



## The Sir James Dunn Animal Welfare Graduate Scholarship

### Application and selection guidelines and procedures

**Application deadline: Friday February 17, 2017; 12pm (AST)**

**Decision to be announced early April**

The Sir James Dunn Animal Welfare Centre (SJDAWC) seeks candidates for the *Sir James Dunn Animal Welfare Graduate Scholarship*. The scholarship will support the training of researchers at the Masters or Doctoral level to pursue animal welfare research at the University of Prince Edward Island (UPEI), Prince Edward Island, Canada.

Subject to availability of funds, one scholarship will be awarded each year. Students may take up their award at any time of year but the award must be taken up within 12 months of the date of the letter of offer.

### The Award

- Masters Student (Domestic) \$24,522 – renewable for one additional year
- Masters Student (International) \$31,467 – renewable for one additional year
- PhD Student (Domestic) \$24,522 – renewable for two additional years
- PhD Student (International) \$31,467 – renewable for two additional years

After the scholarship has been awarded, \$5,000 will be made available for operating funds for the project contingent upon a justified budget provided by and managed by the faculty supervisor.

Information on university fees is at [www.upei.ca/finance/accounting/fees](http://www.upei.ca/finance/accounting/fees) and on living on PEI at <http://www.gov.pe.ca/infopei/index.php3?number=2141&lang=E>

Limited funds will be available, at the discretion of the SJDAWC, to support presentation and dissemination of research results.

### Eligibility

This competition is open to any candidate who meets the admission criteria for graduate studies at UPEI<sup>1</sup>. For information on satisfying the UPEI criteria for admission, including English language proficiency requirements, please see [www.upei.ca/programsandcourses/graduate-admissions/msc-](http://www.upei.ca/programsandcourses/graduate-admissions/msc-)

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<sup>1</sup> Please note that students are not required to apply to the UPEI graduate studies program until after the scholarship has been awarded. However, all potential graduate students must identify a graduate faculty member willing to supervise the student should the application be successful.

[mvsc-diploma-pathology-microbiology-pgdip-phd](#)<sup>2</sup>. Students who receive the award for support of a Masters program are eligible to apply again for support for a subsequent PhD program. This award may be held simultaneously with other awards.

## Application

Candidates must apply via email to the Coordinator, SJDAWC ([animalwelfare@upei.ca](mailto:animalwelfare@upei.ca)) by *12 noon Atlantic Standard Time, Friday, February 17, 2017*. The attachments to the email application package must be in English and must include a letter of intent highlighting areas of interest and specifically addressing each of the selection criteria below, a current curriculum vitae, and academic records. Academic records include scanned copies of official transcripts from all university courses completed by the time of application, together with academic awards, prizes and scholarships. Applicants must:

- (a) Provide an example of their academic writing, e.g. an academic publication, thesis or essay
- (b) Provide a letter of commitment from the proposed supervisor at AVC/UPEI to include provisions for operating funding if the applicant is successful (i.e. funding currently in place or applied for, or an outline of plans to obtain funding).
- (c) Provide a one page outline of their animal welfare research project that has been agreed upon with the proposed supervisor.

Information on potential supervisors can be found under “faculty” at:

- Department of Biomedical Sciences <http://biomedical.upei.ca/>
- Department of Companion Animals <http://companion.upei.ca/>
- Department of Health Management <http://healthmgt.upei.ca/>
- Department of Pathology and Microbiology <http://pathmicro.upei.ca/>

Letters of reference from two professors, under at least one of whom the applicant has undertaken a significant proportion of work, are to be sent by the professor directly to the Coordinator, SJDAWC [animalwelfare@upei.ca](mailto:animalwelfare@upei.ca). An acceptable alternative to one such letter is a letter from the department Chair in the department in which the applicant has studied, or from the employer where the applicant has recently been employed. **Note:** Letters of reference should describe the qualities of the candidate with regard to their potential to succeed in a research program.

It is the applicant’s responsibility to ensure all documents, including letters of reference, are received by the deadline of February 17, 2017. Applicants will be notified when both letters of reference have been received.

Applications missing any part of the required documentation will not be considered.

## Selection

Candidates will be ranked based on their demonstrated potential to excel in the program of study, their qualifications and experience relevant to the conduct of research pertaining to the welfare of animals, potential for leadership in the field of animal welfare, and the feasibility and animal welfare impact of their proposed research and its relevance to the [mission of the SJDAWC](#). Both applied or more

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<sup>2</sup> Students are expected to be proficient in the use of English, both written and oral, when they begin their studies at the University of Prince Edward Island. The University requires that certification of such proficiency be presented by applicants whose mother tongue is not English or whose normal language of instruction throughout their education (as recognized by UPEI) was not English. Tests of proficiency acceptable to the University, and the minimum scores that must be obtained, are listed on the [English Language Proficiency Requirements](#) page under the Application and Admissions section of the Programs and Courses website. Such students should make arrangements to take the test at least three months before the semester opening date.

fundamental approaches to animal welfare research are welcome. Where there are two highly ranked candidates of equal standing, preference will be given to a candidate who is a Canadian citizen or permanent resident.

### **Awarding of the Scholarship**

Award of the scholarship will be conditional on the acceptance of the successful candidate into the graduate program of a relevant academic department, and will be subject to availability of funds to cover operating costs for the research project. Students may take up their award at any time of year but the award must be taken up within 12 months of the date of the letter of offer.

### **Background**

The Sir James Dunn Animal Welfare Centre advances animal welfare through a broad array of initiatives in research, service, and education to improve the lives of animals ([www.upei.ca/awc](http://www.upei.ca/awc)). The Sir James Dunn Animal Welfare Graduate Scholarship is intended to cover living costs and tuition fees. It is made possible through the generous support of the Christofor Foundation.

Questions about the application and scholarship may be directed to the Coordinator, SJDAWC, [animalwelfare@upei.ca](mailto:animalwelfare@upei.ca), 1(902)628-4360