



**Carleton
University**

Institute of Criminology
and Criminal Justice

STUDENT ESSAY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AWARDS

2025-2026

Are you a criminology student working on a research paper that explores anti-racism or decolonization?

OR

Are you a criminology student working with a community project based on anti-racist or decolonial objectives?

If so, consider applying for a Student Essay Award or a Community Engagement Award

STUDENT ESSAY AWARD (ANTI-RACISM) - Value \$500

ICCJ students researching and writing about efforts to address systemic racism and white supremacy are invited to apply for this Student Essay Award. Essays include research papers undertaken for courses or Honours theses.

STUDENT ESSAY AWARD (DECOLONIZATION) - Value \$500

ICCJ students researching and writing about Indigenous sovereignty and decolonization are invited to apply for this Student Essay Award. Essays include research papers undertaken for courses or Honours theses.

How to apply for a Student Essay Award

Students can Self-Nominate or be nominated by a core faculty member, contract instructor, or supervisor. All applications should include the following:

- Applicant's full name and student number
- 250 word abstract of the essay submitted for consideration
- Full course paper, including a title page with details about the course code, course name, professor, and due date
- Essays from previous years will be considered as long as the essay was written while you were a student at the ICCJ.

Applications should be submitted via email to: criminology@carleton.ca under the subject line: Student Essay Award (Anti-Racism) or Student Essay Award (Decolonization).

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AWARD - Value \$500 (2 awards available)

ICCJ students working on anti-racism or decolonization issues in the community or as part of their placement can apply for the Community Engagement Award which includes, but is not limited to students who:

- participate in community-based anti-racism initiatives or projects (i.e. hosting a BIPOC reading group, volunteering at an art workshop for migrant youth, organizing a Black solidarity march)
- participate in community-based projects that advance decolonial objectives or build Indigenous community networks (i.e. serving food at an Inuit elder's gathering, volunteering at the Wabano Centre, creating infographic sheets or pamphlets on allyship)

How to apply for the Community Engagement Award

Students can Self-Nominate or be nominated by a core faculty member, contract instructor, or supervisor. All applications should include the following:

- A 2-3 page (single spaced, 12pt. font, Times New Roman) letter explaining your community engagement commitments and how they advance anti-racist and decolonial goals.
- A supporting reference letter from a member of the community you were engaged with (i.e. group organizers, mentors, peers).

Applications should be submitted via email to: criminology@carleton.ca under the subject line: Community Engagement Award.

Additional Award Guidelines

At the time of submission, all applicants must:

- Be a student registered in a Criminology and Criminal Justice program, either a declared major or minor, with 1st year standing or higher.
- Be in good academic standing.
- Must maintain registration (part/full time) throughout the academic year (Fall/Winter) in which they applied for the award.
- Students can apply to one or more of the awards in any given year.

Preference will be given to Black, Indigenous, and/or Racialized students. If you fall into one of these categories, we ask that you please self-identify as such.

Application Deadline: Tuesday, April 14, 2026

Award winners will be announced in late April 2026

For further information please contact Lara Karaian at Lara.Karaian@carleton.ca