

## **APPLICATION TO THE CWB FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM FOR THE 2007-2008 ACADEMIC YEAR**

Since 1976, the Canadian Wheat Board (CWB) has committed funds to encourage the development of agricultural research scientists in the long-term interest of western Canadian grain producers. Academic awards were created for students to study at the Universities of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. Fellowships are available for students pursuing a Ph.D. or Masters degree in agriculture.

Given satisfactory academic and research progress, the fellowships awarded will be for up to a three-year period beginning in September 2007. For the 2007-2008 academic year, the levels of the awards for Ph.D. degrees are: Year 1 - \$18,000, Year 2 - \$20,000, and Year 3 - \$20,000. For the Masters program, the level of the awards are: Year 1 and Year 2 - \$16,500. These levels may be adjusted in the future.

Applications must be submitted to the Dean of Agriculture at one of the three Prairie universities that administer the program with the CWB (Universities of Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan). Applicants are requested to apply for a CWB fellowship at the Prairie university at which they intend to study. Application deadlines will be established individually by each of the three participating universities.

The universities will forward fellowship recommendations to the CWB. The CWB will notify successful candidates.

## Eligibility Criteria

1. Fellowships will be awarded on the basis of a proven record of outstanding academic achievement and research interest in areas of study directly related to wheat and barley production, marketing and utilization.
2. Any student pursuing graduate studies in these areas can apply for a CWB fellowship. Preference will be given to projects which address the research priorities described on the following page. However, proposals in other areas will be considered as well. The selection process will take into consideration the benefit to western Canadian producers.
3. Preference will be given to applicants from the University of Alberta, the University of Saskatchewan, or the University of Manitoba (as qualified in points 4 and 5 below). To qualify for a CWB fellowship, students must be entering a Masters or a Ph.D. program.
4. With faculty and CWB approval, a student may spend a year or more at another institution during the program, provided he/she returns to complete the program at the university at which the fellowship is held.
5. In exceptional instances, and with CWB approval, the student will be allowed to pursue his/her studies abroad, upon demonstration that his/her educational requirements are not available in Canada.
6. Fellowships will be reviewed before the second and third years of the program. Progress in the program must be assessed by the student's supervisor. The progress report is due prior to the subsequent year's commitment for funding by the CWB.
7. The CWB fellowship student may receive concurrent awards (scholarships and fellowships). However, students who receive major awards, like an NSERC fellowship for example, are required to inform the CWB so their file can be reviewed. The CWB will determine if it is appropriate to maintain CWB funding or if the CWB fellowship program objective of encouraging agricultural research would be better served by supporting other unfunded projects.
8. Preference will be given to applicants who are either Canadian citizens or permanent residents.
9. Fellowship holders must be full-time students.

Research Priority Areas for the Canadian Wheat Board Fellowship Awards  
(revised December 2006)

The following are research priorities that have been identified by the CWB Awards Committee. Applicants are welcome to put proposals forward in these priority areas but also in other areas of interest to wheat and barley producers in Western Canada.

1. **FHB resistance:** Economic value of a fusarium-resistant variety of wheat to western Canadian farmers; the net benefit calculation should include the impact on U.S. market share and the potential increased supply of zero DON milling wheat;
2. **Market power:** Examination of market power in the western Canadian grains and oilseeds sector now and in the event of a merger between major players in the industry like Agricore United and Saskatchewan Wheat Pool. The project would examine the impact that increased concentration in primary grain handling, port handling facilities and the provision of crop inputs would have on farmers. The project would also include an assessment of any efficiency gains that may be realized as a result of this merger, the magnitude of those gains, whether or not farmers would share in those gains and, if so, how.
3. **Food barley fractionation:** Examination of food barley fractionation into potential value-added constituent parts. Focus should not just be on hullless barley but also on how to develop commercial applications and potential consumer products from food barley milling, fractionation and nutraceutical research work that has been done pretty extensively over the past 10 years in Canada. There is an opportunity for university research students to work on applied research projects with outside partners such as GRL and CIGI to develop real practical applications and products.
4. **Malting barley performance and management:** Research into enhancing the value and performance of malting barley performance in Western Canada. This research could take many forms. Students could look into the storage management of malting barley and develop better management practices to protect and maintain quality. From a plant-breeding perspective, they could look at creating new and unique malting and brewing

attributes in two-row Canadian malting barley that will give us a marketing edge and keep us ahead of recent advances in our competitors' breeding programs (especially Australia). Students can also focus on how to increase fermentable extract and brewhouse yield, on identifying the right type of proteins that are needed for important malting and brewing quality attributes so we can breed for these, on identifying genes and attributes associated with improved brewing quality such as absence of oxidation enzymes to improve shelf life and taste. Lastly, they could examine improved malting barley agronomy and disease resistance (for example 2R malting barley varieties that will perform very well in semi-arid durum areas like southwestern Saskatchewan) as well as novel ways to develop FHB resistant lines.

5. **Grain exchanges:** Historically, grain exchanges have been not-for-profit institutions that exist for the sole purpose of accurate price discovery. The goal of a futures market is to provide a mechanism for information exchange and price discovery. As the futures contract moves to expiry, the cash and futures price are supposed to converge. In other words, by the time the month of March rolls around, the March futures price should be equal to the cash price for the commodity that is being priced. The exchanges of today, however, are moving to a model of publicly-traded companies that have a main goal of turning a profit (that is, volume) as opposed to price discovery. Will this model work? What are the consequences if it does or does not? Does this new corporate model still provide accurate price discovery? As the number of speculators greatly outnumbers the number of hedgers, is the futures market still providing an accurate price signal? What are the impacts of this trend?
  
6. **Biofuels/ethanol:** The growth in the ethanol/bio-fuels sector has created issues that could be examined from a wide array of perspectives. These include:
  - The implications of increased bio-fuel production on the acreage of food and feed grain in Western Canada;
  - The implications for the livestock industry/feed grain usage with the expansion of bio-fuel production; and
  - Agronomic requirements (crop nutrients, fungicide use, etc.) for sustained production of high-yielding cultivars designed for ethanol use.

## Application Procedure

Applications must be made through the University of Alberta, or the University of Manitoba, or the University of Saskatchewan. Applicants who currently attend a university other than one of the three universities indicated above should make the application to the university at which they intend to study (University of Alberta, Manitoba, or Saskatchewan).

Application procedures will be established individually by the three participating universities indicated above. A transcript of the applicant's university record should be attached to the application. In addition, a letter of reference, which forms part of the application package, is required from a faculty member familiar with the work of the applicant. This letter should be sent directly by the faculty member to the coordinating office at the university.

The closing deadline for the application is determined by the College/Faculty of Agriculture, and students should check with the Dean's office for the exact closing date.

**CANADIAN WHEAT BOARD GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION**

1. **Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name Last Name

2. **Social Insurance No.** \_\_\_\_\_

3. **Present Address:**      **ف**      **Please send cheque to this address**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(postal code) (telephone)

4. **Home Address:**      **ف**      **Please send cheque to this address**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(postal code) (telephone)

*Note: Please indicate to which of the above addresses you would prefer to have your cheque sent.*

5. **Citizenship:**      Canadian \_\_\_\_\_      Permanent Resident \_\_\_\_\_

6. **Proposed degree and university where studies will be carried out under this fellowship:**

**Degree:** \_\_\_\_\_

**University:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Major Supervisor:** \_\_\_\_\_

7. **Colleges or Universities Attended:**

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Years Attended</b>	<b>Course</b>	<b>Degrees Awarded or Expected</b>	<b>Date</b>
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8. **If not now attending university, give present occupation and location of employment.**

9. **Scholarships and Awards:** (Include all scholarships, bursaries, fellowships, prizes, and other award monies received or to be received during the next twelve months, beginning with most recent.)

<b>Award</b>	<b>Where Held</b>	<b>Starting and Termination Dates</b>
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10. **Publications:** (including theses, research reports, and journal articles. Attach reprints, reports, or abstracts if available.)

<b>Author</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>References</b>
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11. **Technical Experience:** (research-related job experience other than thesis research)

<b>Date</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Supervisor</b>
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12. **List skills in operation of specialized scientific and technical equipment or processes.**

13. **Courses taken toward present graduate degree:**

<b>Course #</b>	<b>Course Title</b>	<b>Instructor</b>	<b>Mark</b>
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**14. Expected date of completion of present degree:**

**15. Expected starting date of Ph.D. or Masters:**

**16. Letter(s) of reference:** (Identify individual(s) requested to submit separate letters of reference.)

**17. Outline of proposed research:** a) Title/Subject Area; b) Research Objectives; c) Anticipated Supervisor(s)

**18. Practical Application:** Indicate how the findings of the proposed research will benefit agriculture in Western Canada, including time needed for benefits to accrue.

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Date

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Signature