



The [Work, Professions, and Occupations \(WPO\) Research Cluster](#) is now accepting submissions for our Best Student Paper Award. The cluster's awards committee will confer the award to the paper that makes the most significant contribution to the study of work, occupations, and/or professions. One recipient will be selected for the award.

Equity Statement

The Canadian Sociological Association 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 Criteria

Primary Author of Nominated Paper

- MA or PhD student
- Canadian Sociological Association membership in good standing

Authorship of Nominated Paper

- Sole authored OR co-authored with other students
- An author may only submit one paper for consideration

Conference Presentation of Nominated Paper

- Presentation in a Canadian Sociological Association Conference hosted session is mandatory (either virtual or in person)
- Paper must be presented in a session affiliated with the Work, Professions, and Occupations Research Cluster

Nominated Paper Status

- Unpublished and not yet approved for publication
- Full papers only – research proposals will not be accepted

Nominated Paper Format

- Maximum 10,000 words or 40 pages (double-spaced), including bibliography and appendices

Adjudication

Submissions will be evaluated based on the following criteria: organization of the paper; strength of the arguments; quality of the literature review/theoretical background; soundness of the research methods; strength of the analysis; originality and contribution to advancing knowledge on, and understanding of, topics in the field of work, professions, and occupations.

Submission Instructions

We will accept submissions until **May 11, 2026**.

Please e-mail a copy of the paper (in PDF format), along with the information below, to Vivian Shallal (vshalla@uoguelph.ca):

- Primary author's name, e-mail address, affiliation (academic institution), and student level (MA, PhD)
- Co-author name(s), affiliation(s), and student level(s) (if applicable)
- Abstract that is included in the Canadian Sociological Association Conference program
- Canadian Sociological Association Conference session in which the paper is being presented
- Authors are welcome to self-identify as members of equity deserving communities

Award Recipient The award recipient will be sent a certificate of achievement and a \$100 prize. The recipient will be identified in the Conference program, on the Canadian Sociological Association Conference website, and on the Work, Professions, and Occupations Research Cluster website.