## Consultation Survey on Program-Level Fellowship Plan for 2022/23 🛅 🕁 All changes saved in Drive



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If you deem the current PLF structure to be unsatisfactory, you may propose changes. As per the Faculty of Arts & Science, it is possible to modify the current plans if there is a case for making a change and if the change is supported by majority of the graduate students.

- I do not think that the "\$200 towards teaching reduction awards to 10 doctoral students in their 3rd year and beyond" is particularly useful as this top up in funding seems to me like it should benefit all students (and particularly those who are moving out of the funded cohort). Selecting only 10 as an award using this funding seems inappropriate. Surely the department has the funding to create several teaching reduction awards and need not use the money here to supplement for those awards? Everything else looks good and I would even support putting more money away for the students who are out of the funded cohort!
- It was unclear whether the increase of base funding would also impact those holding major scholarships (OGS or NSERC). I believe that those holding scholarships should have a lower increase (~\$200) while those without a major scholarship have a greater increase in base funding (~\$900). (For context, I am a major scholarship holder and am happy with my funding package and hear about others' struggles with finances).
- I propose reducing the contribution for reduction in teaching hours for senior students.



For 2022-23, continue the support for an increase to program base funding. Current base funding is \$25, 900 plus fees.

• "Base funding" is of utmost importance compared to any other funding priority stated in this survey.

• High inflation this year and upcoming will cost a lot for daily life of grad student, increasing base funding package is really important for us. This year we have a visible price hike for basic grocery, things are barely break even now.



• This is incredibly important, I am not in this section of students but I would support more help for these students!



• Are there other avenues of money that can be used for this?

- Although teaching reduction is helpful, I think this should be the responsibility of the PI to have reserved funding allocations to help their students. Not necessarily the role of the Department which should increase base funding.
- As a student in fourth year, I am unsure of how to apply for these teaching reductions or the details of the selection criteria. I would support reducing this contribution unless the program is further clarified.
- Make it clear in this information how the Department determines who receives the teaching • reduction fellowship.



For 2022-23, continue support towards creating awards for achieving milestones in the program.

- The incentive for people pursuing a PhD is silly to me (for example the CSB paying students for • their successful transfer). They should want to do pursue their PhD for the degree, not the money. Plus, rewarding someone for doing things that are required doesn't make too much sense.
- These students tend to be better candidates for other major/minor scholarships, compared to • some of their peers who may benefit more from having the extra funding/getting the opportunity to have their TA hours bought out through the teaching reduction fellowships.
- Need more information on what milestones will be considered and if all students achieving this milestones will receive the award or only ones who meet certain other criteria (which should also be shared)
- Milestones is too vague for me.
- I am not sure if this has been explained to the student body yet but I am unsure what is meant by milestones here. Perhaps if I knew what this meant I would rank it with higher priority.

• Milestones were not very clear so it mostly seems like a surprise when I actually receive it; would help to be more transparent about what they are

Other recommendations. See current PLF plans by other grad units https://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/graduate/graduate-funding/program-level-fellowships. (Please rate the importance and reasoning for each recommendation.)

• See above regarding CSB successful transfer.

Insights or concerns regarding graduate funding or PLFs to be relayed to the Faculty of Arts & Science.

- Yes
- I feel like I'm not getting paid accurately.