

Fully Funded PhD Student Positions in the Faculty of Information at the University of Toronto

The Faculty of Information at the University of Toronto offers fully funded PhD positions to study with Prof. Shion Guha in public interest technology, algorithmic decision-making in government, AI governance and policy, and responsible AI. The doctoral program is research-intensive and individually supervised. Applications are welcome from students trained anywhere in the world.

Prof. Guha directs the Human-Centered Data Science Lab, which studies how algorithmic systems allocate scarce public resources in child welfare, homelessness and shelter services, higher education, health and policing. The work combines statistical analysis of deployed decision systems with sustained fieldwork inside the agencies that run them. Our papers appear at CHI, CSCW, FAccT and ACL venues, and in CACM and the ACM Journal on Responsible Computing.

Lab research has been cited in the NIST AI Risk Management Framework Playbook and the UNDP Human Development Report 2025, and has informed Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat reviews of the federal Algorithmic Impact Assessment framework.

Doctoral students publish as first authors and hold SSHRC, Ontario Graduate Scholarship, Schwartz Reisman and Data Sciences Institute fellowships. Students Prof. Guha has supervised have gone on to faculty and postdoctoral positions and doctoral study at Carnegie Mellon, Wisconsin, Oxford, Cornell and McMaster, and to roles in the Ontario Public Service and at Scotiabank, RBC and BMO.

We are recruiting primarily candidates with rigorous training in computer science, mathematics, statistics or econometrics who want to work on how public institutions make decisions. Candidates from other backgrounds with equivalent methodological preparation are read on the same terms. Prior research experience carries substantial weight, and publications at CHI, CSCW, FAccT, ACL, AAAI or comparable venues are a strong asset.



Ways to Connect

Lab hcds-uoft.ca
Personal shionguha.ca
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What the Position Offers

- Full funding for Canadian and international students
- Individual supervision within a structured doctoral program
- Supervision by a faculty member cross-appointed to Computer Science
- An active lab of doctoral, masters and undergraduate researchers
- Research partnerships with public agencies, including the Children's Aid Society of Toronto
- Affiliation with the Schwartz Reisman Institute, the Data Sciences Institute and the School of Cities

How to Apply

Apply through the Faculty of Information and name Prof. Guha as a proposed supervisor in the research statement.

Applications close December 1, 2026

Apply online

ischool.utoronto.ca/phd-in-information

