

Investing In Our Diversity Scholarship Program **General Information**



The ***Investing in Our Diversity Scholarship Program*** recognizes the commitment of young people involved in anti-racism, diversity initiatives and building healthy communities.

WHAT DOES THIS PROGRAM OFFER?

Scholarship recipients receive:

- \$1,000 scholarships **OR** \$4,000 scholarships to cover costs of tuition fees, books, tools, etc for your first year of post secondary education or training (college, university, trade school)
- Opportunity for second year scholarships of up to \$4,000 to be applied directly to your tuition if you attend one of the following institutions:
 - University of Toronto, York University, Humber College, George Brown College, Seneca College or OCAD University.

Everyone who applies for a scholarship will receive:

- Employment services offered through St. Stephens Community House Employment and Training Centre. Assistance in looking for and getting a job, one-on-one job counselling to assist you with resume writing, job searching, and job matching to connect you with employers offering jobs in your area of interest.

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WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

High school students and/or recent high school graduates involved in anti-racism, diversity and/or building healthy communities, AND those who can answer yes to all of the following:

- A Canadian citizen, permanent resident or convention refugee?
- 25 years old or younger in May 2012?
- Entering into your first year of post-secondary education or training?
- Planning to attend a recognized Canadian post-secondary educational or training program (college, university, career academy, apprenticeship...) in the upcoming academic year?
- Able to demonstrate a need for financial assistance?

AND if you are: please indicate which applies to you, check A or B.

[A]: A resident of Toronto, living in the SCCC catchment area (Lake Ontario to the south, Bloor Street to the north, Yonge St. to the east and Lansdowne Ave to the west).

OR

[B]: A resident living in any Toronto Community Housing community across the GTA (please click on the link to find your neighbourhood location http://www.torontohousing.ca/our_housing).

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WHEN IS THE APPICATION DUE?

Thursday, March 22, 2012, 4:30pm

HOW ARE WINNERS CHOSEN?

The Investing in Our Diversity Scholarship Program selection committee views success holistically. The program places a high value on community involvement, academic achievement, volunteer work and work experience or efforts to secure summer employment as part of financing your post-secondary education.

Winners will be chosen by an impartial adjudication committee and will be evaluated based on:

- Involvement in the community
- Workplace experience
- Academics
- Essay/personal statement
- Financial need*

*Please note, the committee prefers applicants that make an effort to secure other sources of funding for their education such as through employment, other scholarships and bursaries, etc. Please state in your financial statement ways you are trying to prepare financially for school.

**Investing In Our Diversity Scholarship Program
Application Form**

Personal Information

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name or Initial

	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
Date of Birth (Year/Month/Day)	

Street Number and Name	Unit Number

Postal Code	Telephone Number	Email Address

Name of high-school currently attending

Address of high school currently attending	Postal Code

Name of recognized Canadian post-secondary educational or training institute (college, university, career training academy, apprenticeship...) you hope to attend in the upcoming academic year

Program of Study

Investing In Our Diversity Scholarship Program Application Form cont'd

References

Two reference letters are required. Please have each of your references provide a letter (maximum 2 pages) which outlines your involvement in local anti-racism/ diversity and building healthy communities initiatives and speaks to your likelihood of success in your chosen post-secondary career.

Note: At least one reference letter must be from a representative of your school or a community agency.

	Reference Name	Relationship to you	Telephone Number
1)			
2)			

Additional Material Required

The following materials are required to complete the application form:

- 1) **Résumé**
- 2) **Academic Transcript** (photocopies are accepted)
- 3) **Essay**

Write a two-page essay (approximately 500 words) discussing your involvement with building healthy communities: **leadership roles you have taken in your school and/or community that involve promoting diversity and inclusion, as well as initiatives that value and celebrate differences including gender, ability, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity and religious beliefs.** Your volunteer work should reflect these values. Please describe how your involvement contributes to building healthy communities, community safety, and the fight to eradicate racism.

4) Budget and Financial Statement

Provide a **proposed budget** for the upcoming academic year outlining your expected sources of income (e.g. student loans, earned income, family contribution, etc.) and your projected expenses.

Please also submit **up to one-page outlining your financial need, your plans for securing funds** to pay for your post-secondary program, and **how this scholarship** would address that need.

Sample Budget:

Income	
Summer Job	\$2000
Family contribution	\$1000
Student loans	\$2000
TOTAL	\$5000

Expenses	
Tuition	\$5000
Books	\$200
Accommodation	\$6000
TOTAL	\$11200

**Investing In Our Diversity Scholarship Program
Application Form cont'd**

5) Additional supporting materials (OPTIONAL)

You may attach additional relevant visuals and supporting documentation (including but not limited to newspaper clippings, letters of support, samples of work and relevant audio or video recordings).

If you have any questions about the application process or the scholarship program, please contact Lisa Druchok at Scadding Court Community Centre: 416-392-0335 ext. 237 or e-mail lisa@scaddingcourt.org.

Investing In Our Diversity Scholarship Program Application Form cont'd

Investing In Our Diversity Employment Program

Please note that all applicants are required to fill out this section

St. Stephens Employment and Training Centre

By applying for a scholarship, you will automatically be connected to the Summer Jobs Service Program at St. Stephens. St. Stephen's will help you identify your individual skills and interests, put together a winning resume, assist with your job search and will do their best to connect you with a job that relates to your career goals.

Please answer the following questions to give us a better idea of what your employment interests and/or needs are.

1. The goal of this employment program is to match you with jobs that relate to and support your studies. Please list the post-secondary institution(s) and program(s) you applied for. This will help us to identify relevant job opportunities for you:

Institution	Program

2. What type(s) of careers interest you?

3. What are the benefits of registering for the employment program?

- To get free one-on-one employment counseling, including assistance with cover letter and resume writing, and interview tips.
- Job matching opportunities with employers that can offer great summer positions and employment in the future.

Many applicants have benefited immensely from this program and have secured placements at Mount Sinai Hospital, Toronto Community Housing Corporation, The Score, Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute and Scotiabank.

*If you have any questions about the Summer Jobs Service Program, please contact Sury Zuniga Coordinator, Student Services at Tel: (416) 531-4631 ext. 237 or E-mail: zsury@ststephenshouse.com
Website: www.jobhouse.ca*



**Investing In Our Diversity Scholarship Program
Application Form cont'd**

Certification

Please read and make sure that you understand and agree to the following:

- I certify that the above information is accurate and complete and understand that any false or incomplete information may invalidate my application.
- I accept that scholarship/bursary decisions may only be made by the Investing in Our Diversity Scholarship Program Selection Committee and are final.
- I understand that scholarship funds will only be granted to me when:
 - I submit all of the documents included in the “Scholarship Claim Package” AND;
 - Attend all required orientation sessions AND;
 - Register with St. Stephen’s Employment and Training Centre for mandatory employment counselling AND;
 - Present proof of enrolment in a recognized Canadian post-secondary educational program for the upcoming academic year.
- I understand that second year matching scholarships are not guaranteed; I may be eligible for a second year scholarship of up to \$4,000 if I attend one of the partnered academic institutions and if I meet the criteria set out by that institution.
- I understand that my contact information and the employment-related information that I have provided in this form will be provided to the St. Stephens Employment and Training Centre for the purpose of connecting me to the Summer Jobs Service Program.
- I agree to the public release of my name and photograph should I be awarded a scholarship or bursary.

Signature of applicant

Date

Investing In Our Diversity Scholarship Program Application Checklist

Please review this checklist carefully to ensure that a **complete package** is submitted. ***Incomplete packages will NOT be considered.***

- Completed and Signed Application Form**
- Two Letters of Reference**
- Résumé**
- Academic Transcript (up to date)**
- Essay** – 2-page essay on your involvement in diversity, anti-racism and/or building a healthy community and the importance of those activities.
- Budget**- up to one typed page outlining your financial need, your plans for securing funds to pay for your post-secondary program, and how this scholarship would address that need.
- Additional Materials (OPTIONAL)**

Applications must be received no later than March 22nd, 2012, 4:30pm

Please mail or drop off completed applications to:

Scadding Court Community Centre
707 Dundas St. West
Toronto, ON M5T 2W6
Attn: Lisa Druchok

OR

Toronto Community Housing
931 Yonge St.
Toronto, ON M4W 2H2
Attn: Alma Ramnauth