



The [Criminology and Criminal Justice Research Cluster](#) seeks to promote research and professional activities in the area of criminology and criminal justice. This cluster brings together scholars and professionals in the areas of crime, policing, punishment, law, regulation, and policy. Researchers and practitioners in criminology, criminal justice, sociology, and law from Canada and elsewhere will find a platform that promotes dialogue, networking, and the meaningful exchange of research and pedagogy in the field.

Best Conference Student Paper Award - For eligible papers authored by student members of the CSA approved for presentation at the annual CSA conference. A minimum number of submissions must be received in order for the award to be adjudicated.

The CSA is committed to the values and principles of equity, diversity, inclusion, and decolonization (refer to our Operating Standards and Principles on Equity). We recognize and honour the intersectionality of equity-based identities and therefore invite and encourage the nomination (including self-nomination) of members from marginalized groups, including Indigenous peoples, racialized persons, persons with disabilities, persons who identify as women, and/or 2SLGBTIQ+.

Eligibility

- Canadian Sociological Association membership in good standing is mandatory.
- Currently registered student
 - Undergraduate Student
 - MA Student
 - PhD Student
- For the student award- sole-authored papers, co-authored with another student, or co-authored with a faculty member.
- Presentation in a Canadian Sociological Association Conference-hosted session (either virtual or in-person) is mandatory.
- Paper must have a criminology or criminal justice focus.
- Maximum words or pages (e.g. 10,000 words or 40 pages, single-spaced).
- Full papers only – research proposals will not be accepted.
- Nominated paper status- unpublished and not yet approved for publication.

All submissions should be sent to Tanya Trussler at ttrussler@mtroyal.ca by **April 30, 2026** and include:

- Nominee name(s), email address(es), affiliation(s) (academic institution), and student level(s) (Undergraduate, MA, PhD).
- Session in which the nominee is participating in at the CSA Conference.
- An anonymous version of the paper for blind review.