

The W. Garfield Weston Award for Northern Research (Master's)

1. The W. Garfield Weston Foundation is sponsoring up to 15 scholarships, valued at \$15,000 each for student currently enrolled in a master's program in the natural sciences pursuing northern research.
2. Applicants who wish to be considered for *The W. Garfield Weston Award for Northern Research* must be in the first thirteen months of a master's program at the time of application.
3. Applications are invited from candidates engaged in a natural science program leading to a thesis who demonstrate exceptional promise, academic excellence, and leadership, a strong commitment to northern research. Preference will be given to applicants who (a) have a clearly defined research project that includes significant research time spent in the Canadian north (b) demonstrate excellence in northern research (c) show the relevance of the research to northerners and northern scholarship and (d) exhibit a willingness to communicate research results within the scientific community, and in northern or national meetings.
4. The Selection Committee will be guided by the following considerations: academic record, research ability, leadership skills, potential benefit of the research, referees' reports, and the applicants' interest in, and commitment to the North and northern studies.
5. Projects from all natural science subject areas will be considered, provided they include a field research component conducted within the term of the award in the Canadian North.
6. The scholarship covers an eleven-month period of study. Proof of registration and one progress report are required.

CNST Common Criteria

You must:

- be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident;
- be enrolled full time in college or university at the time of application and over the tenure of your award;
- not concurrently hold two CNST awards, but you may hold other awards and financial support while holding a CNST award;
- include a northern fieldwork component in your research that is conducted between May (in the year you receive your award) and the following March or

May (depending on specific award). (Note: fieldwork is not required for the BCQMB award); and

- conduct your research project in the North as defined here:
<http://acuns.ca/website/awards/northern-boundary-map/>.

Application Instructions

There are four parts to a CNST application, the application form, referee's reports, transcripts and additional questions. All four parts must be received in the office before **January 31, 2018**.

1. Application

Please read award guidelines and instructions carefully before completing the form. In order to apply, you will be required to create a CNST account by clicking the signup button at www.acuns.ca. Once you have registered, you will receive an email to confirm. Your CNST account will allow you to save your application and track the progress of your application(s), referee reports and transcripts.

2. Referee Reports

For this award, applicants are asked to have three referees complete the online referee's report. Two of these forms must be from academics and the third must come from a northern resident capable of judging the methods and objectives of the research project (e.g. a territorial government scientist, an academic living full-time in the North, a member of a First Nation responsible for local licensing, etc.). The CNST Management Committee requires that the northern reference will have a meaningful geographic and relevant research engagement in the jurisdiction where the project will take place. If possible the northern reference should have a direct connection to the research and/or be able to comment on the proposed research plan. During the application process, you will be asked to enter the names and email addresses of the individuals you will ask to serve as referees in support of your application. Referees will receive an email directly which will include the report to be completed. **If you are applying to more than one CNST Award, your referee is required to complete a separate form for each application.** Upon submission of the report, your CNST account will be updated to reflect its completion.

3. Transcripts

Only original transcripts will be accepted. Please note that it can take several weeks to have official transcripts ordered and delivered. **It is highly recommended that you order these well in advance of the application deadline.** Please send one copy of all required official grade transcripts, in a single package to:

**Canadian Northern Studies Trust Program c/o ACUNS
32 Colonnade Road, Suite 200
Ottawa, Ontario K2E 7J6**



4. Additional Questions

If given the opportunity to spend additional time in the North, how would you maximize your time there? What would be the potential benefits to you and communities in the North? (Max. 250 words)

What would be the duration of this extended time in the North, and what would the required funding be? (Max. 100 words)

PLEASE NOTE: Answers must be sent as a **Word** document, as per deadline, via email to: awards@acuns.ca

General Award Information

- For projects including field research outside of Canada, the relevance and benefit of the circumpolar fieldwork to Canadian northern scholarship must be clearly indicated.
- Applications are reviewed by a multi-disciplinary committee; technical jargon should be kept to a minimum.
- Applications to more than one CNST Award require each referee to complete a separate form for each application.
- Award recipients are identified in May. Only successful candidates will be notified.
- Payment will be issued in instalments and is to be used as a stipend.