

Parental Leave Fund for Master's Students in Thesis-based Programs in the Faculty of Engineering

To address a gap in funding provided to master's students in thesis-based programs during pregnancy and parental leave, the Faculty of Engineering invites eligible applicants to apply for support. Note: PhD students should refer to the equivalent supports provided by the School of Graduate Studies [Parenting Grant](#).

Eligibility: A parental leave fund of up to \$4,000 will be provided to eligible master's students in thesis-based programs in the Faculty of Engineering who take an approved parental leave for one term or more, provided that:

1. The student is currently enrolled in a full-time thesis-based master's program in the Faculty of Engineering and is in receipt of McMaster Graduate Scholarship Funds;
2. The student has been enrolled in their current master's program for a minimum of one term;
3. The applicant is in good standing at the time that this leave of absence is requested;
4. This leave of absence has been approved by the Department's Graduate Chair;
5. The student is ineligible for funding from either CUPE or NSERC/CIHR (whether that be directly through a graduate scholarship, or via a supervisor's grant);
6. The student has applied for funding from all other sources for which they are eligible;
7. The application below is completed and submitted to the Graduate Studies Administrator four weeks before the leave;
8. The student provides a medical note for their pregnancy or that of their partner from a licenced Canadian healthcare provider (i.e., the physician, midwife or nurse practitioner that is providing pregnancy care) or an adoption certificate issued from the Canadian government;
9. The student is the primary caregiver for the duration of the Parenting Leave

Important:

- This funding may be accessed by a student one time only
- Students receiving Tri-Agency scholarships are ineligible for this funding as they are eligible for Tri-Agency Paid Parenting Leave supplements
- Students who continue to receive research funding from their supervisor are ineligible for this funding
- Fund recipients who return to their program prior to the approved leave of absence end date may be required to return a portion of the funding
- Students who do not return to their studies after their leave must repay the amount received in full
- Multiple births on the same occasion (e.g., twins) do not increase funding duration or value

- If the student wishes to take a leave of less than one term, then the amount for which they are eligible is pro-rated to \$1,000/month
- The application should be initiated by the student, who will be responsible for obtaining the approval of their supervisor and Graduate Chair, before submitting it to the Graduate Studies Administrator at salehl5@mcmaster.ca for approval by the Associate Dean Graduate Studies

Application for Parental Leave Fund for Master's Students in Thesis-based Programs in the Faculty of Engineering

Last Name:	<input type="checkbox"/> Full-time	<input type="checkbox"/> Part-time
First Name:	Department:	
Student ID Number:	Degree:	
Start Date of Program (YYYY-MM-DD):		
Effective Dates of Leave from Studies		
Start Date (YYYY-MM-DD):		End Date (YYYY-MM-DD):

I hereby confirm that I am not receiving scholarship support (either directly from NSERC/CIHR or support from my supervisor's grant) during my parental leave, and that I am not eligible for pregnancy and parental leave as a TA/RA from [CUPE 3906](#). I will be the primary caregiver of the child during the parenting leave. During the parental leave, I will not be engaged in my studies/research activities.

Signature of Student:

Date (YYYY-MM-DD):

A medical note or adoption form is required to accompany this form.

Department Approval , including confirmation of LOA approved for dates above, funding and good standing of the student	
Signature of Supervisor	Date (YYYY-MM-DD):
Signature of Graduate Chair	Date (YYYY-MM-DD):

Faculty Approval	
Signature of Associate Dean	Date (YYYY-MM-DD):
Signature of Dean	Date (YYYY-MM-DD):