

Research

25+ scholarship descriptions with detailed criteria

Rhodes Scholarship

Organisation: Rhodes Trust

Criteria:

- Literary and scholastic attainments
- Demonstrate use of talents to fullest potential (show mastery in various areas)
- Demonstrate courage and devotion to duty, sympathy and protection for the weak, kindness, fellowship
- Demonstrate good moral character
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Eligibility

- Determined by country
 - Country has to be eligible
- Must have been a resident of an eligible country for at least 5 of the last ten years
- Must be aged 18-24 on October 1 2025 OR
- Must be 18-25 OR
 - If the prospective student is a law, medical, dental, pharmaceutical or engineering student and needs to complete a professional internship
- under the age of 27
 - If you've completed your bachelor's degree later than usual
- Must have strong bachelor's degree GPA (First class honours equivalent/4.0)
- Must have a sufficiently high standard of English

Value: Full tuition

Lester B. Pearson International Scholarship - University of Toronto

Organization:

University of Toronto

Eligibility:

- International student (non-Canadian requiring study permit)
- Final year senior secondary or graduated no earlier than June 2025
- School nomination required (1 per school globally)

- Beginning studies in September 2026

Selection Criteria:

- Exceptional academic achievement
- Creativity
- Recognized leader within school
- Impact on school and community
- Future potential to contribute to global community

Value: Covers tuition, books, incidental fees, full residence support for 4 years (37 awards annually)

Schulich Leader Scholarship

Organization:

Schulich Leader Scholarships

Eligibility:

- Graduating high school student in Canada
- Canadian citizen
- Plans to enrol in an eligible STEM program

Selection Criteria:

- Entrepreneur-mindset
- Financial need
- Plans to pursue a career in a STEM field

Value: \$120,000 for students pursuing an engineering degree; \$100k for students pursuing a STEM degree.

Loran Award

Organization:

[Loran Scholars](#)

Eligibility:

- High school students
 - First time university student
 - Minimum average of 85%
 - Canadian citizen or PR
 - Born between 1/1/2004 and 09/01/2010
- CEGEP students
 - Last year of CEGEP before university studies

- First time university student
- R score equal or higher than 29
- Canadian citizen or PR
- Canadian citizen or PR
- Born between 1/1/2004 and 09/01/2010

Selection Criteria:

- N/A

Value: \$100k over four years; \$10k annual stipend, matching tuition waiver, summer internships, trusted mentor, network of scholars

PETRONAS EDUCATION SPONSORSHIP

Organization:

[PETRONAS](#)

Eligibility:

- Outstanding academic achievements
- Strong leadership
- Wholesome assessment (Personal & Cognitive and Student Potential)

Selection Criteria:

- For students who exhibit outstanding talent, dedication and potential

Value: Sponsorship program (specific value undisclosed)

[BMO200 WILLIAM A. DOWNE SCHOLARSHIP](#)

Organization:

[BMO](#)

Eligibility:

- Active Canadian citizen
- Grade 12 student
- Parent is a BMO employee

Selection Criteria:

- N/A

Value: \$10,000 covers part of tuition and residence fees

BMO STUDENT AWARD

Organization:

BMO

Eligibility:

- At least 13 years old
- Current registered student in good standing

Selection Criteria:

- Student can be at either a university, college, CEGEP or high school/secondary school in Canada

No grades, references or accomplishments are required

Value: \$10000

University of Toronto Scholars Program

Organization:

University of Toronto

Eligibility:

- Must be an outstanding student
- Must be applying for the first year of direct-entry undergraduate studies

Selection Criteria:

- Secondary school students (automatic consideration)

Value: Each award is valued at \$10,000; non renewable

ARTS & SCIENCE GLOBAL SCHOLARSHIP

Organization

[The University of Toronto Faculty of Arts and Sciences](#)

Eligibility:

- Outstanding student registered in a regulated fee program within Humanities, Social Sciences, Life Sciences or Math and Physical Science

- Completion of secondary school program with high academic standing and fully meeting the conditions of admissions offer to the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at UoT

Selection Criteria:

- International Student (current or prospective)
- Merit-based
- Financial need may be considered

Value: Value is equal to cost of international tuition, including tuition fees, incidental fees and UHIP fees for four years or degree completion, whichever comes first.

Beland Honderich Awards

Organization

Beland Honderich

Eligibility:

- Student
- Must enroll in an undergraduate program at the University of Toronto

Selection Criteria:

- Only four students in the Pathways to Education Regent Park Program are selected (two entering from Grade 8 and two graduating from Grade 12)
- Nominees are selected based on academic and socioeconomic need

Value: \$5000, renewable for up to four years

The Honderich Bursary

Organization

York University, in honor of its chair Beland Honderich

Eligibility:

- High school student

Selection Criteria:

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Value: \$32,000 over four years, renewable

Beedie Luminaries Scholarship - SHINE

Organization

Beedie Luminaries

Eligibility:

- Canadian citizen, PR or protected persons
- Residing in British Columbia
- Plan to be full-time student and use funding for post-secondary education
- Demonstrate you or your family's financial adversity and how it has affected you
- Receive letter of reference from your secondary school
- Must be applying to one of the eligible post-secondary institutions

Selection Criteria:

- Currently in Grade 12
- Grade average of 75% in most recently completed school year

Value: Up to \$44k per student pursuing a 4-year undergraduate degree; up to \$22k per student pursuing a 2-year college diploma/certificate

Beedie Luminaries Scholarship - RISE

Organization

Beedie Luminaries

Eligibility:

- Be a refugee who was granted PR or a protected person after January 1, 2016
- Residing full-time in BC for the previous 6 consecutive months
- Demonstrate financial adversity and its effects on you
- Endorsement from employer, school or counsellor

Selection Criteria:

- Ages 19 and 34
- Completed secondary school
- Plan to be a full-time or part-time student

Value: Up to \$44k per full-time student (11k a year for four years); Up to \$33k per part-time student (5.5k for up to 6 years)

Beedie Luminaries Scholarship - BUILD

Organization

Beedie Luminaries

Eligibility:

- Canadian citizen, PR or protected persons
- Residing in British Columbia
- Completed or are enrolled in an equivalent trades prep program
- Demonstrate financial need
- Intend to pursue BCIT's certification programs for either one of the following trades
 - Carpentry, plumbing, construction, welding, sheet metal

Selection Criteria:

- Be under the age of 35
- Satisfy BCIT entrance requirements

Value: \$10000 per year for up to four years for a bachelor's degree program or a college university transfer program; \$7,500 a year for up to two years for a college certificate/diploma or trades program.

President's Entrance Scholarship

Organization

Toronto Metropolitan University

Eligibility:

- Canadian citizen, PR, protected persons and international students

Selection Criteria:

- Demonstrate academic accomplishment, leadership qualities, original thought, and creative ability

Application components:

- Essay or project summary
- 2 Letters of reference
 - Academic reference
 - Reference letter
- Leadership activities

Value: \$40k over four years

WPIRG Campus Legacy Award for Indigenous Students

Organization

University of Waterloo

Eligibility:

- Identify as Indigenous
- Undergraduate or graduate enrolled in any program based on participation in actions, demonstrations, conferences, or forums regarding social or environmental research and justice
- Demonstrate financial need to attend conferences, forums, demonstrations or related activities

Selection Criteria:

- Must also be active within the Indigenous community
 - Letter of support from another student active in the WISC is required

Value: \$3k annually

[A.L. Cochrane Scholarship](#)

Organization

Victoria College, University of Toronto

Eligibility

- Newly admitted students who identify as BIPOC
- Canadian citizen or permanent resident
- Preference to students who demonstrate financial need and remain in good academic standing

Value: N/A

[Jan Keiling Rainbow Scholarship](#)

Organization

Funding for Education Abroad

Eligibility:

- US citizens, permanent residents who identify as LGBTQ+ attending a study abroad program

Selection Criteria:

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Application components:

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Value: \$

TD Scholarship for Community Leadership

Organization: TD Bank / Canadian Universities only

Eligibility:

- Final year high school (outside Quebec) or CEGEP (in Quebec)
- Minimum 75% average (R-score 26 for Quebec)
- Demonstrated community leadership

Selection Criteria

- Solving Community Problems
- Make community more inclusive and sustainable
- Address social issues like environment, social justice, poverty, etc.
- Measurable community impact.

Application Components:

- **600-word essay:** Community leadership experience, how involvement made community more inclusive/sustainable, connection to larger societal issues
- **250-word essay:** Family and personal life, challenges faced, economic situation
- **250-word essay (if applicable):** Gap year activities
- Reference Letters
- Transcript
- Regional Interviews (80 Finalists)

Regional Distribution: There has to be at least 2 winners per region

- Atlantic Canada
- Quebec
- Ontario
- BC/Yukon
- Prairies/Territories

Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship

Organization: Government of Canada (CIHR, NSERC, SSHRC)

Eligibility:

- Canadian citizen, permanent resident, or international student
- Nominated by Canadian university with Vanier quota

- Enrolled full-time in doctoral program

Selection Criteria:

- Academic excellence
- Research potential
- Leadership potential

McGill's merit-based Entrance Scholarship Program

Organisation: McGill University

Eligibility

- First-time university students entering a full-time undergraduate degree program

Value: \$3,000 CAD

The Robertson Scholars Leadership Program

Organisation: The Robertson Scholars Leadership Program

Eligibility

- First-time university students at Duke University or UNC
- Minimum GPA of 3.0 after their first semester
- Must be enrolled full-time

Selection Criteria

- Minimum GPA of 3.0 after their first semester
- Must be enrolled full-time
- Must not be a transfer student
- Must not be a current merit scholar at Duke University or UNC

Value: Full tuition, room and board fees for up to 6 semesters

The National Scholarship Program

Organisation: University of Toronto

Eligibility

- Canadian citizen, permanent resident or protected person
- In your final year of secondary school or first-year CEGEP

- Planning to start university in the upcoming academic year or planning to take a gap year

Selection Criteria

- Must be nominated by your school for the UofT National Book Award
- Must not be a current merit scholar at Duke University or UNC

Value: Full tuition, room and board and incidental fees for up to four years of study

ASEAN Bright Sparks - A-Level Full Scholarship

Organisation: ECM Libra Foundation

Eligibility:

- Must be a Malaysian citizen
- At least 16 years, and below 20 years old
- Completed SPM
- Must have straight-A results
- Show extracurricular achievement

Selection Criteria

- Leadership role in an extracurricular activity

Value: RM 125,000

Brock Leaders Citizen Society Award

Organization: Brock University

Eligibility:

- Must be an incoming secondary school student

Selection Criteria

- Must demonstrate strong academic record
- Outstanding leadership
- Community involvement

Value: \$8000 (\$2000 every year), renewable as long as the student is still a member of the Brock Leaders Citizenship Society.

Goodman Scholarship

Organization: Brock University

Eligibility:

- Must be an incoming student entering the Goodman School of Business

Selection Criteria

- Must demonstrate strong academic record
- Must show evidence of leadership in school and community life or entrepreneurial talent
- Must demonstrate financial need
- Must maintain 75% average to renew scholarship

Value: \$8000, renewable as long as the student maintains 75% average

Sample student profiles with varied backgrounds and stories

Profile 1 - LORAN SCHOLAR - [Lavan Balendran \(2020\)](#)

Background: Ontario student, Tamil Canadian

Academic: Strong grades (exact GPA not specified, 85% minimum)

Activities:

- Founded community food security organization at age 14
- Sustained commitment through high school (3+ years)
- Student government involvement
- Athletic participation (soccer)

Key Strengths

- Sustained commitment to single cause (depth over breadth)
- Demonstrated character through choices (chose meaningful work over resume-building)
- Clear values driving service (addressing food insecurity in his community)
- Leadership through creation

Profile 2 - Schulich Leader Scholarship Winner - [Katherine Sirois \(2021\)](#)

Background: Montreal Student, Canada.

Academic: STEM student; Grade unknown/irrelevant (no GPA requirement for the scholarship she won)

Activities:

- Participated in Google's Software Product Sprint
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Key Strengths

- Passionate about STEM
- Having an impact through tech

Profile 3 - Financial aid/Full ride scholarship from school - [Fenan Shumeta \(2025\)](#)

Background: International Student, Ethiopian.

Academic: Strong grades (GPA 95.13/100, unweighted; SAT 1490)

Activities:

- Director of Ethiopia Branch Stooping Club, secured \$8k in electronics and books for his school and got interviewed on BBC.
- Production Intern
- ResearchAssistant
- Author and Book Designer
- Mentor and teaching assistant

Key Strengths

- Unwavering commitment to academic success
- Passion to give back to his community (worked in organizations catered to supporting communities and individuals in Ethiopia)
- Significant professional experience

Profile 4 - Full Scholarship from NYUAbu Dhabi - [Vuk \(2025\)](#)

Background: International Student, Montenegro, Europe.

Academic: 4.0 GPA; A*AA A levels for Philosophy and Theology, Economics, Politics; 8 on IELTS

Activities:

- REACH student group member
- SEAL (Student Embassy Ambassador Liaison)

Key Strengths

- Passionate about their interests (music lessons)
- Involved in extracurricular activities in school
- Diverse experience learning abroad, very adaptable

Profile 5 - PETRONAS Scholarship - [Khoi Yern](#) (2025)

Background: International Student, Malaysia.

Academic: 10As in SPM; 4A*s in A Levels

Activities:

- Tutor and Mentor

Key Strengths

- Passionate about her projects in geology and science
- Enjoys supporting others

Public Scholarship Winner Examples

Personal Statement from Scholarship Winner [Fenan](#)

Prompt: "Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others."

Essay:

"I was going through my mom's Telegram account when I saw recording 49. Heart racing and hands shaking, my fingers pressed on the chilling recording my mom forwarded to my dad again and again. With each playback, it sank deeper into my soul, filling me with fear and disbelief.

"Ati boor, nama duutedha!" ("Consider yourself dead by tomorrow!")

Behind those frightening words was a terrorist threatening my mother's life back in my hometown, Nekemte, amid intense ethnic violence. Her crime?—being Amhara, an ethnicity she was mistaken for due to her Amharic name and profession as an Amharic teacher, despite her being fully Oromo.

Back in 2021, when Mom insisted that I apply to a boarding school 402.5 km away, my first thought was, "She's had it with me; she can't keep up with my demands anymore. That's why she wants to send me off to a boarding school." After all, in my 13-year-old mind, she was a mom who shunned me whenever I asked for new clothes or shoes. She was a mom who couldn't keep her marriage together. She was a mom who couldn't provide the life I thought I deserved; she was a mom who... 13-year-old me could go on complaining.

Eventually, the idea of going to a boarding school supported my narrative as an escape from a family I loathed, an escape from my alcoholic dad and my mom's relentless bickering that kept me up all night. An escape from... 14-year-old me could go on giving reasons.

At the end of eighth grade, our regional examination results came in. That morning, my mom received a call telling her that I had scored the highest grade in the entire province. Wasting no time, I immediately applied to ODA Special Boarding School, earning a full scholarship later on. Leaving that house seemed like a ticket to paradise! Until the unfamiliar environment and overwhelming loneliness took their toll. Freshman year was a real struggle; not a day went by without me blaming my parents for all my setbacks.

On a random Saturday, as I logged into my mom's Telegram account to reply to my father per her request, recording 0049 grabbed my attention. After that four-minute recording, followed by a series of messages between my dad and mom, feelings I once had about her, and the information in front of me began to clash. Guilt consumed my body. She hadn't shunned me because she found my consistent appeals for new shoes or clothes annoying, but because she was saving up to buy land near Addis and relocate the whole family. She wasn't a mom who couldn't keep her marriage together; in fact, after knowing that her husband had cheated on her, she kept it a secret in order not to dismantle the family. She didn't send me off to a boarding school because "she had it with me," but because she genuinely believed in the opportunities it would create for me and for our family to relocate and stay alive. As the first drop of tear rolled down my face, I realized how immature and judgmental I had been toward mom. I focused too much on the actions apparent to me, completely oblivious to the sacrifices she made.

Although my path was unorthodox, I am grateful for discovering that recording. Those truths have sculpted me into the Fenan who cherishes every moment with his mom, aware he nearly lost her; the Fenan who forgave his father, despite knowing his affair, following his mother's lead; the Fenan who seeks triumph over defeat until the very last, reminded by the fact that his mom didn't surrender to that unlawful death penalty; the Fenan who founded a support group for a persecuted Amhara student, relating to his pain having been banished from his own town due to assumed ethnicity; the once lonely freshman who became the humorous friend that glued his group together; and, most of all, the Fenan who now understands stories before drawing conclusions."

Personal Statement from Scholarship Winner [Ana](#)

Prompt: "Explain something that made a big impact in your life."

Essay:

"If you can't live off of it, it is useless." My parents were talking about ice skating: my passion. I started skating as a ten-year-old in Spain, admiring how difficulty and grace intertwine to create beautiful programs, but no one imagined I would still be on the ice seven years and one country later. Even more unimaginable was the thought that ice skating might become one of the most useful parts of my life.

I was born in Mexico to two Spanish speakers; thus, Spanish was my first language. We then moved to Spain when I was six, before finally arriving in California around my thirteenth birthday. Each change introduced countless challenges, but the hardest part of moving to America, for me, was learning English. Laminated index cards, color-coded and full of vocabulary, became part of my daily life. As someone who loves to engage in a conversation, it was very hard to feel as if my tongue was cut off. Only at the ice rink could I

be myself; the feeling of the cold rink breeze embracing me, the ripping sound of blades touching the ice, even the occasional ice burning my skin as I fell—these were my few constants. I did not need to worry about mispronouncing “axel” as “aksal.” Rather, I just needed to glide and deliver the jump.

From its good-natured bruise-counting competitions to its culture of hard work and perseverance, ice skating provided the nurturing environment that made my other challenges worthwhile. Knowing that each moment on the ice represented a financial sacrifice for my family, I cherished every second I got. Often this meant waking up every morning at 4 a.m. to practice what I had learned in my few precious minutes of coaching. It meant assisting in group lessons to earn extra skating time and taking my conditioning off-ice by joining my high school varsity running teams. Even as I began to make friends and lose my fear of speaking, the rink was my sanctuary. Eventually, however, the only way to keep improving was to pay for more coaching, which my family could not afford. And so I started tutoring Spanish.

Now, the biggest passion of my life is supported by my most natural ability. I have had over thirty Spanish students, ranging in age from three to forty and spanning many ethnic backgrounds. I currently work with fifteen students each week, each with different needs and ways of learning. Drawing on my own experiences as both a second language-learner and a figure skater, I assign personal, interactive exercises, make jokes to keep my students’ mindset positive, and never give away right answers. When I first started learning my axel jump, my coach told me I would have to fall at least 500 times (about a year of falls!) in order to land it. Likewise, I have my students embrace every detail of a mistake until they can begin to recognize new errors when they see them. I encourage them to expand their horizons and take pride in preparing them for new interactions and opportunities.

Although I agree that I will never live off of ice skating, the education and skills I have gained from it have opened countless doors. Ice skating has given me the resilience, work ethic, and inspiration to develop as a teacher and an English speaker. It has improved my academic performance by teaching me rhythm, health, and routine. It also reminds me that a passion does not have to produce money in order for it to hold immense value. Ceramics, for instance, challenges me to experiment with the messy and unexpected. While painting reminds me to be adventurous and patient with my forms of self-expression. I don’t know yet what I will live off of from day to day as I

mature; however, the skills my passions have provided me are life-long and irreplaceable."