SHAPING STUDENT LIFE AND LEARNING (SSLL)
FAQs & 2026-27 Award Descriptions

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) awards program.

Monetary awards are available to registered Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences students for funding of practice rotations and conferences that enhance the student experience outside the classroom.

The SSLL funding year runs from May 1st to April 30th. Applications will be considered within the SSLL year in which the applicant's activity takes place. Applications received for activities happening in the next funding year will be declined.

With the exception of the International APPE category, SSLL applications are assessed in the order in which they are received. Applications for international APPE rotations, regardless of when the APPE rotation takes place, will be assessed after a set deadline at the end of winter term.

The SSLL budget, award descriptions, and guidelines to apply are updated each year. Please read over the current award details carefully.

SSLL is administered by the LDFP Registrar's Office. Please reach out to pharmd.awards@utoronto.ca with any questions.

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** (1 award per year)
- **PharmD for Pharmacists** (1 award per year)
- **Graduate Programs: MSc, MScPhm, and PhD** (1 award per year and lifetime max of $2,000)

Alumni are not eligible.

Graduating students who are completing their program in the winter session of the budget year can apply for conferences that occur up until June 30th of their graduation year. These applications must be submitted by April 30th and are considered part of their graduation year. Graduating student applications will be evaluated after all continuing student applications are assessed for that year.

3. How much funding can a student receive?

Awards range from $100 to $2,000 depending on the award category. Please review the Award Descriptions below for current funding amounts. Award values are pre-determined, and the SSLL Review Committee reserves the right to adjust the pre-determined award value at any time.

Each student is **limited to one (1) award per SSLL 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 SSLL funding year.

Graduate students in Pharmaceutical Sciences 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.

4. Are activities and award values the same every year?

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

5. What does the SSLL not provide funds for?

The SSLL will not fund the following:

- Transportation costs for volunteer activities outside the faculty
- Gifts for appointed faculty and/or staff members
- Any rotations not approved through the Office of Experiential Education
- 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 and include who the gifts are for and how many are needed. An application is not required. The Office of Communications reserves the right to decline any request.

6. How does one apply for funding?

Complete the current SSLL funding year's online application available by link on the SSLL website or on Quercus course shells. Only applications using the online form will be accepted and reviewed.

With the exception of the International APPE category, SSLL applications are assessed in the order in which they are received. Students **must apply for funding a minimum of 3 weeks in advance** of the activity start date.

Late applications may be declined or subject to a reduction in award value.

May activities, occurring during the first three weeks of the SSLL application's opening date, only require that the application be submitted prior to the start date of the activity.

False or incomplete information will invalidate the application.

If you have any questions about the awards or completing the online form, please contact pharmd.awards@utoronto.ca.

7. Can I still apply if my activity is in progress or over?

Applications must be submitted a minimum of three (3) weeks prior to the start date of the activity.

Late applications may be declined or subject to a reduction in award value.

8. 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.

9. How does one 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 using the online form before payment can be processed. Funds are deposited into the student's account in ACORN and are applied to existing outstanding tuition and fees prior to being refunded to the student.

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 the impact of the SSLL fund.

10. Am I still eligible for an SSLL award if I received funding from another source(s)?

Yes, you are eligible to apply 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 paid award.

Students applying for funding for international APPE rotations or international conferences may apply to the Centre for International Experience's IE Award+ program that supports students who have financial need doing international activities sanctioned by their program. It is not necessary to have received the final assessment from CIE by the SSLL application deadline.

Graduate students are asked to exhaust all other sources of funding prior to applying to the SSLL, including funding provided by a Principal Investigator or research grant.

11. 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 within five (5) business days after receiving your application assessment.

12. 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 the Ontario government and therefore 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.

2026-27 AWARD DESCRIPTIONS

The SSLL Review Committee reserves the right to adjust any SSLL award value at any time.

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 either:

- **10-week**, domestic, in-person APPE placement located **more than 80 km from LDFP** (144 College Street, Toronto), excluding Kitchener, Waterloo, and Ottawa.
- **5-week, in-person APPE placement in the Yukon**.

$2,000 – Registered for an in-person APPE placement located in **Northern Ontario.** Northern Ontario rotations 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 in Canada.

Please note that some grants 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 protected person under the Refugee Act, as well as demonstrating financial need (through OSAP or the U of T Need Navigator).

International APPE Rotations

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

Funding varies depending on available budget and the number of eligible students who successfully apply for an award by the SSLL international APPE funding deadline. The outcome of the applications and allocated amounts are communicated once the applications are processed.

Students applying for funding for international APPE rotations may apply to the Centre for International Experience's IE Award+ program that supports students who have financial need doing international placements sanctioned by their program. It is not necessary to have received the final assessment from CIE by the SSLL international APPE funding deadline.

Domestic EPE-2 Rotations

Awards are available for Year 2 PharmD students registered for in-person, domestic EPE-2 rotations, as approved by the Office of Experiential Education (OEE), who qualify under the following guidelines:

$500 to $1,000 – Registered for a 4-week, domestic, in-person EPE-2 placement located **more than 80 km from LDFP** (144 College Street, Toronto), excluding Kitchener, Waterloo, and Ottawa.

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 are prioritized. Virtual attendance will be considered for registration fees only. International conference participants are strongly encouraged to register with U of T's Safety Abroad by selecting the option of the conference being "sponsored by the University".

$100 – Ontario within GTA (registration fees only)

$200 – Ontario outside GTA

$1,000 – National (outside Ontario)

$2,000 – International

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 are prioritized. Virtual attendance will be considered for registration fees only. International conference participants are strongly encouraged to register with U of T's Safety Abroad by selecting the option of the conference being "sponsored by the University".

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

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

$1,000 – National

$2,000 – International