

Esri Young Scholars Award – FAQ for Canada’s 2021 Competition

Award Details

Q: What will the winning student receive?

A: The student who wins the Esri Young Scholar Award will receive complimentary registration for the [Education Summit @ Esri UC](#) and [Esri User Conference \(virtual only\)](#), an acrylic award, an ArcGIS for Personal Use license and a cash award.

The winning student will need to provide the username for their Esri Account to Esri Canada for registration purposes.

Q: What special events will there be for the international Young Scholars?

A: Young Scholars will have a social event during the UC to meet and network. They will also participate in the Facebook group for Young Scholars.

Q: When will the winning student receive their award?

A: The acrylic award will be mailed to the student after the UC.

Q: What should the winner do to get the most out of the conference?

A: Esri will provide an agenda for the Young Scholars activities.

The winner should consult with members of Esri Canada’s Education and Research group for suggested seminars/presentations/events.

Q: Will there be any other prizes?

A: Yes. A cash prize will be awarded to the 2nd place student. Up to two (2) additional cash prizes and Esri Press eBooks may be awarded to meritorious students at the discretion of the judges.

Eligibility and Application

Q: What is the application deadline?

A: The application deadline for the 2021 competition is **5 p.m. EDT, April 23, 2021**. Applications are to be submitted via the form available at scholars.esri.ca

Q: If the student graduated within the last year, are they eligible?

A: Students who officially graduated, meaning they received their degree, diploma or certificate, prior to September 2020 and are not currently enrolled in a full-time program are *not* eligible.

Students who officially graduated in September 2020 or later or who have completed their program requirements and are not enrolled in any courses for the Winter 2021 term but have not yet officially graduated may be eligible. They should contact scholars@esri.ca to confirm their eligibility before submitting an application.

Q: Can students who applied last year but were unsuccessful apply again?

A: Yes. Previous applicants, whether they were successful or unsuccessful, may apply again provided they meet all of the requirements.

Q: How will the winner be selected? Are there any specific criteria?

A: The winner will be selected by a panel of judges.

Applicants must have used Esri technology to complete a thesis/research project or conduct interesting research. They must be enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate program at a Canadian college or university, or have very recently graduated (see above). Residents of Quebec are not eligible.

To apply, students must submit a poster and a story map on their project or research. Format requirements can be found at <https://scholars.esri.ca/students/eys>. They must also submit a personal statement describing their experience with GIS and future plans, an academic transcript and full contact information. Official, hard copy transcripts are not required. Transcripts obtained through a college or university's online system will be accepted.

Submissions will be judged based on content as well as poster design and presentation and story map organization and clarity. Applicants' academic standing, experience with GIS and specifically Esri technology will also be taken into account.

The winner will be asked to submit a photo to be used in a story map of the international winners, such as the [one for 2020 award winners](#).

Q: Can more than one winner be selected?

A: No. Esri's program will accommodate only one student.

However, Esri Canada will award a 2nd prize and may choose to award honourable mentions to a small number of students at the discretion of the judges.

Q: What will happen with the submitted posters?

A: The winner's poster will be sent to Esri for display during the UC. All submissions (candidates) therefore must [comply with U.S. Export laws](#) and all other applicable laws, including [copyright laws](#).

A selection of posters from non-winners may be displayed throughout the year at Esri Canada events and may also be displayed online.

Q: What will happen with the submitted story maps?

A: All submitted story maps must be public (shared with everyone). Esri Canada may choose to share them in a gallery and publicize them in a blog post or through other means.

Any applicants using an ArcGISOnline account from their college or university should ensure that their content will not be deleted from the organization before the end of 2021.

Any other questions can be addressed to scholars@esri.ca.