

## Dr. Weston Blake Jr Memorial Doctoral Scholarship

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Dr. Blake was a quaternary geologist who spent over fifty Arctic seasons in Canada, Greenland, and Svalbard, beginning in 1952. Throughout his career at the Geological Survey of Canada, he encouraged students to join in field expeditions, and often worked with interdisciplinary teams.

1. The Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies (ACUNS) offers one scholarship valued at **\$10,000** available to students who are citizens or permanent residents of Canada presently enrolled in a doctoral program at a Canadian university.
2. Proposals are invited from candidates studying the physical sciences including interdisciplinary and comparative studies:
  - (a) who engage in research culminating in a thesis or other such document,
  - (b) include direct northern field research or experience as part of their studies, and
  - (c) whose programs are relevant to northern challenges or issues.
3. The research must involve a northern fieldwork component that is conducted in northern Canada or the circumpolar north ([see \*Northern Boundary line\*](#)), between May (in the year the award is granted) and the following March.
4. The selection committee will be guided by the following considerations:
  - academic record,
  - the quality of the application,
  - potential benefit of the research,
  - originality,
  - referee's reports, and
  - the applicants' interest in, and commitment to, the North and northern scholarship.



## AT A GLANCE

### Dr. Weston Blake Jr. Memorial Doctoral Scholarship

<b>Value of award</b>	\$10,000
<b>Number of available awards</b>	1
<b>Discipline</b>	All areas of physical sciences including interdisciplinary and comparative studies
<b>Program</b>	Enrolled in a doctoral program at a Canadian university
<b>Individual award criteria</b>	(1) include direct northern field research or experience as part of their studies
	(2) engage in research culminating in a paper or other such document
	(3) program relevant to northern challenges or issues
<b>Selection criteria</b>	Academic record
	Quality of the application
	Referee reports
	Individual award criteria
	Applicants' interest in, and commitment to, the North and northern studies



## **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 the 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); and
- conduct your research project in the North as defined here: <https://acuns.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Interactive-Northern-Boundary-Map-Google-Chrome-2019-10-30-110102-AM.jpg>



## **Application Instructions**

There are three parts to an ACUNS award application: the application form, referee reports and transcripts. **All three parts must be received By ACUNS by 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 [ACUNS Online Application Site](https://acuns.ca/students-post-docs/application-instructions/) button on our website ([acuns.ca/students-post-docs/application-instructions/](https://acuns.ca/students-post-docs/application-instructions/)). 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 must have **two referees** complete the online referee's report, one of which must be from the supervisor of the research project. During the application process, you will need to enter the names and email addresses of the individuals whom you have chosen 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 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](mailto:awards@acuns.ca). Only your **most recent 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 by mail, please send one copy of all required official grade post-secondary transcripts, in a single package to:

**ACUNS Award Program  
c/o ACUNS  
PO Box 30017  
Ottawa, Ontario K2H 1A3**



### **General Award Information**

- For projects including field research outside of Canada, the relevance and benefit of the circumpolar (Finland, Greenland (Denmark), Iceland, Norway, Russia, Sweden, and the USA-Alaska) 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 ACUNS award require each referee to complete a separate form for each application.
- Award recipients are identified in late-May. Only successful candidates will be notified.
- Payment will be issued in instalments and is to be used as a stipend.
- If you have any questions, please visit our website, [\*Students: Frequently Asked Questions\*](#), or email our office at [awards@acuns.ca](mailto:awards@acuns.ca).