

The McGill Canada Awards Program

We are committed to ensuring that students from across Canada have access to a world-class McGill education, regardless of financial constraints. The Canada Award program is helping us do just that.



Throughout its history, McGill has been the destination of choice for Canadian students seeking a globally-connected, locally rooted education that rivals any in the world. McGill's diversity is core to our identity: about one in five McGill students comes to our campuses from provinces outside of Quebec, where they mingle with students from around the corner and across the world.

Last year, the Quebec government implemented dramatic increases in tuition rates for Canadian students, placing this national diversity at risk. Tuition for non-Quebec Canadian students has risen from \$8,992 to around \$12,000 a year, and even higher in some programs, making McGill's rates the highest in the country in many undergraduate programs.

The result: we risk losing the Canadian talent that is part of McGill's DNA.

“Over the last 200 years, McGill has risen to meet whatever challenges it faces. At the core of our success has been the talent we attract – from across Quebec, Canada and the world.”

Deep Saini, President and Vice-Chancellor

In December 2023, McGill created the Canada Award program to maintain access to a McGill education for out-of-province students. Thanks to an outpouring of support from donors, we were able to fully offset the tuition increase for nearly 1,250 students entering the University in fall 2024. As we prepare for the next recruitment cycle, donor support will be vital to the ongoing success of this program.

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Rising to the challenge: The Canada Award

The Canada Award program was initially designed to be an emergency measure. In its first year, the award was automatically granted to incoming Canadian students in 14 academic programs across eight faculties and schools.

For the 2025-26 academic year, we are revamping the program to ensure that **funding is allocated to the students who deserve it most, based on both need and merit**. The \$3,000 Canada Award will be granted to out-of-province students who receive entrance bursary or scholarship offers, acting as an added boost to those who have demonstrated financial need and academic excellence.

In addition, students from low- to modest-income families who need more than \$3,000 in financial support, either upon admission or in subsequent years of study, will have access to McGill's regular bursary program.

The 2025-26 award will apply to faculties and schools in which the new government measures would make McGill's tuition rates uncompetitive with our Canadian peers. This includes the Faculties of Arts, Science, Music, Education, and Agricultural & Environmental Sciences, as well as the School of Nursing and the School of Architecture.

For more information, please contact:

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Donor impact

Gifts from donors fueled the success of the Canada Award program in its first year:

- ▶ **1,250 Canadian undergraduate students** entering McGill from outside Quebec in fall 2024 received a Canada Award
- ▶ **\$3.73 million** was earmarked for eligible students, and nearly two thirds came from philanthropy

Thanks to donors, McGill also met or surpassed nearly all of its enrolment targets. We were able to sustain our minimum GPA requirements, thereby ensuring that our high standards for admission were not compromised.

A \$2-million goal

McGill seeks to raise \$2 million by the end of December 2024 to ensure that we can sustain the Canada Award program to attract Canadian undergraduates in the 2025-26 admission cycle. All gifts will directly support deserving students.