

2026 Scholarship & Bursary program

Purpose

The Scholarship & Bursary Program of the Council of Caribbean Associations–Canada is designed to:

- Encourage and support students of Caribbean heritage residing in Ontario in pursuing post-secondary education at a college or university
- Recognize students who demonstrate strong academic commitment, community involvement, and meaningful contributions to the Caribbean community in Ontario

Number and value of awards

Bursaries

In 2026, five (5) bursaries of up to \$3,000 each will be awarded. They will be distributed in annual installments of \$1,000, based on the length of time remaining in the successful applicant's current studies.

For example:

- For a first-year student in a three-year program, the bursary would be \$3,000.
- If in the second year of a three-year program, the bursary would be \$2,000.
- If in the final year of their program, the bursary would be \$1,000.
- For a student in the first year of a two-year program, the bursary would be \$2,000.00.

Bursaries are non-renewable and non-transferable.

The bursaries mentioned above are separate and distinct from full scholarships that may be offered by educational institutions.

Scholarships

In addition to the five bursaries mentioned above, the CCAC will offer three scholarships, two (2) through George Brown College and Seneca Polytechnic, each valued at up to \$24,000.00 for up to 4 years; and one (1) sponsored by the Malvern Onyx Lions Club, valued at up to \$8,000.00 for up to 4 years.

The George Brown College scholarship is available to full-time students enrolling at the institution for the 2026–2027 academic year.

Similarly, the Seneca Polytechnic scholarship is designated for students pursuing full-time studies at Seneca Polytechnic during the same academic period.

The Malvern Onyx Lions Club scholarship is open to all eligible applicants.

Applicants who are not selected for one of the three scholarships will automatically be considered for one of five available bursaries.

Eligibility

Applicants must meet **all** of the following requirements to be considered for a **Council of Caribbean Associations–Canada (CCAC) Bursary or Scholarship**:

1. Academic Enrollment

Be a first-year or continuing student enrolled in, or currently attending, a recognized Canadian university, college, or trade school, leading to a first diploma or undergraduate degree.

2. Community Affiliation & Age Requirement:

You must be of Caribbean descent (through parents, guardians, or grandparents) and meet **one** of the following:

- Be a registered member of a CCAC Member Association that is in good financial standing, regardless of age; **OR**
- If not a member of a CCAC Member Association*, be 24 years of age or younger as of August 31 in the year of application, and be of Caribbean descent (through parents, guardians, or grandparents).

3. Community Engagement

Demonstrate a strong record of community involvement, leadership, or active participation in extracurricular school or community-based activities.

4. Residency Status

Be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident, or hold a valid study permit for full-time study at a recognized institution in Ontario.



P.O. Box 62518, 85 Ellesmere Road, Toronto, ON M1R 5G8

Website: caribbeancouncilcanada.org ~ Email: admin@caribbeancouncilcanada.org

5. Mandatory Attendance

Be available to attend and participate in the official CCAC Awards Presentation Ceremony, at which successful applicants will be recognized and awarded.

6. Volunteer Commitment (Mandatory for Continued Funding)

Recipients are required to complete a minimum of ten (10) volunteer hours with any CCAC Member Association within the award year.

- Completion of these volunteer hours is a mandatory condition for eligibility to receive any subsequent or upcoming year's bursary or scholarship disbursement.
- Proof of volunteer service must be submitted in accordance with CCAC guidelines.

7. Previous Recipients

Previous recipients of a CCAC Bursary or Scholarship are not eligible to reapply.

For a list of CCAC Member Associations, please visit: <https://caribbeancouncilcanada.org/about-council-of-caribbean-associations---canada>

Adjudication

A Selection Committee consisting of representatives from the CCAC community and appointed by the Board of the CCAC will be responsible for administering the selection process. The committee will select recipients and their decision shall be final.

Application Package

You will be judged on the state of completion of your applications. Your application will be rejected unless documents listed below are included and contained on the Letterhead of the institution, date, and signature of the issuing official.

The following documents must be included in your application package, and points will be awarded as shown in brackets.

1. A copy of your most recent Academic transcript. (up to 15 Points)
2. Proof of enrollment to the qualifying university/college/trade school - students in grade 12 may submit an acceptance letter from the institution of choice, whereas post-secondary students are expected to submit a dated proof of enrollment document or dated official transcript (up to 10 points)
3. Two letters of reference:
 - a. One from an academic institution attended within the past two years (up to 5 points)



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- b. One from a community member other than a parent (up to 5 points)
- c. These letters must explain:
 - i. How the referee came to know you.
 - ii. How long has the referee known you.
 - iii. Why the referee thinks you are deserving of the award.
5. An essay of approximately 250 words, written by the applicant, explaining why the applicant should be selected (up to 15 points)
6. Details of academic achievements; This can include merit-based academic awards received for specific subjects, recognition from educators for work completed, status on honor roll/Dean's list or equivalent achievements, results from competitions, or any other information deemed relevant. (up to 10 points)
7. Demonstrate financial need. (up to 10 points)
8. Details of volunteer activities and any community leadership roles assumed (up to 10 point)
9. Demonstrate active involvement in Caribbean Community organizations/programs. (up to 20 points)

Obligations of applicants

Applicants are encouraged to participate in future CCAC programs and be willing to serve as role models in the CCAC Community.

All applicants agree to have data from their submission kept in the CCAC database for future use and engagement.

Bursary payment details

Bursaries will be made payable to the institutions that the successful applicants are attending.

Closing date

Closing date for applications: **June 30, 2026**

Completed application package must be completed in the Google Form accessible via the CCAC website. For any questions or concerns, please reach out to:

admin@caribbeancouncilcanada.org

LIST OF SCHOLARSHIPS:

1. George Brown Scholarship
2. Seneca Polytechnic Scholarship
3. Malvern Onyx Lions Club Scholarship

LIST OF BURSARIES:

1. The Council of Caribbean Associations Bursary
2. The Gideon Exeter Bursary
3. The Lionel Bedesse Bursary
4. The Pine Ridge Memorial Gardens Bursary
5. The Ingrid Veronica King Bursary