

CANADIAN
PSYCHOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION



SOCIÉTÉ
CANADIENNE
DE PSYCHOLOGIE

INDIGENOUS STUDENT AWARD
Scholarship in Undergraduate & Graduate Psychology
Canadian Psychological Association

Purpose: The purpose of this scholarship is to encourage and support Indigenous (Inuit, First Nations, or Métis) students entering psychology undergraduate and graduate programs in Canadian universities. This is an academic merit-based award that also takes into consideration life factors such as motivation to excel in the field of psychology and level of need in overcoming barriers to attending university. Overall, this award is designed to assist in the training of Indigenous students who demonstrate partnership potential in working with Indigenous communities and organizations in their post-university work.

Description: The CPA will host an annual competition for one (1) scholarship for a student entering their first year of an undergraduate degree in psychology at a Canadian university, as well as one (1) scholarship for a graduate student entering graduate studies at a Canadian university. This award will support one undergraduate and one graduate student, each with \$4,000.00 awarded during their first year of study. This award is renewable for additional years - up to three years for undergraduate students and up to five years for graduate students. Satisfactory academic progress will be a requirement for renewals. Renewals will also be dependent on demand and the availability of funds.

Successful applicants will be encouraged to participate in annual gatherings held by the CPA. Successful applicants will be invited to join the Indigenous Peoples' Psychology section of the CPA which includes members, students, and affiliates with interests and knowledge in Indigenous mental health and wellness. Successful applicants are also welcomed to join the CPA's Student Section, as well as any other of the speciality sections that the CPA hosts.

Eligibility:

To be eligible, you must:

- Self-identify as Indigenous (First Nations, Métis, or Inuit) on this application and have confirmation of your Indigenous identity in your letter of support
- Have been accepted for full-time admission to an undergraduate psychology program or graduate psychology program in Canada (funds will not be released until proof of enrollment is submitted)
- Submit this completed application prior to the deadline

Application process:

- Please ensure you have all the components completed in the application checklist below. Any applications that are missing components will not be considered.
- Please finalize and submit your complete application with all documents through the MachForm portal. **Please note, once you've started your MachForm application, you must complete the form before closing the window. Unfortunately, you cannot save and return to your application, so ensure you have all documents ready before starting your application form.**
- Submission of an application signals your consent to the peer review process and public announcement of the award on the CPA's website
- Funds will be released in August prior to the September admission of a psychology program
- This scholarship is renewable for additional years - up to three years for undergraduate students and up to five years for graduate students. Renewals will also be dependent on satisfactory academic success, demand, and availability of funds. Students must complete a renewal application by May 31st of the following calendar year (the May *prior* to the start of the next school year). This renewal application will be made available to award recipients prior to this date.

Application components:

Up-to-date transcripts, CV or Resume, Personal Statement, Letter of Support

1. **Official Transcripts:** Included in your application package should be your official high school transcripts for the undergraduate award and undergraduate transcripts for the graduate award. Please confirm with your institution that final grades are included on the transcript prior to your request.
2. **CV or Resume:** Please include a resume detailing any relevant work-related experience and academic achievements. This should also include relevant community work or achievements (community involvement can include participation at gatherings as well as cultural engagement such as hunting, fishing, dancing, carving, berry-picking, etc.) *Resumes can be single or double spaced, but must be completed in Times New Roman, 12 pt. font, for legibility*
3. **Personal Statement:** Applicants must submit a 1-page personal statement detailing their interest in pursuing a psychology degree, as well as their plans for employment at the completion of their degree(s) or further studies. Applicants may include relevant details from their lives, information demonstrating their financial need, as well as notes on their Indigenous identity and community connection. *Letters can be single or double spaced, but must be completed in Times New Roman, 12 pt. font, for legibility.*
4. **Letter of Support:** The applicant must submit one letter of support, which can be completed by an Indigenous community member or leader, an Indigenous organisation, or an academic mentor (teacher). Included in this letter should be a confirmation of your Indigenous identity. *Letters can be single or double spaced, but must be completed in Times New Roman, 12 pt. font, for legibility.*

Review Criteria:

Applications will be assessed based on:

- Academic merit: 25%
- Applicant need (funds that are needed to attend university – e.g., money for costs of living, tuition, childcare, transportation, etc.): 25%
- Academic potential in the field of psychology: 25%
- Applicant potential related to supporting Indigenous wellness: 25%

Application Checklist:

- Personal Statement
- CV or Resume
- Up-to-date official transcripts
- Letter of Support

If you have any questions, concerns, or clarifications, please email governance@cpa.ca.