
Douglas R. Colton Medal for Research Excellence 2025

Sponsor

CMC Microsystems

Description

This award, which may be given in any field or discipline, recognizes substantive contribution to some aspect of microsystems or nanotechnology, including:

- Microelectronics;
- Photonics & Optoelectronics;
- Microelectromechanical systems (MEMS), Nanofabrication and Integration;
- IoT (Internet of Things) and Edge AI (artificial intelligence);
- Quantum;
- Embedded Software.

The contribution must notably improve our understanding of, or demonstrate novelty in one or more of the following areas: applying fabrication technology; design methods and computer aided design tools; and/or system architecture.

Program details and timeline are not yet confirmed. This information will be updated when the program launches.

Eligibility

Faculty, students or alumni who have successfully completed a Master's or PhD degree in a Canadian university within the previous three calendar years are eligible for this award.

Candidates for the award will have made significant contributions while completing graduate studies in the form of a Master's or PhD degree some time during the three years prior to nomination for the award. The three-year period provides time for the impact of the contribution to become more apparent; for example, through publications, citations or commercial interest. The research must have been conducted primarily in Canada and have directly impacted industry in Canada and/or university research programs in Canada. The nominee must be either a Canadian citizen, landed immigrant or an individual who has been a Canadian resident for three years prior to the nomination. Nominees need not be currently pursuing academic studies or holding an academic appointment.

Candidates for the award must be nominated by:

- university research offices; or
- companies in micro and nano systems related sectors in Canada; or
- jointly by a university and a company.

Prize

The prize consists of one engraved medal and an associated monetary prize of \$4,500. The recipient is required to acknowledge the sponsor of the award when referring to the award.

Deadlines

If College-level review is required, your College will communicate its earlier internal deadlines.

Type	Date	Notes
Internal Deadline	Tuesday, April 1, 2025 - 9:00am	<p>If you wish to be considered for VPR nomination:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. We recommend discussing your interest in this award with your College Research Manager and Associate Dean (Research).2. Complete the Expression of Interest document.3. Send the completed Expression of Interest document and a CV to ailsakay@uoguelph.ca and copy your College Research Manager. <p>Career interruptions due to parental leave, family care, extended illness or community responsibilities will not negatively impact the committee's assessment of a candidate's research productivity. These will be taken into consideration when EOIs are assessed.</p>

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Type	Date	Notes
External Deadline	Saturday, September 20, 2025 - 5:00pm	If your nomination will be submitted by a nominator other than the VPR, please submit directly to the sponsor by the external deadline. Please also submit a copy of the full nomination and OR-5 to research.services@uoguelph.ca .

How to Apply

The Vice-President (Research & Innovation) encourages nominations for this prestigious award and will serve as nominator for those nominees recommended by the Honours and Awards Advisory Committee. If you wish to nominate a colleague or to be considered for VPR nomination:

1. We recommend discussing your interest in this award with your College Research Manager and Associate Dean (Research).
2. Complete the [Expression of Interest document](#).
3. Send the completed Expression of Interest document and a CV to ailsakay@uoguelph.ca and copy your College Research Manager by the internal deadline.

Career interruptions due to parental leave, family care, extended illness or community responsibilities will not negatively impact the committee's assessment of a candidate's research productivity. These will be taken into consideration when EOIs are assessed.

If your nomination will be submitted by a different nominee, and therefore does not require the Vice-President's endorsement, please submit a complete nomination and signed OR-5 to research.services@uoguelph.ca by the external deadline.

For More Information

Please contact ailsakay@uoguelph.ca or visit the [Douglas R. Colton Medal for Research Excellence web page](#).

Alert Classifications**Category:**
Honours and Awards

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Disciplines:

Physical Sciences and Engineering

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