

GLOBAL LEARNING AWARD

2026 - 2027 GUIDELINES

TMU Global developed the Global Learning Award to increase participation and inclusion in international activities, a primary goal of [TMU's International Strategy](#). Eligible international activities include work, research, conferences, and global learning programs taking place abroad. Please see below for further eligibility requirements. The opportunity to participate in an academic activity in another country offers tremendous chances for academic development, networking, broadening students' professional potential, and enhancing TMU's international profile. This program is administered by TMU Global.

Students can apply for the Global Learning Award to support participation in either an in-person or a virtual international activity.

VALUE OF GRANTS

This fund will provide multiple awards of up to \$1,000 for activities taking place during the Fall 2026, Winter 2027, and Spring/Summer 2027 terms. Award amounts will be determined based on the duration of activity.

- Students participating in in-person activities with durations of 3 days or less will receive \$250, those with durations of 7 days or less will receive \$500, and those with durations of more than 7 days will receive \$1,000.*
- Students participating in virtual activities will receive \$200 regardless of the duration of the proposed activity.

For activities taking place in the:

- Fall 2026 Term (Sept 1 - Dec 31, 2026)
- Winter 2027 Term (Jan 1 - April 29, 2027)
- Spring/Summer 2027 Dates (April 30 - Jun 30, 2027)
- Spring/Summer 2027 Dates (July 1 - Aug 31, 2027)

**Duration is based on the program activity dates, with the addition of 1 travel day on either side of the activity (only if travel is not already included in activity dates, as is often the case with Faculty-led Trips).*

SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Applications will be open from August 31, 2026, to July 15, 2027. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until all funding has been awarded. *Please note that applications may close earlier than July 15, 2027, if all funding is awarded before the end of the term.* Applications will be reviewed in batches on the following dates:

Applications Submitted Between Dates:	Applications Review Date:
Aug 31 - Sep 30, 2026	Oct 16, 2026
Oct 1 - Nov 15, 2026	Nov 27, 2026
Nov 16 - Dec 31, 2026	Jan 15, 2027
Jan 1 - Feb 15, 2027	Mar 5, 2027

Applications Submitted Between Dates:	Applications Review Date:
Feb 16 - Mar 31, 2027	Apr 16, 2027
Apr 1 - May 15, 2027	May 28, 2027
May 16 - Jun 30, 2027	Jul 18, 2027
Jul 1 - Jul 15, 2027	Jul 30, 2027

We encourage students to **submit their applications 6-8 weeks before their activity start date to ensure their applications are** reviewed and approved (if eligible) before their activity begins. However, we cannot guarantee that students will receive their award payments before the start of their activity. Award payments may take up to 4 weeks to process from the date they are requested.

For in-person activity, please note that:

- Students **must apply before their departure** abroad. Funding will **NOT** be provided retroactively.
- Once the proposed activity is confirmed, students are required to complete the [International Risk Management Requirements](#) promptly, even if a final decision is still pending, before their departure.
- Award payments will only be requested to be processed after award recipients have completed the university's [International Risk Management Requirements](#), as outlined in the **Responsibilities of Award Recipients** section below.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for this award, students must:

- Be registered as an undergraduate, graduate, Faculty of Law, or School of Medicine student at the University and have clear academic standing. Applications are welcome from both part-time and full-time students, as well as international and domestic students.
- Demonstrate financial need, as determined by Toronto Metropolitan University, through submission of financial information in their General Award Spring Application (see **How to Apply** section below).
- Students are no longer eligible for the Global Learning Award after graduation. Please plan your international activity before your graduation date.

For in-person activity, to be eligible for this award, the proposed activity must:

- Take place outside of Canada (*note that activities within Canada may be considered when engagement occurs with Indigenous Nations)

- Be academically relevant and/or related to your professional development/goals (Students who are receiving academic credit or fulfilling a program requirement (in part or whole) will be prioritized)
- While those participating in paid internships (for example) can apply, students participating in unpaid opportunities will be prioritized.
- Be aligned with one of the following activity categories:
 - **Work Abroad** (placements, internships, etc.)
 - The activity must be eligible for academic credit or, in whole or in part, fulfill an academic requirement.
 - **Research Abroad** (including research internships, as well as conference participation)
 - Priority is given to supervised research abroad and research internships that involve in-country supervision.
 - For conference attendance, priority will be given to students who are either presenting and/or playing a key role at the conference.
 - **Faculty or Staff-led trips abroad** (refers to short-term experiential learning programs abroad led by Toronto Met Faculty and/or staff members)
 - Programming that provides academic credit and/or is linked to a specific course and/or program will be prioritized
 - **Short-term programs are often referred to as “study abroad” opportunities** (typically in spring/summer months and may be for credit via the [Letter of Permission process](#)).
 - **International Service Learning opportunities** (refers to an experiential learning approach that combines academic coursework, meaningful community engagement, and structured reflection within an international or intercultural context)
 - **International Case Competitions** (requires academic relevance and supervisor sign-off)

For virtual activity, to be eligible for this award, the proposed activity must:

- Take place sometime in Fall 2026, Winter 2027, and/or Spring/Summer 2027 terms
- Be a **virtual (online/remote)** activity that is hosted by an organization or university that is located outside of Canada (*note that activities within Canada may be considered when engagement occurs with Indigenous Nations);
- Not include travel;
- Must be unpaid;
- **Must have a global scope.** A goal of this award is to provide students with access to opportunities that enable them to engage with global perspectives and ways of knowing and being they may not encounter through similar activities in Canada.
- Be academically relevant and/or related to your professional development/goals (Students who are receiving academic credit or fulfilling a program requirement (in part or whole) will be prioritized)

Please note: Activities must be academically relevant to qualify for funding. To meet this requirement, activities must either grant course credit or demonstrate the academic relevance and contribution to your professional and academic learning.

IMPORTANT: Students participating in the TMU Exchange program are **NOT ELIGIBLE** for the Global Learning Award. These students should apply directly to the [Toronto Metropolitan International Exchange Opportunities Scholarship \(TMIEOS\)](#).

HOW TO APPLY

Students will complete an online application for the Global Learning Award (GLA) via the [Toronto Metropolitan University AwardSpring Application Portal](#). Applications should be submitted individually (no applications submitted as a group will be accepted). **Please note:** In order for the GLA application to appear in your Award Spring's dashboard, you must have completed the **General Award Spring Application, including the optional "Financial Information" section found on the "Application" tab of your portal**, as GLA requires students to demonstrate financial need. To complete this section, you will need to first select "Yes" to the question "Would you like to be considered for awards, scholarships, and bursaries that require you to demonstrate financial need?" in your General Award Spring Application (Please see screenshot below).

Would you like to be considered for awards, scholarships and bursaries that require you to demonstrate financial need?

- ☒ Yes, please complete all questions in this Section
- ☐ No, you can skip to the Qualification Questions Section

Once you have completed the above steps, you should be able to find the Global Learning Award (GLA) listed under the "Scholarships" tab of your portal. The GLA application includes:

- General information about you and your program
- Detailed information about the activity
- **For in-person activity:** A written statement (750 words max) that responds to the following:
 - Provide a brief description of the activity
 - How does the activity provide opportunities for academic and/or professional growth?
 - How will this award help you financially in participating in your proposed activity abroad?
 - Traveling abroad can be challenging and pushes you outside your comfort zone. Tell us about your experiences and/or skills that will help ensure your well-being while abroad.
 - Suppose you are traveling to a region in the Global South or in a context of heightened power differentials (i.e., low-income countries/regions). How will you manage your relationships to mitigate the potential to cause harm or be disruptive?
- **For virtual activity:** A written statement (750 words max) that responds to the following:
 - Provide a brief description of the activity
 - How is your proposed activity academically relevant and/or related to your professional development/goals?
 - Explain how your proposed activity has a global scope. Consider that a goal of this award is to provide students with access to opportunities that enable them to engage with global perspectives and ways of knowing and being they may not encounter through similar activities in Canada.

SELECTION PROCESS & CRITERIA

TMU Global will consider only complete applications submitted by the appropriate deadline. TMU Global may ask for confirmation of any information provided. TMU Global will review applications on a rolling basis and approve eligible applications until all funding has been awarded. The final selection of the recipient will be based on the outlined criteria.

- **70% - Priority considerations:**
 - First time participating in an academically/professionally relevant international activity,
 - First time accessing financial support for university-sanctioned international activities through Toronto Met,
 - Member of an equity group (includes individuals who self-identify as one or more of the following: A racialized person; an Aboriginal person in Canada (including First Nations [status or non-status], Metis, or Inuit; Black (including those who identify as Afro-Caribbean or African-Canadian); a person with a disability; 2SLGBTQ+; and/or Trans).
- **15% - Written Statement**
- **15% - Academic Achievement**

Approved eligible students will be notified by email.

AWARD CHEQUE DISBURSEMENT PROCESS

Please note that we cannot guarantee that students will receive their award payments before the start of their activity. Award payments may take **up to 4 weeks** to process from the date they are requested.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF AWARD RECIPIENTS

For in-person activities, successful candidates must:

- Complete the university's [International Risk Management Requirements](#). **IMPORTANT:** Funding will be disbursed to students only after these requirements have been completed.
- Support the sharing and promotion of Global Learning with students upon their return (e.g., participating in an event, contributing to the Global Learning blog or social media, joining an interview or video, or sharing a news story).

For virtual activities, successful candidates must:

- Complete the proposed international virtual activity by the dates outlined in the candidate's Global Learning Award application.
- Support the sharing and promotion of Global Learning with students upon their return (e.g., participating in an event, contributing to the Global Learning blog or social media, joining an interview or video, or sharing a news story).

Failure to meet these responsibilities may result in the award being withdrawn.

TAX IMPLICATIONS

Successful candidates should be aware that under the Canada Revenue Income Tax Act, travel/research grants are considered taxable income. A T4-A form will be issued to recipients involved in such activities.

QUESTIONS

For further information, please contact the Global Learning Team (global.learning@torontomu.ca)