



The Sociology of Migration research cluster is pleased to announce the award for the best student paper on the sociology of migration that is presented at the annual meeting. This award acknowledges the contributions made by the awardee's paper in advancing the knowledge and understanding of topics in the field of migration, and may be empirical or theoretical in focus. Please see the [cluster website](#) for our mission statement and for examples of topics that fall within the sociology of migration field.

One award is presented annually. A minimum of 2 nominated papers must be received in order for the adjudication to move forward. Depending on the number and quality of submissions (see *Adjudication of the Submissions* for more details), the Sociology of Migration research cluster adjudication committee reserves the right not to award a best student paper award in any given year.

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+.

Criteria for Submissions

Who is eligible?

The nominated paper may be written by one or more students (undergraduate, M.A. or Ph.D.). However, a student may only submit one paper in a given year. Papers co-authored with faculty, with a workplace supervisor or with a colleague who has already received a Ph.D. will **not** be considered for the award. The primary or sole author must be a member in good standing of the Canadian Sociology Association. The primary or sole author also must be a registered student at the time of the paper submission.

CSA Conference Presentation of the Nominated Paper

The author(s) must present the submitted paper at a session (either virtual or in person) of the annual CSA meeting in the year of the award. The author order for the nominated paper must be the same as the author order listed in the conference program. The session can be affiliated with the Sociology of Migration research cluster or with another session not affiliated with the SOM cluster.

Nominated Paper Status

Only full papers must be nominated. Research proposals will not be accepted. The paper should be an unpublished paper not yet approved for publication. Papers that are published are not eligible for the award. Papers already posted in the on-line pre-print section of a journal, book or report are not eligible for the award.

CSA-SCS: 2026 Sociology of Migration Research Cluster Best Student Award

Nominated Paper Format

The maximum length of the nominated paper should be under 10,000 words or under 41 pages (double-spaced), including abstract, text, bibliographies, charts or tables, and appendices. The minimum length of a paper should be 15 pages (double-spaced), or 3,750 words. The paper should be submitted in English and it should use Times New Roman 12 type. The text should be double spaced.

Nominated Paper Deadline

The deadline for the submission of the nominated paper is **April 30, 2026**. The adjudication results will be available in June 2026 and the recipient(s) of the award will be announced at the SOM cluster business meeting at the annual CSA conference and posted on the [SOM website](#).

Adjudication of the submissions

The SOM cluster will strike an adjudication committee each year to review submissions for the best student paper award. Submissions are evaluated on the following criteria: quality of overall organization of arguments; originality/contribution to advancing the knowledge and understanding of topics in the field of migration; quality of literature review/theoretical background; and quality of analysis or application of theories and reporting of results.

Number of Awards

Nominated papers for the SOM award may be entered for awards from other clusters or for the CSA best student paper award.

The SOM best student paper award will not be given to the same recipient for two successive years.

Submission instructions

The SOM cluster will accept self-nominations. It also will accept submissions by nominators external to the paper and authors, provided nominators have received permission by the authors to nominate. All submissions must be made by April 30, 2026.

Submitting the paper consists of two steps.

1. First, complete [the nomination form](#) which provides information about the nominator, the authorship and the presentation session.
2. Second, please email your paper (in PDF) as an attachment to som@csa-scs.ca.

The last day for submitting both the form and the paper is **April 30, 2026**.

You will receive acknowledgement of its receipt; if you do not receive acknowledgement, please contact Lisa Kaida (kaidar@mcmaster.ca) within 5 days of sending in the material.