

Vanier Scholarship Nomination Process and Form

Faculty of Social Science (FSS) 2023

3 April 2023

Background: The FSS Vanier process is supported by this form. Please use it as the basis for soliciting potential Vanier candidates from your department and send forward those you feel would make strong Vanier candidates.

Process/Deadlines:

Departments set their own process for identifying candidates, but the Vanier is awarded only to candidates with BOTH strong leadership + strong scholarship. Thus, only candidates with robust, impactful records of leadership (and scholarship) should be nominated.

April 28, 2023: Departments may put forward only the strongest candidates (if any) to the Dean's Office. The information in this form should be submitted as the Departmental nomination to the Faculty. If you have more than one departmental nominee, you do *not* need to rank the candidates.

May 3, 2023: Associate Dean Graduate sends all nominations in a spreadsheet to the FSS Vanier Committee for adjudication.

May 10, 2023: FSS Vanier Committee members return ranking spreadsheets to Associate Dean.

May 11-12, 2023 – FSS Vanier Committee meets to select nominees to move forward to full application and notifies SGPS. These dates are (about a month) later than SGPS has communicated because much vetting of files, once we have chosen candidates to move forward, happens internally in our own highly effective FSS Vanier Committee. Paula in SGPS has agreed to the dates listed here.

Form

Please complete the following. For details about Vanier selection criteria see here:

https://vanier.gc.ca/en/selection_committee_guide-comite_selection_lignes.html#b3.1. You are not being asked to fill out a full application at this stage, only this FSS-level form.

1. **Student Name and Email:**
2. **PhD Degree Program/Department:**
3. **Supervisor(s) and Email(s):**
4. **CV (new for 2023)**

5. **Leadership (Potential and Demonstrated Ability)** (1 page maximum)
 - 1/3 of evaluation weight
 - Candidates for the Vanier MUST have an exemplary record of strong leadership. This is the component that generally sets a Vanier candidate apart; outstanding academic performance alone is not sufficient for a strong Vanier nomination.

- Must include significant leadership activities, usually **outside of academia**.
- The competition asks assessors to, “consider how the nominee has gone above and beyond the expected norms in order to overcome obstacles, foster others, spearhead change, or otherwise demonstrate Leadership”.
- Identify as best as you can a truly **outstanding** leadership pursuit (this can be one activity or a series of related activities).
- List two “leadership referees” and their affiliation - people who can verify and comment on your leadership activity.

6. **Academic Excellence** (1 page maximum + unofficial transcripts)

- 1/3 of the evaluation weight
- Assessors will consider the, “impact of their activities to date in their area(s) of expertise to date and in the communities associated with their research”.
- Unofficial transcripts demonstrating outstanding academic achievement.
- Previous scholarships and awards are a vital component of the nomination package, and without past success in scholarships and awards, candidates are rarely successful.
- NOTE: Winners of CGSD/PGSD are ineligible to apply for the Vanier Scholarship.
- List two potential “academic referees” who can verify and comment on the leadership activity.

7. **Research Potential** (1 page maximum)

- 1/3 of the evaluation weight
- Assessors will consider, “research history, his/her interest in discovery, the proposed research and its potential contribution to the advancement of knowledge in the field, and any anticipated outcomes”.
- Provide a summary of research proposal aimed for a general readership in the broad field of science, explaining the potential significance and impact of the research.
- Provide up to five of the candidate’s most significant contributions (e.g. publications) to research. Keep in mind that research contributions are not strictly limited to standard journal articles and book chapters, although these count for a lot. If a candidate has worked with a community group to produce a research project that was taken up by a government agency, for example, this would also count.
- Students without peer-reviewed publications or with a weak publication record should not be considered.