

Investing in Our Diversity Scholarship Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. What is the benefit of the Investing in (I)OD Our Diversity Scholarship?

In addition to providing scholarship funding for post-secondary education or training, everyone who applies for and receives an IOD scholarship will:

- Participate in personal enrichment sessions
- Gain connections to networks and affiliated partnerships
- Get access to job postings and job readiness support

2. Who Can Apply?

The IOD Scholarship is available to:

- Canadian Citizens or Permanent Residents
- Student 29 years old or younger (As of May 2023)
- Toronto Community Housing tenant **OR** live in the Scadding Court Community Centre (SCCC) catchment.
The SCC catchment is bounded by Bloor Street West to the North, Yonge Street to the East, Lake Ontario to the South and Lansdowne to the West.
- Student planning to attend a recognized Canadian post-secondary education or training program (e.g. college, university, apprenticeship, trade school, career academy) in the upcoming academic year
- Student able to demonstrate a need for financial assistance

3. When is the deadline for the IOD scholarship?

Applications are due on Friday, March 17th, 2023 at 5:00 P.M.

4. Where do I send my scholarship application?

Applications can be sent via Email OR Drop-Off.

By Email: Please submit your completed application, including attachments to youth@torontohousing.ca

Drop-Off: Please drop-off your completed application, including attachments to Toronto Community Housing Corporation
ATTN: Investing In Our Diversity Scholarship
931 Yonge Street
Toronto, ON M4W 2H2

All applications received will be acknowledged via e-mail.

5. If I've received an IOD Scholarship in a previous year, can I re-apply?

No. Past recipients are not eligible to re-apply for the IOD scholarship program.

6. What are my chances of receiving a scholarship?

The IOD Scholarship is competitive, however there are a number of things you can do to strengthen your application. Make sure to include all the documentation requested, and dedicate plenty of time to writing your application. In particular, it's important to clearly communicate your financial need, motivations for studying and how gaining a scholarship will support your ambitions.

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Investing in our Diversity Scholarships

7. I am a fourth year student, am I eligible to apply?

Yes. The IIOD Scholarship is open to students entering any year of study as long as they have not been a previous IIOD recipient.

8. How are scholarships reviewed?

The Scholarship Review Committee scores applications based on our scholarship eligibility criteria, taking students' financial need, academics, work experience, community service involvement, extra-curricular activities, and honors/awards into consideration.

9. How many scholarships are given out?

The IIOD Scholarship Program offers \$4,000 in scholarship funding towards tuition fees or school related expenses for students in any year of post-secondary study. The number of scholarships given out annually are contingent on contributions by our donors. In previous years, we've given out between 50-60 scholarships.

10. Do I have to be attending university to be eligible?

No. Our scholarships are for students who are enrolled in any of the following post-secondary education or training programs:

- College
- University
- Trade School
- Apprenticeship

11. What can I use the funds for and can they be used towards international schooling?

Scholarship funding can be used towards both Canadian and international schooling. Monies can also be used towards fees such as: campus living accommodations, textbooks, and transportation. *See #12 for supporting information.*

12. How are scholarships paid?

Scholarship funding will be issued directly to the student via cheque. However, if you are a recipient of the TED Rogers Scholarship, Universities Canada will forward payment of the Scholarship to the educational institution on behalf of Rogers.

13. Is the second year matching scholarship still available?

Second year scholarships are issued by the post-secondary institution and not by TCHC or SCCC. Students must meet the criteria outlined by each institution in order to receive a matching scholarship. Please inquire about this for further clarification to a TCH Staff, or by emailing youth@torontohousing.ca

14. When will I be notified on the status of my application?

Applicants will be notified by email early May, stating if they will be receiving a scholarship and the scholarship amount.

15. Can I defer my scholarship?

No. Scholarships must be redeemed in the current academic year September 2023 or January 2024. If a recipient is planning to go to school in September of 2024, the scholarship will be forfeited and they will have to re-apply in 2024.

16. Can I apply for the Investing in Our Diversity Scholarship before being accepted to a post-secondary program or training

Investing in our Diversity Scholarships

Yes, you can apply for a scholarship before being accepted to a post-secondary program or training. However should you win, the scholarship will only be paid when you present proof of enrolment in a recognized Canadian post-secondary educational program for the upcoming academic year.

17. What will I need to submit in order to receive Scholarship funding?

Students must provide a completed Scholarship Recipient Package in order to receive their funding.

18. Will this scholarship affect my OSAP Funding?

You should report any award or scholarship funding you are expecting to OSAP when you complete your application. If you find out about an award after you have applied for OSAP, upload a letter in the "Print/Upload" section of your account on the OSAP website to update them. Your OSAP application will be updated and you will be notified of any changes in your funding. Contact your Financial Aid Office if you have any additional questions.

19. Will this Scholarship funding affect my RGI status?

No, Scholarship funding will not affect your RGI status. See below for the Provincial Legislation, section 8.8.1 Excluded Income, which lists items that will not be counted as income:

Income received by a student in full-time attendance at a recognized educational institution who meets the criteria stated in clauses 49 (4) (a), (b), (c) and (d) if,

i. the institution is a primary or secondary institution, or

ii. the institution is a post-secondary institution and the student,

A. is a single student, as defined in Regulation 774 of the Revised Regulations of Ontario, 1990 made under the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities Act, and

B. had not been out of a secondary institution for more than five years as of the start of his or as of the start of his or her current study period in the post-secondary institution.

20. Why is my Social Insurance Number (SIN) required?

Upon receiving your congratulatory email, your SIN number is required to issue your IIOD Scholarship cheque. It is kept confidential and is used for our Finance department to be able to issue you with a T4A. As a student, your T4A slip from TCHC will report the scholarship income you received. Generally, you'll only receive a T4A if the total of the payments are more than \$500 in the year. Join our financial literacy capacity building sessions to learn more about how this impacts you.

21. Where can I find support with filling out my application?

Any individual who is willing to support you may do so. Teachers, parents, family members, etc. For additional support, you can reach out to us via email by sending an email to: youth@torontohousing.ca no later than Friday, March 3rd, 2023.