

Scholarship Information

April 2015

Scholarship 101

- **Scholarship:** A non-repayable sum of money awarded to a student to help finance education. Most scholarships are based on merit in areas ranging from academic achievement to athletics. Usually, scholarships are not based on financial need.
- **Award:** An award is given in recognition of outstanding achievement. Awards may be in the form of books, plaques, subscriptions or money. A monetary award is usually called a scholarship or bursary.
- **Bursary:** A non-repayable grant of money, bursaries are awarded primarily based on financial need.
- **Loan:** Financial assistance that must be repaid.
- **Entrance Award/Scholarship:** A scholarship or award given to a student entering first year at university. Most are automatic – see university websites for further details.
- **Automatic:** No application is necessary; the student file will automatically be considered.
- **Renewable:** A scholarship that will be renewed for each year of university, assuming the student maintains the required academic performance.
- **In-course Award/Scholarship:** Awarded to students already enrolled in university studies, beyond the first year level.

*Source : <http://www.scholarshipscanada.com/finance/article.asp?ID=1416&SectionID=9>

University entrance (Mostly automatic)

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| McGill | http://www.mcgill.ca/studentaid/scholarships-aid/future-undergrads/entrance-scholarships/application-instructions#anchor5 |
| UQAM | www.etudier.uqam.ca/1ercycle/bourses-1er-cycle |
| Concordia | fao.concordia.ca/main/awardprograms/awardsearch/ |
| Université de Montreal | www.bourses.umontreal.ca/accueil/index.htm |
| Polytechnique | www.polymtl.ca/aidefinanciere/chrono/admission-1er.php |
| HEC | www.hec.ca/programmes_ formations/baa/bourses/ |
| Sherbrooke | www.usherbrooke.ca/etudiants/aide-financiere/prets-ou-bourses/bourses/ |
| Laval | www2.ulaval.ca/futurs-etudiants/couts-et-financement-des-etudes/bourses-et-aide-financiere/etudiants-quebecois.html |
| Bishops | www.gobishops.ca/bishops/mmmatters/index.ezc?pageID=1110 |
| Ottawa | www.registrar.uottawa.ca/Default.aspx?tabid=3227 |

Champlain College – Bourse d'Excellence Desjardins (Automatic)

Awarded to the 2nd year student with the highest r-score based on first year results, in each program. Presented at the Desjardins Scholarship evening.

Champlain College - Graduation awards (Automatic)

- Academic Medal of the Governor General of Canada
- Biology Prizes
- Business Administration Prizes
- Champlain Regional College Board of Governors Merit Award
- Chemistry Prizes
- Computer Science Prize
- Creative Arts Academic Excellence Award
- Creative Arts Digital Imaging Prize
- Creative Arts
Film/Video/Communication Prize
- Creative Arts Photography Prize
- Dean Cheshire Award
- Fouad Assaad Memorial Award in World Studies
- Fuller Landau Award
- Gail Sowerby Prize in Liberal Arts
- Graphic Communications Prize
- Humanities Prizes
- International Baccalaureate Prizes
- Margery Langshur Prize
- Mathematics Prize
- Modern Language Prizes
- Physics Prize
- Prix du Merite en Francais
- Royal Bank Merit Award
- Social Science Certificates of Merit
- Social Science Program Prizes
- Tourism Excellence Prize

Champlain College - Graduation awards (Application or nomination)

| | | |
|---|-----------------------|--|
| André E. LeBlanc Student Life Prize | Nomination | For outstanding contribution to the quality of student life on campus while maintaining a high academic record. |
| Anna Ackle Support Staff Union Award | Application | For an outstanding student who has been involved in volunteer work on and off campus, and who has maintained a good overall academic standing. |
| Champlain College Saint-Lambert Professional Association Award | Nomination, interview | For high academic achievement awarded to a mature student (22+ years of age). |
| Champlain College Saint-Lambert Teachers' Association Awards | Application | For outstanding students (one for career program graduates and one for pre-university graduates) who have been involved in volunteer work on and off campus and who have maintained a minimum 80% average. |
| John Jones Memorial Award | Application | The John Jones Memorial Award is awarded out each year to a student who excels in history and who contributes to their sporting community. |
| Joy Smith Athletic Merit Award | Nomination | For an outstanding member of the intercollegiate athletic program who has maintained an above average academic record. |
| Peter Swarbrick Memorial Award | Contest | Awarded annually to the student (first or second year) who wins the contest based on participation in the Speakers' Forum. |
| Physical Education Prize | Application | Awarded annually to a student who exhibits positive effort, motivation and athletic spirit in physical education. |
| Adam Taylor Memorial Award Celebrating Student Diversity | Application | Awarded to an extraordinary student volunteer who has made a contribution to the Champlain College community by reaching out to a fellow students with a developmental disabilities to enhance their CEGEP experience. |
| Potter Family Award (every 3rd year) | Application | Granted to a graduating student who is an inquiring, innovative scholar who maintained a minimum 85% average. |
| Quebec Association of Retired Teachers (South Shore Chapter) | Application | For maintaining a high academic standing, making a significant contribution to college life, being involved in community activities and aiming to enter the teaching profession. |
| South Shore University Women's Club Award | Application | Granted to female graduate who is a South Shore resident and has an above average academic record. |

Some major external awards

Loran Awards

- **Recognizes:** Character, leadership, service to the community service, and academic excellence.
- **Awards:** *Loran Award:* 30 awards of up to \$80,000. Renewable for 4 years at partner universities, mentoring and summer programs. *Loran Finalist Award:* 40 entrance awards of \$3,000 for those who were interviewed at nationals but not selected as Loran Scholars. *Loran Provincial Award:* 40 entrance awards of \$2,000 for those not invited to national level interviews.
- **Eligibility:** Minimum 85% average, full-time studies, pre-university program, going to university the following year.
- **Application deadline:** *Sponsored* applicants are selected by Academic Advisors in early October based on their application essays and references. *Direct* applications are due later in October
- **Website:** www.loranaward.ca

Desjardins Foundation Scholarships

- **Recognizes:** Financial need (Based on the Quebec Loans and Bursaries Simulator), academic excellence, community involvement, succession and regional development
- **Award:** Total of nearly \$1 million awarded to Cegep and University students
- **Eligibility:** Full-time studies, primary residence in Quebec
- **Application deadline:** January 5th to March 5th, 2015
- **Website:** www.desjardins.com/fondation

TD Canada Trust Scholarships

- **Recognizes:** Outstanding community leadership
- **Award:** 20 full scholarships, renewable, summer job at TD, mentorship opportunities. Value of up to \$70,000.
- **Eligibility:** minimum 75% average, going to university the following year
- **Application deadline:** November 28th, 2014. 600 word essay, optional essay on personal circumstances.
- **Website:** www.tdcanadatrust.com/scholarship

RBC Student Leading Change Scholarship

- **Recognizes:** Canadian students showing a passion to lead and inspire positive change in their community
- **Award:** Under review
- **Eligibility:** minimum 70% average enrolled in graduating year in College
- **Application deadline:** Information available in November 2015
- **Website:** <https://scholarships.rbc.com/Overview.aspx>

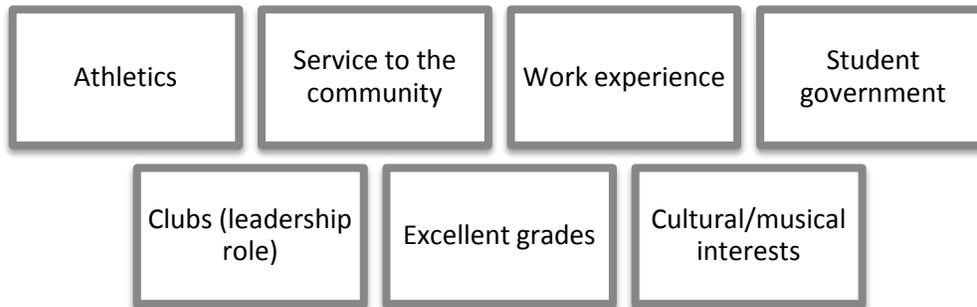
Schulich Leader Scholarships for STEM Students

- **Recognizes:** (1) Outstanding community, business or entrepreneurial leadership (2) Academic excellence (3) Financial need. Must demonstrate 2 of 3 criteria.
- **Award:** \$60,000 over 4 years, \$20,000 over 3 years for Quebec universities. Each participating university selects 2 Schulich Leaders, possibly up to 4 at Quebec universities.
- **Eligibility:** 2 of 3 criteria stated above. Must be nominated by the Cegep. Must be attending a participating university the following year in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics (STEM).
- **Application deadline:** Nomination by Academic Advisor in early February. Watch for Champlain's announcements on Omnivox to apply internally for nomination.
- **Website:** www.schulichleaders.com

Where else to look

- University websites and calendars (available online).
- Maclean's Guide to Canadian Universities
- www.ScholarshipsCanada.com
- www.studentawards.com
- www.aucc.ca
- For American Universities: CollegeBoard: <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search>
- Large scholarships are advertised by Academic Advising on Omnivox
- Watch for notices and posters on the Academic Advising bulletin board outside the Registrar's Office, some outside of Student Services.
- Other External Scholarships will soon be posted on the Champlain College's website

What the judges are looking for



Please keep in mind that these are examples – you don't have to have **everything** to be eligible.

Traits to demonstrate

- Motivation
- Enthusiasm
- Maturity
- Passion
- Creativity
- Initiative
- Overcoming challenges
- Originality
- Problem solving skills
- Leadership skills
- Adaptability
- Responsibility
- Ability to work well with others
- Potential for growth
- Writing skills

Again, these are examples. You don't have to have all of these traits – and having these traits alone doesn't necessarily win you a scholarship.

How to apply – Extra requirements

Essays

- There is no right answer.
- Be interesting. Be creative, be different but without being off-the-wall.
- Be sure to answer all the questions. Write an outline.
- Being specific is always better than being general e.g., "Hang gliding has taught me..." vs "I like sports."
- Use clear, concise, simple language. Don't hesitate to write the application in French if you can express yourself better in French than in English.
- Talk about why something was meaningful, impact of accomplishments.
- Proofread! Meet advisors for feedback in advance of deadlines.

References

- Making the selection is very important.
- Approach someone that knows you well.
- Ask in advance, be clear about what you need and the deadline.
- Provide your CV, so that they can see the bigger picture of who you are, other than an "A" student.

Words of wisdom from recent applicants

(lightly edited)

What makes you a good scholarship applicant?

AJ: I had been involved in various forms of volunteer and extra-curricular work since high school (...) in the form of community, cultural, and sport involvement. Showing your real character through your actions...

JC: Choose the scholarship(s) that will best suit you. For me, the TD Canada Trust Scholarship was the best choice. My grades were very strong and I actively participated in volunteer work within my community. If you feel that you might be a good applicant, there is absolutely no risk in submitting an application.

JH: I am and have been involved in a wide range of activities including student government, athletics, non-profit organizations, volunteering groups and a part-time job. The fact that I have held leadership positions in many of the larger activities made me eligible for the major scholarships. I am very passionate about what I wrote in my application, so it was easy to be sincere when discussing why I got involved in the activities.

SC: Involvement in a variety of different kinds of extracurricular activities, high grades and leadership qualities seem to have been my strongest attributes as an applicant. They want to see that a student is involved in many things not only because it will look good on a CV or help them get into university [DL: *or a scholarship*], but because he or she is really passionate about the activities in question.

Describe your experience of the application process.

AJ: Just when I thought I knew everything about myself, the application process hit me. In the first stages of the Loran application, you are asked to list everything you've done in the past and all of your achievements. By the end of the application, I had a big picture of who I truly was. The interests motivating my actions became clearer to me. During the interview process, as I was asked thought-provoking questions about myself, I truly noticed a pattern in what I did outside of the classroom. This affirmation of my interests will definitely help guide my actions in the future.

- JC:** The application process can be tedious. It can take quite long to fill out, which at times can be frustrating. Get it peer reviewed - my mother, sister, brother, aunt and the academic advisor read it over and made changes.
- HR:** Studentawards.com was very helpful for identifying scholarships I qualified for. The process for applying for multiple scholarships did not get faster because copy/pasting repeating information is not really possible, as each scholarship has its own format. While the process is time-consuming, the benefits can be worthwhile.
- JH:** It gave me the opportunity to reflect on everything I had done, why I had made certain decisions and what I have learned/gained from each of them. It was a long process applying, but it was well worth the time and effort. My favourite part of the whole process was the interviews, since I got to meet and befriend dozens of amazing young people from across the country!
- SC:** After the initial stages (as soon as interview is involved) scholarship committees are no longer focusing on grades but really on personality traits and one's ability to come across as a confident, motivated student. Especially for the Loran, completing the written application can be a long process of editing and re-editing. The help and input of an academic advisor was extremely useful throughout the process, I strongly recommend it!

Advice to future applicants?

- AJ:** My biggest piece of advice would be stay true to yourself, especially during the interview. Do not try to impress the judges, but answer their questions as if a friend were asking you. The judges simply want to find out who you are. Also, I would highly recommend visiting an academic advisor! They can be very helpful during the entire application process.
- JC:** Try your best and do what you can to make yourself shine. The scholarship committees read hundreds of applications – make yours different. Do what you can to grab their attention: be creative, be clever, but most importantly, be yourself and let your achievements shine.
- HR:** Start early. During the summer, or early September, make a list of the scholarships that you are qualified for, due dates and requirements (letters of reference, official/unofficial transcripts, etc). In September, make an appointment with an academic advisor. She/he is an excellent guide and their signatures are needed from them in a lot of scholarships. Give your references two weeks to get the letter back to you.
- JH:** Stay diverse...get involved in a lot of different things that interest you so you have a variety of experiences to write and talk about when applying for these scholarships. Make sure that everything on your application reflects who you truly are and show them why you are deserving of the scholarship. Try to stand out as much as possible! Also, make sure you know the scholarship that you are applying for. Know the criteria for the applicants, know what the scholarship includes, know the application process, know the history of the scholarship, know the past winners and most importantly: know the deadlines!!
- SC:** Before applying for any scholarships, take some time to reflect on what activities and causes you are really passionate about and why. Then think about how all your extracurricular involvement reflects your passions. This will help in answering essay questions. As for interviews, try any technique to stay calm and relaxed. The interviewers want to meet the real you, so do not answer what you think you should in a generic way.

Anything else you would like to share?

- AJ:** Keep in mind that certain scholarships are not for everyone. Just because you do not match the criteria that the judges are looking for, it does not make you any less successful. It simply means that they have an interest in a certain group of people. Just because you do not fit this profile, it does not mean that you are not worthy of a scholarship. So look for ones that best suit you and apply for them!
- JC:** It's important to feel confident about your application. This is what the committees see before they shake your hand or see your face. This is the first impression that you give; make sure that it is stellar. Lastly, speak to your academic advisor if you need help; mine was extremely helpful throughout the entire process.
- JH:** Regardless of the outcome, be proud of what you have accomplished and don't be discouraged if the result is not what you hoped for. Don't get involved in something with scholarship money as your motivation; the money should be an added bonus. And if you don't win, know that the value of what you have done and who you are does not change and that you still have the pride of being an amazing individual.
- SC:** Remember there are many different kinds of scholarships available. Make sure you research and apply to all the scholarships that interest you. Good luck!