



Association of
Canadian Universities
for Northern Studies
Association
universitaire canadienne
d'études nordiques

POLAR Scholarship

1. Polar Knowledge Canada offers one scholarship valued at \$10,000 available to students who are Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada presently enrolled full-time in a doctoral program at a Canadian university.
2. Proposals are invited from candidates who (a) engage in research culminating in a thesis or other such document; (b) have an interdisciplinary emphasis to their research; (c) demonstrate excellence in northern studies; and, (d) are willing to communicate results in a major national or Northern forum.
3. The Selection Committee will be guided by the following considerations: academic record, potential benefit of the research, originality, innovative approach, and the applicants' interest in, and commitment to, polar studies. Eligible proposals must demonstrate in their application how their project will help achieve Polar Knowledge Canada's mandate: <https://www.canada.ca/en/polar-knowledge.html>.
4. The research must involve a northern fieldwork component that is conducted between May (in the year the award is granted) and the following March.
(The ACUNS Awards Program does not expect applicants and recipients to carry out fieldwork and/or community outreach activities during a global pandemic. It appears travel and social restrictions will extend well into 2021. Therefore, we will waive the fieldwork/community outreach criterion when adjudicating and administering the ACUNS awards.)



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AT A GLANCE POLAR Scholarship

Value of award	\$10,000
Number of awards	1
Discipline	All subject areas
Program	Doctoral program at a Canadian university
Conditions	(1) engage in research culminating in a thesis or other such document
	(2) have an interdisciplinary emphasis to their research
	(3) demonstrate excellence in northern studies, and
	(4) are willing to communicate results in a major national or Northern forum
	(5) northern fieldwork component that is conducted between May (in the year the award is granted) and the following March
Selection criteria	academic record
	potential benefit of the research
	originality
	innovative approach
	applicants' interest in, and commitment to, polar studies
	Eligible proposals must demonstrate in their application how their project will help achieve Polar Knowledge Canada's mandate: https://www.canada.ca/en/polar-knowledge.html .

General 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 ACUNS awards, but you may hold other awards and financial support while holding an ACUNS 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 Gunther Abrahamson Research and Management Award or the POLAR Northern Resident Award*; and
- conduct your research project in the North as defined here <http://acuns.ca/website/awards/northern-boundary-map/>



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Application Instructions

There are three parts to an ACUNS application, the application form, referee's reports and transcripts. **All three parts must be received in the office before January 31.**

a) Application

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

b) Referee Reports

For this award, applicants are asked to have two referees complete the online referee's report. The report must be from an instructor or supervisor of the directed study. During the application process, you will be asked to enter the name and email address of the individual you will ask to serve as a referee 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 ACUNS Award, your referee is required to complete a separate form for each application.** Upon submission of the report, your ACUNS account will be updated to reflect its completion.

c) Transcripts

Electronic copies of official transcripts may be sent to awards@acuns.ca. Only **your most up-to date doctoral transcript is necessary**. 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. If sending paper transcripts by mail, please send one copy of all required official grade transcripts, in a single package to:

***ACUNS Scholarship Program
c/o Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies
P.O. Box 30017
Ottawa, ON K2H 1A3***



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
(The ACUNS Awards Program does not expect applicants and recipients to carry out fieldwork and/or community outreach activities during a global pandemic. It appears travel and social restrictions will extend well into 2021. Therefore, we will waive the fieldwork/community outreach criterion when adjudicating and administering the ACUNS awards.)
- Applications are reviewed by a multi-disciplinary committee; technical jargon should be kept to a minimum.
- Applications to more than one ACUNS 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.