



Lakehead
UNIVERSITY

Faculty of
Social Sciences
and Humanities



In partnership with

Canada

GENDER AND CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE INDO-PACIFIC REGION: MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS – GRADUATE STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

For Master's Students in the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities

DEADLINE TO APPLY:

- **August 31, 2026, for Fall-Winter 2026-27**
- **January 21, 2027, for Summer-Fall 2027**

The Indo-Pacific Scholarships and Fellowships for Canadians (IPSFC) program is funded by Global Affairs Canada to support Canadian universities to offer programs of scholarships and fellowships to enhance the capacity of Canadians in the areas related to Canada's Indo-Pacific Strategy; to increase connectivity between Canadian and Indo-Pacific Institutions; and to support new academic and research pursuits on the Indo-Pacific region.

Lakehead's IPSFC project will support graduate student research stays with partner institutions in the Indo-Pacific region, on topics related to "Gender and Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation for Sustainable Development". The program will run for two years (there will be a second call for the 2027-28 academic year).

The Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities has been working to develop institutional partnerships in Japan, the Philippines, Fiji, and Vanuatu. Lakehead has recently established relations with the University of the Ryukyus in Okinawa, Japan, and new partnerships are under discussion with institutions in the Philippines (University of the Philippines); the University of Fiji; and the National University of Vanuatu.

This project will support researchers seeking to establish new research collaborations in these countries, as well as enable master's students to undertake short research stays. In order to examine the gender dimensions related to the impact and mitigation of climate change, we anticipate master's research projects to be conducted in Japan, the Philippines, Fiji, and Vanuatu. Examples of research topics include climate change and sustainable domestic food and fibre systems; social inequalities, ecological vulnerabilities and responses to climate change; sociological dimensions of climate change mitigation and adaptation; role of women in building disaster-resilient communities; and gender and the green economies.

Master's students in the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities are eligible to apply for scholarships to conduct research stays of one to three months at any of the eligible host institutions.

A concurrent competition will be held for Lakehead faculty members, with the potential for the Lakehead student and faculty member to travel at the same time and work together. While faculty



and graduate student researchers will have their own scope of work and deliverables, this synergy is encouraged.

Eligible Host Institutions:

- Fiji: [The University of Fiji](#) (Suva, Lautoka)
- Fiji: [The University of the South Pacific](#) (Suva)
- Japan: [Hiroshima University](#)
- Japan: [The University of the Ryukyus](#), Okinawa
- Philippines: [De La Salle University](#)
- Philippines: University of the Philippines - [UP Diliman](#) (Quezon City), [UP Cebu](#), and [UP Tacloban](#)
- Vanuatu: [The National University of Vanuatu](#), Port Vila

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

- Must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident
- Must be enrolled at Lakehead in a master's degree or doctoral degree program, be in good standing, and remain enrolled throughout the stay abroad
- Must have completed coursework and have an approved thesis or dissertation. If you are in a course-based program, must be permitted to register for a research option.
- Must find a host supervisor at an eligible institution
- Must have a project proposal that is supported by both home and host supervisor

BEFORE YOU APPLY:

1. Speak with your Lakehead supervisor and secure their support.
2. With your Lakehead supervisor, identify a host supervisor at one of the eligible universities, and contact the host supervisor. Describe your research interests and the scholarship opportunity. And then ask if they would be willing to be the co-supervisor of your research and to host your stay.
3. Research your destination, as well as read the [Government of Canada's "Travel advice and advisories."](#)
4. Be sure to have at least one virtual meeting with both home and host supervisors to review and confirm your research plan as well as proposed length and dates of stay.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

Prepare the [Proposal Form](#) offline. When complete, upload to your application on the ROMEO Research Portal (access through "web utilities" in MyPortal). You will need to register if you haven't previously done so. To start an application, click on "APPLY NEW" at the top right, and then select "IPSFC SSH Student Scholarships 2026-27." For more details on using ROMEO, go to:

<https://www.lakeheadu.ca/research-and-innovation/research-services/resources/romeo>



Complete the questions on ROMEO and upload the following required documents:

1. Proof of Canadian Citizenship or Permanent Residence (e.g. Canadian passport, PR Card)
2. Current certificate of enrollment (download from MyPortal)
3. Letter of Invitation from Host Supervisor
 - Must be on letterhead, have have a recent date, and be signed
 - should reflect agreement with the proposal and proposed dates of stay
 - should indicate availability of work space, required resources and expertise to support the proposed project.
4. Letter of Support from Lakehead Supervisor
5. Proposal Form (must be approved by both supervisors) [DOWNLOAD](#)
6. Government of Canada Privacy Statement [DOWNLOAD](#)

FUNDING

Scholarships provide funding for international travel and monthly living expenses for a minimum of one month to a maximum of three months. Longer stays up to six months may be considered. The amount of funding is based on destination and length of stay. Travel may begin as soon as awarded, but may require time to complete host institution requirements and visa requirements.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities will convene a scholarship selection committee to review applications and select candidates for the scholarships. We will particularly look for creative and inquisitive minds with respect to disciplinary innovation potential. At the same time, the students should be open-minded to work in multidisciplinary and multi-cultural teams, which creates a facilitating environment of mutual learning. Their inclination to work in international and multidisciplinary environments will be assessed by means of a motivation letter in combination with their previous experience such as internships as well as their home supervisor's Letter of Support.

Selection criteria will include:

- Quality of proposal
- Potential of project to contribute to a sustainable collaboration between Lakehead and the host institution
- Fit with the strategic objectives of [Canada's Indo-Pacific Strategy](#)
- Strength of supporting documents (letter of invitation (host), letter of support (home supervisor))
- Preparedness to undertake international / intercultural experience
- Self-identification with an equity-seeking group
- Length of stay

Questions?

- For assistance with the application form: Jill Sherman, intl.research@lakeheadu.ca
- For SSH questions: Dr. Glenda Bonifacio, Dean of Social Sciences and Humanities, bonifaci@lakeheadu.ca