta
Edmonton, AB, Canada T6G 2E1

T 780.492.9460

F 780.492.0692

grad.awards@ualberta.ca
ualberta.ca/graduate-studies

Date: Wednesday, December 10, 2025

To: Department Chairs, Graduate Coordinators, Graduate Program Administrators, Students

From: Awards Services, Faculty of Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies (GPS)

Re: **2025-26 Dr. Gary McPherson Leadership Scholarship**

The Faculty of Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies (GPS) is pleased to announce the details of the 2025-26 Dr. Gary McPherson Leadership Scholarship, funded by Alberta Student Aid, Government of Alberta. GPS is eligible to select 6 recipients; scholarships are valued at \$2,000 each. For complete details and eligibility requirements, visit [GPS's website](#).

Dr. Gary McPherson was a renowned advocate for people with disabilities. He devoted himself to inspiring leadership and bringing out the best in everyone. He was a member of the Order of Canada, the Alberta Order of Excellence and both the Edmonton and Alberta Sports Hall of Fame. This scholarship recognizes students who have demonstrated outstanding leadership, especially in the area of disability, and/or the initiative to improve the conditions and lives of others.

Departmental nomination is not required; however, GPS would appreciate your assistance with disseminating this year's competition information to eligible graduate students who exemplify the above noted qualities of Dr. McPherson. Applicants must apply directly to the GPS through the GSMS Awards Portal. Note that graduate students' must apply through GPS, not Student Financial Support, Office of the Registrar, in order to be considered for this scholarship.

The following documents must be uploaded to the online application in GSMS by **January 15, 2026**; complete application instructions are available on GPS's website:

- [Dr. Gary McPherson Leadership Scholarship Application Form](#). Application fields must be completed in their entirety; missing information will result in the application being deemed incomplete and such will be rejected. After reading the biography of Dr. Gary McPherson, students must use examples of how leadership has been shown, especially in the area of disability, and/or the initiative to improve the lives of others. Refer to the Application form for the biography and essay format
- a CV/resume highlighting leadership involvement and other activities related to improving the lives of other people
- a maximum of one related letter of reference, and
- an up to date unofficial U of A transcript printed from BearTracks; must show current Fall 2025 and Winter 2026 full time registration (courses/thesis in progress).

Sincerely,

Award Services