

# THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



## SENATE POLICY: V-#200

**VANCOUVER SENATE**  
c/o Enrolment Services  
2016 - 1874 East Mall  
Vancouver, B.C. Canada V6T 1Z1

**Number & Title**      *V-200 – Student Awards*

**Effective Date:**

01 September 2014

**Approval Date:**

14 May 2014 (Anticipated)

**Review Date:**

This policy shall be reviewed two (2) years after approval and thereafter as deemed necessary by the *responsible committee*.

**Responsible Committee:**

Student Awards Committee

**Authority:**

*University Act, S. 37(1)*

*“The academic governance of the university is vested in the senate and it has the following powers:*

*...(i) to recommend to the board the establishment or discontinuance of any faculty, department, course of instruction, chair, fellowship, scholarship, exhibition, bursary or prize;*

*(j) to award fellowships, scholarships, exhibitions, bursaries and prizes;...*

**Purpose and Goals:**

This policy is designed to guide the development of *student awards* to assist the University in its goals to attract the most academically qualified students and reward their successes at the University. With that objective in mind, it is the

primary policy of the University to encourage donations, whether to individual Faculties or the University's general scholarship and bursary funds, which can be used to reward excellence and/or to provide support to students with financial need.

The goal of this policy is to ensure fairness in the adjudication of awards, while providing for maximum flexibility and efficiency in the administration of available funds.

**Applicability:**

As of the effective date above, this policy is applicable to any *student award* offered by the University or by donors through the University

**Exclusions:**

Student awards developed and implemented prior to the effective date of this policy may not necessarily follow the definitions set out below.

Although defined below and established through a recommendation of the Senate to the Board, financial support programs such as *bursaries* are governed by the Board of Governor's Policy #72 - *Access to the University of British Columbia*.

**Definitions:**

For the purposes of this policy and in all other policies in which they are not otherwise defined:

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <i>Academic Award</i> | shall mean a <i>student award</i> where academic achievement is the sole criterion under consideration.  |
| <i>Bursary</i>        | shall mean a <i>student award</i> given on the basis of assessed financial need. Any <i>student award</i> that takes financial need into account is never indicated on a student transcript. |
| <i>Continuing</i>     | shall mean a <i>student award</i> given on the basis of merit, academic or otherwise, demonstrated by the student in the course of studies at the University.                                |
| <i>Entrance</i>       | shall mean a <i>student award</i> given according to criteria including merit demonstrated by the student prior to commencing studies at the University.                                     |
| <i>Fellowship</i>     | shall mean a <i>student award</i> given at the start of the academic year to a graduate student primarily based on academic achievement and/or research ability/potential.                   |

<i>Medal</i>	shall mean a non-monetary <i>student award</i> , normally given near the end of the academic year based on academic merit.
<i>Merit-based</i>	shall mean that a <i>student award</i> is given based on academic or other merits.
<i>Need-based</i>	shall mean financial support given to a student based on financial need. Any <i>student award</i> that is based on financial need t is not indicated on a student transcript.
<i>Non-academic Award</i>	shall mean a <i>student award</i> where neither financial need nor academic achievement is the sole criterion under consideration. (e.g., a <i>student award</i> given on the basis of non-academic merit, or a combination of academic and non-academic merit, or a combination of merit-and need-based criteria). <i>Non-academic awards</i> are not indicated on the student transcript.
<i>Prize</i>	shall mean a <i>student award</i> given to a student to recognize academics and/or achievement of the academic year that has just ended.
<i>Scholarship</i>	shall mean a <i>student award</i> given to a student on the basis of academic achievement, usually disbursed at the beginning of the academic year.
<i>Student Award</i>	shall mean any type of financial award or assistance that is given to students by the University or by donors through the University.

**Policy:**

1. The University shall not approve *student award* terms that are inconsistent with human rights legislation.
2. *Student awards* issued by the University are first applied to any tuition and other student fees owing. If the amount of the *student award* is greater than the fees, the excess amount is paid to the student.
3. In any given year, if invested funds do not provide sufficient income to disburse any endowed *student award*, payment of the *student award* may be reduced or withheld. The University does not guarantee the payment of any *student awards* other than those funded by the University. The University reserves the right to withhold *student awards* donated by individuals or organizations where the required funds have not yet been received by the University.

4. The Senate reserves the right to change the terms governing a *student award*, so that they may better meet new conditions, more fully carry out the intentions of the donor, or maintain the usefulness of the benefaction. The rights so reserved shall be exercised by resolution of the Senate duly confirmed by the Board of Governors, provided always that sufficient notice shall be given in Senate of any proposed change and that the donor or representative, if known, shall be consulted prior to the proposed change.

### Vantage College

5. **While enrolled in Vantage College students fall under the student classification “International Program” and are not considered undergraduate students for the purposes of this policy.**
  - a. **Vantage College *entrance scholarships and awards* are adjudicated by Vantage College on a competitive basis from among applicants who come from a variety of cultural and socio-economic backgrounds. Where indicated in the *student award* description, financial need may also be taken into account in the adjudication of Vantage College awards.**
  - b. **Recipients of annually *renewable Vantage College student awards* become subject to the provisions of this policy governing Undergraduate Awards when they progress into the second or subsequent year of their program of study and achieve regular student status.**

### Undergraduate Awards

6. Unless otherwise stated, undergraduate *student awards* are tenable only at UBC (Vancouver or Okanagan Campus) and are open to Winter Session students only. Marks obtained in Summer Session courses are not taken into account in the adjudication of *student awards*.
7. ***Entrance Student Awards and Scholarships* are adjudicated based on a student’s academic and other experience achieved prior to attending UBC. These awards are made on a competitive basis and are intended to attract the top students.**
8. *Continuing scholarships, prizes, or other undergraduate student awards* based on academic merit will normally be given to a student who is
  - i. registered in at least 27 percentage graded credits; and,

- ii. has standing in the top 10% of his/her year and Faculty or an average of 75% or higher (with no failed courses) in the academic session on which the award adjudication is based.
9. Academic standing for students taking more than 27 credits will be determined on the basis of 27 percentage-graded credits to be chosen in the manner that is most advantageous to the student.
10. A recipient of a *student award* may retain the honour of an award but resign the monetary value. Any funds thus made available will be made available to another eligible student.
11. Recipients of undergraduate *continuing and renewable scholarships, prizes* and other *merit-based student awards* based on academics are normally expected to be registered in 24 credits in order to retain their *scholarship*. *Scholarships* are offered only to those who continue their studies to the satisfaction of the Registrar. Students registered in fewer than 24 credits in their final year of study may retain a *scholarship* and/or be eligible for a *prize* if their Faculty or School confirms this number of credits is sufficient for graduation. In this case, a *scholarship* may be prorated.
12. Students who have completed at least one year of study at UBC may be eligible to defer certain *student awards* for one year, provided they show satisfactory reasons for postponing attendance. Requests for deferment must be made to Enrolment Services. Students wishing to take up a *student award* deferred from a previous year must advise Enrolment Services by July 1.
13. The University recognizes that students may encounter opportunities or circumstances that could result in a request for deferred admission. Applicants intending to commence the first year of a degree program may request a deferral for one year (or two years in cases of mandatory military service). Students who have been granted deferred admission will automatically have any *scholarships* or other *merit-based* awards deferred until they begin their study at the University.

Students who are granted permission to defer their admission and therefore their *student awards*, will still have to satisfy any conditions of the Admissions office, such as completion of courses in progress, maintenance of a satisfactory admission average, and graduation from secondary school. They must apply to take up the deferred offer by

the application deadline of the following year. They must register in the program and at the campus to which they were admitted or will be required to reapply and compete with the new applicant pool for a space.

14. *Scholarships* and *student awards* awarded for academic achievement in a specific Faculty or discipline or intended for students studying in a particular program are normally conditional upon the recipient continuing studies in the same discipline or program during the following year. A program change to an ineligible Faculty or discipline will usually result in reassignment of the award to another eligible student.

### **Graduate Awards**

15. The *fellowships* and *scholarships* offered, unless otherwise stated, are available only to support students engaged in full-time study and/or research leading to a degree at the University of British Columbia and will normally be paid only if the recipient is registered as a full-time student at the University during the payment period.
16. Students offered both a major university graduate fellowship funding (Killam Doctoral Fellowship, Four Year Doctoral Fellowship, University Graduate Fellowship, or Affiliated Graduate Fellowship) and external funding for full-time study and research at UBC will be required to accept the external funding. If the value of the external award funding is less than the value of the major university graduate fellowship, the student will receive the difference between the major University graduate fellowship and external award funding.

### **Calendar Statement:**

As per the policy above.

### **Consultations**

The following groups will be consulted during the further development of this policy:

Access and Diversity, Board Secretariat, Enrolment Services, the office of the Vice-President, Students, Development Office, Faculty of Graduate and Post-Doctoral Studies

**History:**

Regulations governing student awards have been listed in the Academic Calendar since 1987/88. These regulations have been subject to minor revisions since that time, the most recent being in March 2010, when clarification was needed as to the regulations and the implementation of the Credit/D/Fail policy.

**Related Policies:**

[Access to the University of British Columbia](#)

**Appendix:**

There is no appendix to this policy.

**Procedures:**

There are no procedures accompanying this policy.