

## Objective

To encourage Canadian students with permanent disabilities to pursue university studies with the ultimate objective of obtaining a first undergraduate degree. Member institutions may only submit one nomination. A list of member universities is available [here](#).

## Number, Value and Duration of Scholarships

Up to four (4) scholarships at the bachelor level, distributed as follows:

- 1 in the category of *Physical Disability*;
- 1 in the category of *Sensory Disability*;
- 2 in any of the following categories: *Physical Disability, Sensory Disability, Mental Health Disability and Learning Disability*

These scholarships are valued at \$2,000 CAD, tenable for one academic year.

Please refer to the following definitions of each disability listed above.

**Physical Disability:** There are many types and degrees of physical disabilities, and while people who use mobility aids like wheelchairs, scooters, crutches or canes are most recognizable, it is important to consider that not all people with physical disabilities require a mobility device. People who have arthritis, heart or lung conditions or amputations may also have difficulty with stamina, moving, standing, sitting or the ability to reach or grasp.

**Sensory Disability:** These include vision loss, deafness and hearing loss, and speech disabilities.

**Mental Health Disability:** A disability which refers to a number of mental health disorders, such as major depressive disorder, generalized anxiety disorder, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia. The impact of a disorder in the academic setting will be, for the most part, unique to the individual. Mental illness is a disturbance in thoughts and emotions that may decrease a person's capacity to cope with the challenges of everyday life. Mental illness can take many forms, just as physical illness does. Mental illnesses include schizophrenia, mood disorders (such as depression and bipolar disorder), anxiety disorders, personality disorders, and eating disorders.

**Learning Disability:** A neurologically-based, specific impairment in information processing in the presence of *at least* average cognitive ability, which results in unexpected academic under-achievement, or academic achievement that is maintained only by unusually high levels of effort and support. It affects the acquisition, organization, retention, understanding or use of verbal or non-verbal information, which in turn affects performance in reading, writing or math, and in some cases, social and organizational skills.

**Sources:** [www.carleton.ca/pmc](http://www.carleton.ca/pmc)  
<http://www.mcass.gov.on.ca/en/mcass/publications/accessibility/campaignOffices/understanding.aspx>

### Eligibility

Eligible applicants must:

- Be Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada;
- Be diagnosed with a permanent disability which is documented and is the primary disability for which they are applying\*;
- Be in full time studies;
- Have second or third year standing in a first bachelor degree program in September 2018;
- Have a minimum cumulative average of 80% (or equivalent) over the last 3 terms of available marks\*\*. Non-academic courses such as career or personal development related courses will not be considered.

\*A permanent disability is a permanent functional limitation resulting from physical, sensory or mental health impairment or a learning disability which affects the ability of the student to perform the activities necessary to participate fully in postsecondary learning. Please refer to the definitions above of each disability.

\*\*Universities Canada's policy on calculation of average has been developed in consultation with university and college admissions and financial aid officers from across the country. There is enormous diversity amongst the applicants for this scholarship program. The applicants come from different geographical regions and have reached various levels of studies. Furthermore, and of great significance, is the fact that the grading systems differ among educational institutions. It is Universities Canada's policy to calculate the academic average of applicants so that it reflects an academically well-rounded individual, while recognizing the differences in the programs of studies. For this purpose, the most recent, followed by the highest available grades in the following categories will be considered: Language, Social Sciences, Mathematics and Sciences. Six courses are chosen for each applicant, with no more than two in each category. If there are not enough available courses, the calculation of academic average may be based on five or four courses.

### Field of Study/Program Requirements

- There are no restrictions on the program of study or discipline.
- Program must be of a minimum of 3 years in duration.
- University preparatory programs in any jurisdiction are not eligible (e.g. CEGEPs – pre-university diploma).

### Conditions / Restrictions

- Depending on the curriculum, an Applied Bachelor Program may be considered either as a university level program or a college level program;
- Students who have commenced their postsecondary studies in January are eligible for the summer competition of the same year;
- Students who have previously held a Mattinson Scholarship are eligible.

### Administrator

Universities Canada administers the scholarship program. Universities Canada's mandate is to facilitate the development of public policy on higher education and to encourage cooperation among universities and governments, industry, communities, and institutions in other countries. Universities Canada is associated with leading firms in nearly every sector of the economy through its provision of scholarship services and management of more than 130 different scholarships programs on behalf of corporations, government agencies and private foundations throughout North America. For additional information, please visit [www.univcan.ca](http://www.univcan.ca).

### Selection Process

The selection of scholarship recipients is made by a committee of Canadian university and college representatives chosen by Universities Canada. Once complete, the selection committee's decision is irrevocable.

Evaluation criteria:

- Academic performance;
- Volunteer/community involvement and/or extracurricular activities;
- Quality and relevance of the reference letters.

All applicants will receive confirmation by email of the results of the selection process, once available.

### Successful Applicants

Successful applicants will receive confirmation of their scholarship in July. Recipients will be required to complete the online scholarship acceptance process and forward any required documentation such as an official transcript and proof of registration from the educational institution they will be attending. It is the responsibility of the recipient to keep Universities Canada informed of any changes to their contact information through the online portal.

### Payment

- Scholarship payment(s) will only be issued upon completion of the scholarship acceptance process and review and acceptance of all required supporting documentation by Universities Canada;
- Universities Canada will forward the scholarship to the student;
- Payment will be made in two instalments - one for each regular academic semester;
- It is the student's responsibility to ensure that payment of tuition fees is made within the defined timeframe set by the educational institution regardless of the timing of the scholarship payment;
- Award recipients will receive a T4A receipt from Universities Canada showing the full amount of the award paid to them during a calendar year.

## Application Process

It is important that the individual who completes and submits the application (the applicant) is the individual who, if successful, will be the student receiving the scholarship. The applicant is considered as the owner of the application and must be eligible for the scholarship according to the program guidelines.

### Paper Application:

1. Applicants must submit their nomination form to their nominating university.
2. Nominating universities must be a member of Universities Canada, and can only nominate one candidate. Each university sets its own internal policies, procedures and deadlines concerning the selection of the nominees. Please contact your university for more information on their internal deadline for nominations.
3. If you are selected as the candidate that your university wishes to put forward, your postmarked application form must be sent to Universities Canada no later than the application deadline of **May 15, 2018**.
4. All supporting documentation must be received by Universities Canada no later than **May 31, 2018** and can be sent as described in the Supporting Documentation section.
5. It is recommended that you send your application by registered mail or courier, to ensure the package can be tracked. Your application will be acknowledged by email once it has been received and processed by Universities Canada. To ensure that all supporting documents have been received and accepted, visit <https://portal.scholarshippartners.ca> to review your scholarship application information. To access your account, you will require your login information, which will be provided in your acknowledgement email.
6. Account maintenance will be conducted online.

## Supporting Documentation

As part of this application, the supporting documentation described below is required. If any of these documents are not received and accepted, your application will be considered incomplete and will not be evaluated. Supporting documents must be received by Universities Canada on or before **2018-05-31**.

Documents may be sent directly to the address below.

### **Letters of Reference**

**All letters must be dated, typewritten on letterhead, signed with an original non-electronic signature and include the reference's contact information. If possible, the person writing the letter of reference should describe their relationship to the applicant in the letter. Reference letters must be written in the year of application.**

#### **Letter of Reference (Academic)**

One letter of reference is required to support your application and must come from an individual who is not related to the applicant. The letter must come from a past or present teacher who knows you and is familiar with your academic history.

#### **Letter of Reference (Extracurricular)**

# Mattinson Scholarship Program for Students with Disabilities

2018 Program Guidelines

One letter of reference is required to support your application and must come from an individual who is not related to the applicant. The letter must come from a person who is familiar with your volunteer, community involvement and/or extracurricular activities.

## Transcript

Please provide an official transcript of the last 3 terms of available marks, that is, marks for the period of September 2016 to December 2017. If you were not enrolled during this time, please provide marks for the last 3 available terms. A transcript will only be considered acceptable if it is presented on the official paper of the institution AND it bears the appropriate signature(s) and/or seal of the institution. Home school grades will only be accepted if they have been validated through a recognized, independent evaluation process.

Transcripts may be uploaded to the online application, however an original copy may be requested at any time, in order to verify its authenticity.

## Supporting Documentation

The [Nomination Form](#) is to be completed by the Nominating Institution and uploaded to your online application, or submitted by paper.

## Contact Us

**Scholarship  
Partners Canada.**  
**Partenaires en bourses  
d'études Canada.**

Scholarship Partners Canada  
Ref: Mattinson Scholarship Program for Students with Disabilities  
1710-350 Albert Street  
Ottawa ON K1R 1B1

Tel.: (613) 563-1236  
Toll free: 1-844-567-1237  
Fax: (613) 563-9745  
E-mail: [awards@univcan.ca](mailto:awards@univcan.ca)

**PLEASE NOTE: If any of the application requirements noted above are not met, your application will be considered incomplete.**