

## Esri Young Scholars Award – FAQ for Canada’s 2023 Competition

### Award Details

Q: What will the winning student receive?

A: The student who wins the Esri Young Scholars Award will receive an acrylic award, an ArcGIS for Personal Use license and a bursary.

They may also receive complimentary digital access to the Esri User Conference (Esri UC), July 10-14, 2023. However, details regarding digital access have not yet been released. This FAQ will be updated when more information is available on virtual participation.

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

A: Due to the ongoing pandemic, the student selected as Canada’s 2023 Esri Young Scholar will not attend the Esri UC in person but may be able to access parts of the UC virtually. More information will be provided once it is available.

The student will be able to participate in the Facebook group for Young Scholars.

Q: When will the winning student receive their award?

A: The winning student will be contacted before the end of May to make arrangements for the bursary. The acrylic award will be mailed to the student after the UC.

Since students often have access to ArcGIS software through their institutions and may not wish to receive an additional license, the Personal Use license will be provided on request. The winning student will have until December 15, 2023, to request the license.

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

A: Once details are available regarding digital access, 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 bursary will be awarded to the 2<sup>nd</sup> place student. Up to two (2) additional bursaries 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 2023 competition is **5 p.m. EDT, March 31, 2023**. Applications are to be submitted via the form available at [scholars.esri.ca](https://scholars.esri.ca)

Q: What are the application requirements?

A: Applicants must have used Esri technology to complete a thesis/research project or conduct interesting research. They must be enrolled full-time in an undergraduate or graduate program at a Canadian college or university, or have very recently graduated (see below).

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/eyes>. The story map must be public (shared with everyone).

Students must also submit a personal statement describing their experience with GIS and future plans, an academic transcript and contact information. Official, hard copy transcripts are not required. Transcripts obtained through a college or university's online system will be accepted.

The winner will be asked to submit a photo to be used in a story map of the international Young Scholars, such as the [one for 2022 award winners](#).

Q: Do submissions need to be in English?

A: No. Students may submit the required documents in either English or French.

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 2022 and are not currently enrolled in a full-time program are *not* eligible.

Students who officially graduated in September 2022 or later or who have completed their program requirements and are not enrolled in any courses for the Winter 2023 term but have not yet officially graduated may be eligible. They should contact [scholars@esri.ca](mailto: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?

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

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 with Esri technology will also be taken into account.

Q: Can more than one winner be selected?

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

However, Esri Canada will award a bursary to the 2<sup>nd</sup> place student 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](#). The winner will be required to sign a consent form to display their work.

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). After the application deadline has passed, Esri Canada may choose to share the story maps in a gallery or a group and publicize them in a blog post or through other means. See, for example, [Canada's 2021 Esri Young Scholars Award Submissions](#).

Any applicants using an ArcGIS Online account from their college or university should ensure that their content will not be deleted from the organization before the end of 2023.

Any other questions can be addressed to [scholars@esri.ca](mailto:scholars@esri.ca).