

# Sumita Dixit Scholarship for Diverse Voices 2026

## Terms and Eligibility

Awarded annually on the recommendation of the Chair of the Department of Political Science to an outstanding undergraduate student who identifies as a woman and is Indigenous, Black or a member of another racialized group. Eligible recipients will be entering or continuing in a Bachelors degree in Political Science with a scholarly specialization in International Relations and/or Comparative Politics. Application is required. Established in 2024 by the Dixit family, in memory of Sumita Dixit BJ/1998, a Canadian diplomat who advocated for the inclusion of women's voices in humanitarian and diplomatic arenas.

## Rationale

Gender, race, and Indigeneity have emerged as key themes in scholarly debates in International Relations and Comparative Politics. However, racialized women remain underrepresented as faculty members and policy practitioners. This results in a lack of role models and institutionalized recognition for female students from racialized groups in Political Science undergraduate programs. This award seeks to create a strong form of recognition for these students to emphasize that their voices are essential in debates about international and world politics, and to help train a new generation of scholars and policy practitioners.

*This award is valued at \$1,000 for the 2026/2027 academic year.*

**Application Deadline: June 1, 2026.**

*Successful candidate will be notified by June 30, 2026.*

## **General Eligibility Criteria**

- Indigenous, Black or racialized students who identify as women
- Enrolled full-time in an undergraduate degree program in the Department of Political Science who are specializing in International Relations and/or Comparative Politics.
- Outstanding academic achievement

## **Instructions**

1. Please complete and submit this online application.
2. Student should not include any additional attachments (e.g. resumes, portfolios, photos, certificates, etc.).
3. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

## **Section 1: Personal Information**

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Last Name

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First Name(s)

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Student Number

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Program and year

**Identity: Voluntary Declaration**

Are you Indigenous, Black or a member of another racialized community? If yes, please select the group with which you identify.

- Indigenous (This means that you identify as a member of the First Peoples of Canada meaning, in general terms, First Nation, Metis, Inuit, Indigenous, or specifically by your home community or Nation.)
- Black
- A member of another racialized community: \_\_\_\_\_.

Do you identify as a woman?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to respond

**Section 2: Personal Statements**

As you complete the following section, based on your identity as a member of an equity-owned group, please describe the life experiences that shaped who you are today and how they fuel your scholarly pursuit(s). You may also wish to reflect on other aspects of your identity (e.g., gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, family status, cultural background, or abilities or disabilities, etc.) We recognize that our students have a vast diversity of experiences.

- 1.) Why do you think you are a good candidate for this scholarship? In your answer, please explain briefly how you meet the criteria outlined in the terms of the award (up to 500 words.)

2.) Which topics or questions in the study of International Relations and World Politics do you find the most interesting? Have you done research on any of these topics in your coursework or other projects? (up to 500 words.)

3.) How would receiving this scholarship assist you in achieving your academic and professional goals? (up to 500 words.)

## Section 4: Student Declaration

I authorize Carleton University and the Department of Political Science to release a copy of this application to the appropriate awards selection committee(s), including my academic record and financial need information in order to adjudicate my application for an award. If requested, I agree to provide the Awards Office with any documentation necessary to verify the information on this application. I declare that the above information is true and accurate. If any information is inaccurate, I understand that an award may be reassessed and/or withdrawn.

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Signature of Applicant/Student

Date

*At Carleton University, we recognize and respect the importance of privacy. Personal information that we collect is kept confidential. In accordance with section 41 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, Carleton University will only use the information in its custody or control in the following circumstances: where the individual identifies the particular information and consents to its use; for the purpose for which it was collected or a consistent purpose (i.e. a purpose which the individual might have reasonably expected).*

### **Departmental Contact:**

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