

# SHAPING STUDENT LIFE AND LEARNING (SSLL)

## FAQs & 2025-26 Award Descriptions

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### 1. What is Shaping Student Life and Learning?

Each year, generous donations from alumni, industry, friends, and faculty are directed to the Shaping Student Life and Learning (SSLL) award program.

Awards are available to registered Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences students for funding of practice rotations, conferences, and certain initiatives that enhance the student experience outside the classroom.

The SSLL funding year runs from May 1<sup>st</sup> to April 30<sup>th</sup>. Approved awards, regardless of application date, will be considered within the SSLL year in which the applicant's activity takes place. Applications received for activities happening in the next year may be declined or deferred.

**\*\*NEW\*\*** Applications for International APPE rotations, regardless of when the APPE rotation takes place, are due by **Monday, August 11, 2025, at 9am ET**. This is the only SSLL award with a firm application deadline. All other SSLL applications are assessed in the order in which they are received.

**\*\*NEW\*\*** Preference is given to applications that are not receiving funding from other programs within the Faculty.

The budget and guidelines to apply are updated each year. Please read over the current award descriptions carefully. SSLL is administered by the LDFP Registrar's Office, and questions can be directed to [pharmd.awards@utoronto.ca](mailto:pharmd.awards@utoronto.ca).

### 2. Who can apply for funds?

The SSLL Fund is open to individual students enrolled, either part-time or full-time, in one of the following programs:

- PharmD
- PharmD for Pharmacists
- Graduate Programs – including MSc, MScPhm, and PhD

Alumni are not eligible.

**Graduating students** who are completing the program in the Winter session of the funding year can apply for conferences that occur up until June 30<sup>th</sup> of their graduation year. These applications must be submitted by April 30<sup>th</sup> and are considered part of their graduation year. Graduating students are subject to the existing limit of one award per year or, for graduate students, a maximum of \$2,000 total during the duration of their program.

Graduating student applications will be evaluated after all continuing student applications are assessed for that year.

### 3. Is there a limit to how much one can receive?

Each student is limited to one (1) award per SSL funding year regardless of award type or value. **A student may apply for more than one award at a time** as funding availability changes throughout the year, but each student will still be limited to receiving only one award per SSL funding year. See the Award Descriptions below for details on the value of each award.

Graduate students may only receive funding to attend conferences up to a maximum total of \$2,000 per student during the entire duration of their degree program.

Applications to attend conferences virtually are limited to registration fees only. The Review Committee reserves the right to adjust the SSL award values.

The SSL funding year is May 1<sup>st</sup> to April 30<sup>th</sup>.

### 4. What does the SSL not provide funds for?

The SSL will not fund the following:

- Transportation costs for volunteer activities outside the faculty
- Gifts for appointed faculty and/or staff members
- Any rotations not organized through the OEE
- Alcohol for any purpose
- Student gifts

Students may request a Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy branded gift through the Office of Communications for guest speakers, volunteers or mentors from **outside** of the faculty. Please contact Laura Warman at [laura.warman@utoronto.ca](mailto:laura.warman@utoronto.ca) and include who the gift is for and how many are needed. An application is not required. The Office of Communications reserves the right to decline any request.

### 5. How does one apply for funding? Is there a deadline?

Read through the 2025-26 FAQs and Award Guidelines thoroughly. Complete the current SSL funding year's online application available via link from the [SSL website](#). Only applications using the online form will be accepted and reviewed. If you have any questions about the awards or completing the online application form, please contact [pharmd.awards@utoronto.ca](mailto:pharmd.awards@utoronto.ca).

**\*\*NEW\*\*** Applications for International APPE rotations, regardless of when the APPE rotation takes place, are due by **Monday, August 11, 2025, at 9am ET**. This is the only SSL award with a firm application deadline. All other SSL applications are assessed in the order in which they are received.

**Students must apply a minimum 3 weeks in advance of the activity start date.** The SSLL will not accept applications after the activity has taken place. Activities that occur before or within the first three weeks after the SSLL application's launch are not subject to the minimum 3 weeks in advance requirement.

## **6. Are there events that are guaranteed funding year after year?**

No, the SSLL budget, available awards, and guidelines to apply are updated each year. Please read over the current FAQs and Award Descriptions document carefully.

## **7. How long does it take to learn if an application has been approved?**

The SSLL committee strives to notify all applicants within three weeks following the date of submission. During the academic year end, between late April and early June, a response may take longer.

## **8. How does one actually receive funds?**

Award funds are provided after an activity has taken place. Students must submit an SSLL Follow Up Report within 30 days after the activity has taken place for payment to be processed. A link to the Follow Up Report is provided to all successful applicants as part of their award assessment email. Awards are deposited into the student's account on ACORN.

**\*\*NEW\*\*** SSLL funding is applied first to existing outstanding tuition and fees prior to being refunded to a student bank account.

Students are encouraged to have direct deposit set up in ACORN for the most efficient payment. If a student does not have direct deposit on file in ACORN, Student Accounts will issue a cheque by mail to the address on file.

The SSLL Follow Up Report includes:

- Details of the funded activity, including confirmation of activity attendance.
- How funds were used and/or contributed to the overall objectives of the activity.
- Explanation of the significance of the event to the student's university experience. This information may be used in general and de-identified communication about impact of the SSLL awards program.

## **9. Am I still eligible for an SSLL award if I received funding for my APPE or conference from another source(s), such as the Centre for International Experience or host organization?**

Yes, you are eligible to submit an application for SSLL funding if you are receiving or have applied for funding from other sources. Any sources of funding or pending funding applications must be disclosed as part of the application process. Non-disclosure may result in denial of the award or cancellation of a successful award assessment.

**\*\*NEW\*\*** Preference is given to applications that are not receiving funding from other programs within the Faculty.

Students are encouraged to apply for funding for international APPE rotations or international conferences through the Centre for International Experience's IE+ Award program that supports students who have financial need doing international activities sanctioned by their program. The CIE will be informed of all successful SSLL awards, and your individual financial assessment from CIE may be affected by any SSLL amount awarded.

Graduate students are asked to exhaust all other sources of funding prior to applying to the SSLL.

## **10. Can I request a re-assessment of an application?**

Yes, you can request a re-assessment of a decision by the SSLL Review Committee by emailing any missing or additional information that was not made available in the original submission to [pharmd.awards@utoronto.ca](mailto:pharmd.awards@utoronto.ca) within five (5) business days after receiving your application assessment.

## **11. Do I have to report my SSLL award to OSAP or to the CRA as income?**

The SSLL program is made up of both bursaries (awards partially funded by OTSS/OSOTF and requiring eligibility for financial need) and scholarships (funding with no required financial need).

The University of Toronto will automatically report your bursaries and scholarships to the provincial and federal governments, issuing you the appropriate tax slips. To find out more about how awards are reported, please visit the University Registrar's Office website on [Tax Information](#). For specific questions on how awards are reported to OSAP or other provincial student funding agencies, please contact Student Accounts through the [Service Portal](#).

## 2024-25 AWARD DESCRIPTIONS

The Review Committee reserves the right to adjust the SSL award values.

### PharmD Students

#### Domestic APPE Rotations

Awards are available for PharmD students registered for in-person, domestic APPE rotations, as approved by the Office of Experiential Education (OEE), who qualify under the following guidelines:

**\$2,000** – Registered for a **10-week**, domestic, in-person APPE placement located **more than 80 km from LDFP** (144 College Street, Toronto), excluding Kitchener, Waterloo, and Ottawa.

**\$2,000** – Registered for either a **5-week or 10-week**, in-person APPE placement located in **Northern Ontario**. The rotation may be located in (but not limited to) North Bay, Parry Sound, Sault Ste. Marie, Sudbury, Thunder Bay, Timmins, etc.

**\$2,000** – A student from **Northern Ontario** who also qualifies for financial assistance under OTSS/OSOTF guidelines and is completing an APPE placement in any location.

Please note that some awards for Northern Ontario APPEs and/or for students from Northern Ontario are limited to students who qualify for OTSS/OSOTF funding. Eligibility includes being an Ontario resident, a Canadian citizen or equivalent, and demonstrating financial need (through OSAP or the U of T [Need Navigator](#)).

#### International APPE Rotations

***Please review the complete guidelines for applying for international APPE rotations as significant changes have been made for the 2025-26 funding year.***

Awards are available to PharmD students registered for in-person, international APPE rotations as approved by the Office of Experiential Education (OEE).

Award amounts per student will vary depending on available funds and the number of eligible students who successfully apply for an award by the SSL international APPE application deadline. The outcome of the applications and allocated amounts are communicated once the applications are processed.

**\*\*NEW\*\*** Applications for International APPE rotations, regardless of when the APPE rotation takes place, are due by **Monday, August 11, 2025, at 9am ET**. This is the only SSL award with a firm application deadline. All other SSL applications are assessed in the order in which they are received.

**\*\*NEW\*\*** Preference is given to applications that are not receiving funding from other programs within the Faculty.

Students are encouraged to apply for funding for international APPE rotations through the Centre for International Experience's IE+ Award program that supports students who have financial need doing international activities sanctioned by their program. The CIE will be informed of all successful SSL award amounts, and your individual financial assessment from CIE may be affected by any SSL amount awarded.

## Conferences

Awards are available for PharmD student registered and/or presenting at conferences locally, across Canada or internationally. Students must provide documentation of paid registration from the conference organizer as well as acceptance of their participation as a presenter (if applicable). In-person conferences and student who are presenting are prioritized. Virtual attendance will be considered for registration fees only.

**\$100** – Ontario within GTA (registration fees only)

**\$200** – Ontario outside GTA

**\$1,000** – National (outside Ontario)

**\$2,000** – International

Students are encouraged to apply for funding for international conferences through the Centre for International Experience's IE+ Award program that supports students who have financial need doing international activities sanctioned by their program. The CIE will be informed of all successful SSL award amounts, and your individual financial assessment from CIE may be affected by any SSL amount awarded.

## PharmD for Pharmacist Students

### International APPE Rotations

Award amounts per student will vary depending on available funds and the number of eligible students who successfully apply for an award by the SSL international APPE application deadline. The outcome of the applications and allocated amounts are communicated once the applications are processed.

**\*\*NEW\*\*** Applications for International APPE rotations, regardless of when the APPE rotation takes place, are due by **Monday, August 11, 2025, at 9am ET**. This is the only SSL award with a firm application deadline. All other SSL applications are assessed in the order in which they are received.

**\*\*NEW\*\*** Preference is given to applications that are not receiving funding from other programs within the Faculty.

## Graduate Students

### Conferences

Awards are available for graduate students registered and/or presenting at conferences across Canada or internationally. Students must provide documentation of paid registration from the conference organizer that confirms their registration as well as acceptance of their participation as a presenter (if applicable). In-person conferences and students who are presenting are prioritized. Virtual attendance will be considered for registration fees only.

Graduate students must exhaust all sources of funding prior to applying to the SSL and are required to disclose funding as part of the application process. Non-disclosure may result in denial of the award or cancellation of a paid award.

Graduate students may only receive funding to attend conferences up to a maximum total of \$2,000 per student during the entire duration of their degree program.

**\$1,000** – National

**\$2,000** – International

Students are encouraged to apply for funding for international conferences through the Centre for International Experience's IE+ Award program that supports students who have financial need doing international activities sanctioned by their program. The CIE will be informed of all successful SSL awards, and your individual financial assessment from CIE may be affected by any SSL amount awarded.