



SCIENCE & POLICY EXCHANGE SURVEY ON CANADIAN SCHOLARSHIPS & FELLOWSHIPS



Science & Policy Exchange (SPE) is a non-profit group aimed at representing the voice of next-generation researchers to policy makers. We asked graduate students and postdoctoral fellows to tell us what they want for the future of scholarships and fellowships in Canada to ensure their voice is heard for Budget 2019.



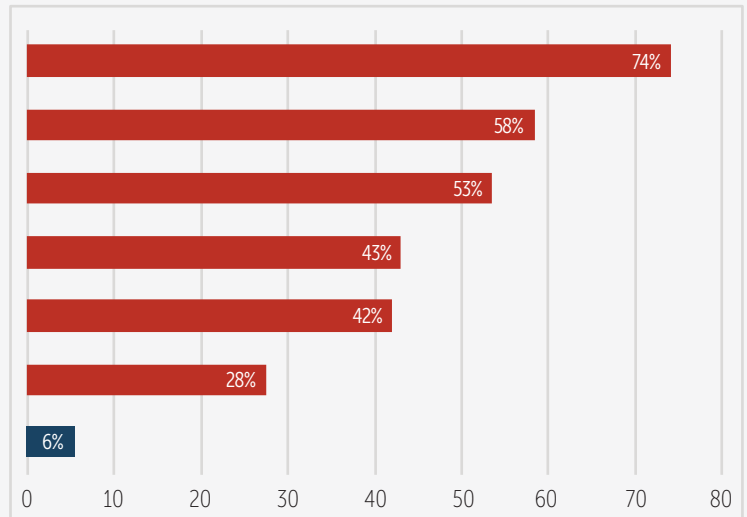
State of Federal Graduate and Postdoctoral Awards

What impact does receiving an award have on you and your research?

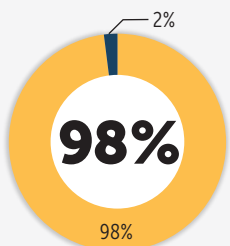


Increased chance of future awards
Study without working outside academia
Conference, travel & networking opportunities
Study without Teaching Assistantship
Reduced requirement for loans
Increased publications
No impact

Percent respondents



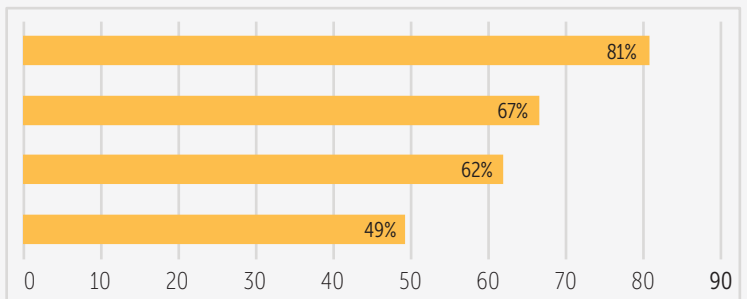
Are there benefits of obtaining funding from federal awards, rather than receiving support via your supervisor's research grants?



Any benefits
No benefits

Prestige & personal recognition
Improved salary
Funding & salary security
Greater control over research

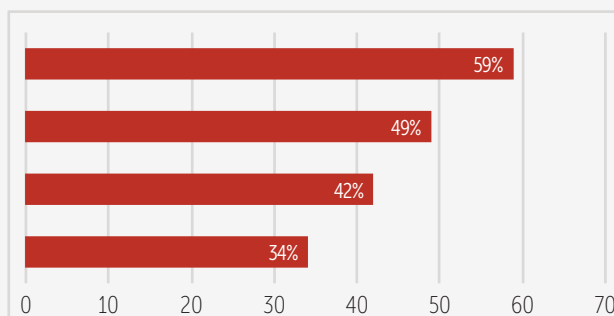
Percent respondents



What are the barriers & problems associated with current scholarship and fellowship opportunities?

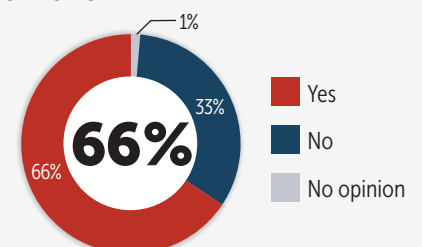
Number of awards given
Variable cost of living per region
Limited duration of eligibility
Value of awards

Percent respondents



Award-Holder Perspective

Did you require other sources of funding during the duration of this award?



Standard & Elite Award Considerations*

How do you value the following:

Increasing total number of awards and fellowships given



Increasing value of all standard awards



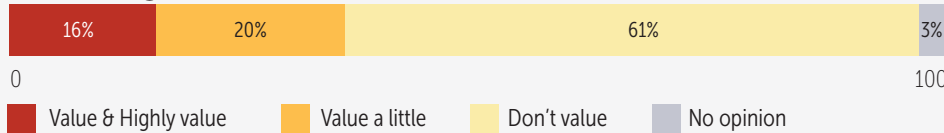
Increasing duration of eligibility for all awards



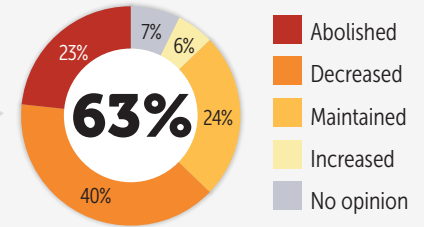
Increasing the value of post-doctoral awards



Increasing the value of elite awards



In your opinion, elite awards should be:



63% believe elite awards should be decreased or abolished.

* Elite awards refer to the Vanier Scholarship and Banting Fellowships

* Standard awards refer to all other Masters, Doctoral and Postdoctoral awards

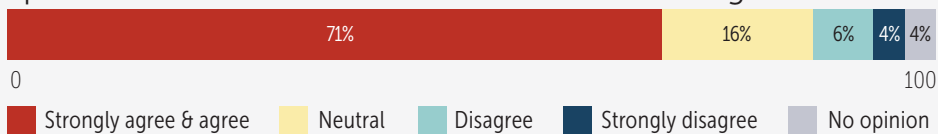
International Student & Fellow Perspectives

How much do you agree with the following statements:

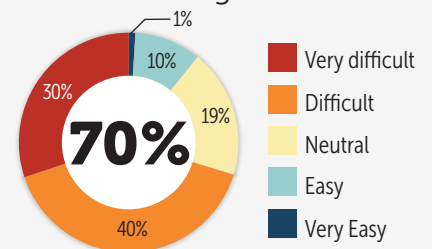
There are not enough awards for international students and postdocs



Specific incentives for international students are lacking



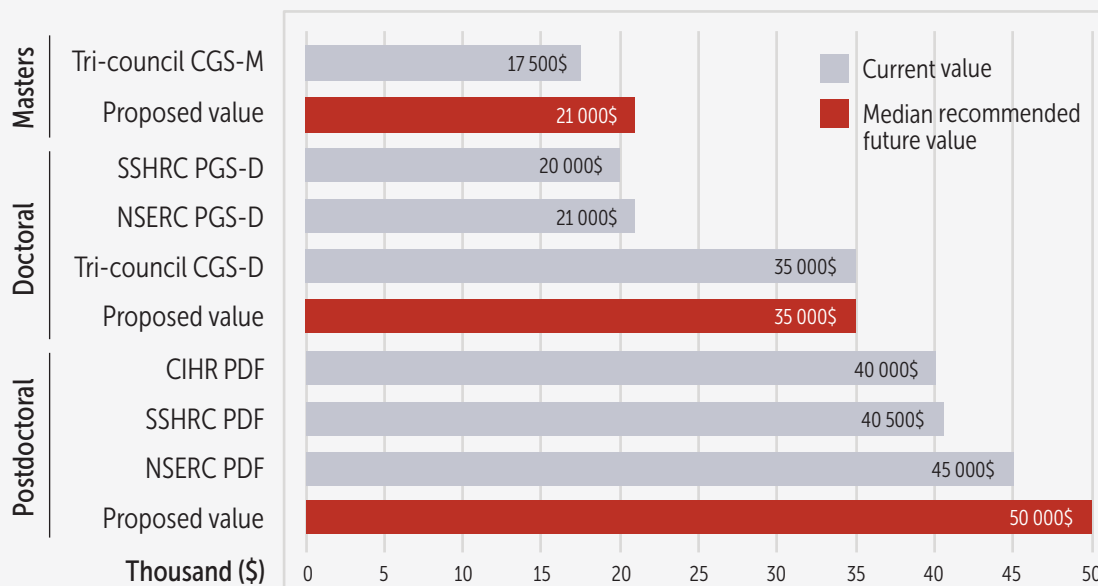
With respect to choosing to study or work in Canada, how challenging is it to find funding?



70% found it difficult or very difficult to find funding.

Future Award Recommendations*

Keeping in mind funding limitations, what would you consider optimal values for Masters, Doctoral and Postdoctoral awards?



1000+
STUDENTS
& FELLOWS
SURVEYED
FR&EN

*This survey refers only to awards from CIHR, NSERC, and SSHRC.

Abbreviations:

CIHR: Canadian Institute of Health Research

NSERC: Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council

SSHRC: Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council

CGS: Canada Graduate Scholarships

PGS: Postgraduate Scholarships

PDF: Postdoctoral Fellowships