



Investing in Our Diversity Scholarship Program

The *Investing in Our Diversity Scholarship Program* recognizes the commitment of young people involved in community leadership, anti-racism or diversity initiatives, and in building safe and healthy communities.

WHAT DOES THIS PROGRAM OFFER ME AS A STUDENT?

A scholarship recipient can receive up to a \$4,000 scholarship award towards tuition fees for full-time postsecondary education or training i.e. college, university, trade school or apprenticeship.

Applications must be received no later than **Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 5 p.m.**

You can email your application to youth@torontohousing.ca or drop off your completed application package at:

Toronto Community Housing
Attn: Investing in Our Diversity Scholarship
931 Yonge Street
Toronto, ON M4W 2H2

Founding Partners and Donors



Toronto Community Housing



2021 Investing in Our Diversity Scholarship

Program Application form

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

High school students and/or high school graduates involved in anti-racism, diversity and/or building safe and healthy communities, AND those who can answer yes to all of the following:

- A Canadian citizen or permanent resident
- 29 years old or younger as of May 31, 2021
- Not a previous recipient of an IIOD Scholarship
- Toronto Community Housing (TCHC) tenant or person living in the Scadding Court Community Centre (SCCC) catchment area (Lake Ontario to the south, Bloor Street to the north, Yonge Street to the east, and Lansdowne Avenue to the west)
- Currently studying or planning to attend a recognized Canadian postsecondary education or training school (i.e., college, university, career academy or apprenticeship) in the upcoming academic year
- Able to demonstrate a need for financial assistance

If you have any questions about the application process please contact Toronto Community Housing at youth@torontohousing.ca or call **416-981-6526**.

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Review this checklist carefully to make sure that a **completed package** is submitted. Please note that an incomplete package will not be considered.

- Personal information form** (page 4)
- Essay or artistic entry** – Two-page essay or video/poem/art piece with written description that shows your involvement in anti-racism, diversity, and/or in building safe and healthy communities. If you choose to submit a video/art work, please include an online link. (page 6)
- Brief bio** – Tell us about yourself. (page 7)
- Additional supporting materials** (optional) – (page 7)
- Budget and financial statement** – Outline your financial need on the budget table. Include your plans for securing funds to pay for your postsecondary program, and up to a one-page letter describing your financial need and how this scholarship would address that need. (pages 7 and 8)
- Two reference letters** (page 9)
- Résumé** (page 9)
- Official academic transcript** (photocopy accepted) – (page 9)
- Certification form** (page 11)
- All pages of the application and any supporting documents must be on 8.5 x 11 (Letter Size) paper.**

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PERSONAL INFORMATION

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Last name

First name

Middle name

	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Self-identify _____
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Date of birth (year/month/day)

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Street Number and Name

Unit number

--	--	--

Postal code

Telephone number

Email address

--

Name of high school currently attending or recently graduated from

--	--

Address of above high school

Postal code

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Name of recognized Canadian postsecondary educational or training institute (college, university, career training academy or apprenticeship) you hope to attend in the upcoming academic year

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Program of study

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WHICH SCHOLARSHIP DO YOU WANT TO BE CONSIDERED FOR?

Some scholarships will be awarded based on where you live, while others are open only to TCHC tenants. To increase your chances of winning a scholarship, please read the scholarship descriptions below and check off all that apply to you.

- [A] TCHC Diversity Scholarship:** A person living in any Toronto Community Housing community, and involved in community leadership, anti-racism or diversity initiatives in school or in the community and who can demonstrate financial need.
- [B] SCCC Anti-Racism Scholarship:** A resident of Toronto, living in the Scadding Court Community Centre (SCCC) catchment area (Lake Ontario to the south, Bloor Street to the north, Yonge Street to the east, and Lansdowne Avenue to the west), and with demonstrated work in leadership, anti-racism or diversity initiatives in school or in the community and/or a current SCCC program participant.

INFORMATION FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP BOOKLET (IF SELECTED AS A RECIPIENT)

Full name	
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Name of recognized Canadian postsecondary educational or training you hope to attend in the upcoming academic year.

Program of study	
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What career do you want to pursue after your postsecondary education?

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ESSAY OR ARTISTIC ENTRY

Your entry must:

- Show leadership roles you have taken in your school and/or community that involve promoting and celebrating diversity and inclusion (i.e., gender empowerment, ability, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity and religious beliefs).
- Describe how your involvement contributes to building safe and healthy communities.

You may do this by choosing one of the following options:

- a) Essay (500 words)
- b) Video (1.5 minutes with 150-word summary). Include a link to your online video
- c) Poem with 150-word summary
- d) Art piece with 150-word summary. Include either:
 - Option A:** High-res photograph of the art (1 copy)
 - Option B:** Low-res printer copy of the art (1 copy) and the weblink

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BRIEF BIOGRAPHY (100 words max.)

Answer the following questions using third person format:

- a. What high school did you attend?
- b. What school and community projects/initiatives/issues you have been involved with?
- c. Where do you plan to attend postsecondary education? What do you plan on studying/training for?
- d. What people or events have inspired you?
- e. How will receiving the scholarship impact your life?
- f. What are your career goals?

Add your brief bio in the box above

ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING MATERIALS (optional)

You may attach additional relevant visuals and supporting documentation (including but not limited to newspaper clippings, letters of support, samples of work, and relevant audio or video recordings).

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Using the **proposed budget table on the next page**, outline your expected sources of income (e.g., student loans, earned income, family contribution, etc.) and your projected expenses for the upcoming academic year.

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Submit up to one page outlining your financial need, your plans for securing funds to pay for your postsecondary program, and how this scholarship would address that need.

Proposed budget table:

INCOME	AMOUNT
Part-time job or summer job	\$
Student loans	\$
Registered Education Saving Plan (RESP)	\$
Family contribution	\$
Bursary and/or scholarship	\$
Other:	\$
Other:	\$
Total	\$

EXPENSES	AMOUNT
Tuition	\$
Textbooks	\$
Residence fees/House rent (if applicable)	\$
Transportation	\$
Food, clothing and entertainment	\$
Monthly bills (phone, gym membership fee, etc.)	\$
Other:	\$
Other:	\$
Total	\$

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TWO REFERENCE LETTERS REQUIRED

Please have each of your references provide a letter (two pages max) which outlines your involvement in local anti-racism and diversity work or in building safe and healthy communities, and your commitment to a successful postsecondary career.

Note: At least one reference letter must be from a representative of your school or a community agency.

	Reference name	Relationship to you	Telephone number
1.			
2.			

RÉSUMÉ

Please provide a brief résumé (two pages max) highlighting your education, work and volunteer experience, skills and interests.

OFFICIAL ACADEMIC TRANSCRIPT

If you are a first-year student, you must submit an official high school transcript. If you are a returning student, you must submit a copy of your grades from the most recent semester.

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HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE SCHOLARSHIP?

Please check all that apply:

- Poster in TCHC building
- Poster at SCCC
- TCHC website
- SCCC website
- From a friend/family member
- From my school
- Social media
- Searched online
- Other (please describe: _____)

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CERTIFICATION

Please read and make a checkmark in the box to indicate that you understand and agree to the following:

- I certify that the information included in this application is accurate and complete and understand that any false or incomplete information may invalidate my application.
- I accept that scholarship decisions may only be made by the Investing in Our Diversity Scholarship Program selection committee, and all decisions are final.
- I understand that scholarship funds will only be granted to me when:
- I submit all of the documents included in the “Scholarship Claim Package,” and
 - I attend all required orientation sessions, and
 - I present proof of enrolment in a full-time postsecondary educational program in Canada for the upcoming academic year.
- I understand that second-year matching scholarships are not guaranteed. I may be eligible for a second-year scholarship of up to \$4,000 *if* I attend one of the partnered academic institutions and if I meet the criteria set out by that institution.
- I agree to the public release of my name, short bio and photograph should I be awarded a scholarship.
- I understand that requests for scholarship deferrals will not be granted, and that scholarships will be held no later than January 31, 2022.

Signature of the applicant

Date

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