

Objective

To encourage Canadian students with permanent disabilities to pursue university studies with the ultimate objective of obtaining a first undergraduate degree.

Number, Value and Duration of Scholarships

Up to four (4) scholarships at the bachelor level, distributed as follows: one in the category of *Physical Disability*, one in the category of *Sensory Disability*, two in any of the following categories: *Physical Disability*, *Sensory Disability*, *Mental Health Disability* and *Learning Disability*.

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

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

Persons with disabilities include those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others. (UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities)

Physical Disability:

A **physical disability** is a limitation on a person's **physical** functioning, mobility, dexterity or stamina. Other physical disabilities include impairments which limit other facets of daily living. Persons with physical impairment disabilities often use assistive devices or mobility aids such as crutches, canes, wheelchairs and artificial limbs to obtain mobility.

Sensory Disability:

A **sensory disability** involves the disability related to vision, hearing and speech that limits access to visual or auditory content and affects the learning process.

Mental Health Disability:

A **mental health disability** includes alterations in thinking, mood or behaviour (or some combination thereof) associated with significant distress and impaired functioning over an extended period of time. 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 illnesses include schizophrenia, mood disorders (such as depression and bipolar disorder), anxiety disorders, personality disorders, and eating disorders.

Learning Disability:

A **learning disability** is 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.

Eligibility

Eligible applicants must:

- be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada;
- be diagnosed with a permanent disability which is documented and is the primary disability for which they are applying*;
- be enrolled in full time studies in a first bachelor degree program;
- be enrolled in their second or third standing year of studies during the 2020-2021 academic year;
- be nominated by an eligible institution;
- have a minimum cumulative average of 80% (or equivalent) over the last three 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 of four courses will be considered. In the case of high school transcripts, 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 four or five courses.

Field of Study/Program Requirements

- There are no restrictions on the program of study or discipline;
- Program must be of a minimum of three 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

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 August. 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 payment of the scholarship to the student. The payment will be processed via Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT). The bank account must be in the name of the applicant. Only Canadian bank accounts can receive EFT payment;
- 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 the owner of the application and must be eligible for the scholarship according to the program guidelines.

Online Application:

1. Submit an online application by visiting <https://portal.scholarshippartners.ca>
2. Applicants can access the scholarship program using the following code: **144MAT2020**
3. Applicants must complete the application process as instructed online.
4. The application, including all supporting documentation, must be submitted to Universities Canada no later than the application deadline of **June 1, 2020**.
5. Receipt of applications will be acknowledged by email following processing by Universities Canada.
6. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that all supporting documents have been received and accepted by visiting <https://portal.scholarshippartners.ca> to review their scholarship application status.
7. Account maintenance will be conducted online.

Supporting Documentation

The supporting documentation described below is required as part of this application. If any of these documents are not received and accepted, the application will be considered incomplete and will not be evaluated. Supporting documents must be received by Universities Canada on or before **June 1, 2020**.

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. The person writing the letter of reference should describe their relationship to the applicant in the letter. Reference letters must be dated within one (1) year of the supporting document deadline.

Letter of Reference (Academic)

One letter of reference is required to support the 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 the applicant and is familiar with their academic history.

Letter of Reference (Extracurricular)

One letter of reference is required to support the 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 the applicant's volunteer, community involvement and/or extracurricular activities and must not be the same individual who provided the academic reference.

Mattinson Scholarship Program for Students with Disabilities

2020 Program Guidelines

Transcript

Provide an official transcript of the last three terms of available marks, that is, marks for the period of September 2018 to December 2019. If the applicant was not enrolled during this time, marks for the last three available terms will be accepted. 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.

Nomination Form

The Nomination Form is to be completed by the Nominating Institution and submitted with the application.

Documents may be uploaded together with the online application or sent directly to the address below.

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

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