

FREDERICK PHILLIPS SUMMER PROGRAM

FOR BLACK YOUTH IN MONTREAL WHO ARE
INTERESTED IN PURSUING A LEGAL
EDUCATION AND/OR HIGHER EDUCATION



McGill

Faculty of Law
Faculté de Droit



OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAM

Building on the work that the Black Law Students Association of McGill has been undertaking for many years through their bi-annual See Yourself Here events and other informal mentorship activities, the Frederick Phillips Summer Program will promote access to higher education and mentorship opportunities to Black youth in Montreal.

This summer program will cater to Black youth nearing the end of their High School studies as well as those in CEGEP, who have demonstrated an interest in pursuing higher education.

The goal of the program is to introduce Black youth to various parts of our legal education and system through interactive activities, field visits (e.g., law firms, legal clinics, tribunals), lectures and more. Participating students will also work on a personal project throughout the program that will be focused on how they envision their path to law school/higher education.

The legal field and law schools are institutions that have a long history of excluding Black people and so it can be difficult for young Black students to find a network of people to support their hopes of pursuing a legal education.

We hope to play a small part in bridging said gap by demystifying what it takes to pursue a legal education as well as opening up McGill's Faculty of Law so Black students can experience it for themselves.

We know that the Black community in Montreal does not get to interact with the Faculty of Law much and that many Black students do not see it as a place for them. We want to change that by fostering relationships between our Faculty and young Black students and the broader Black community of Montreal.

Lastly, the summer program is named after McGill Law's first Black graduate and the first Black lawyer in Quebec, Frederick Phillips. We aspire to honour his legacy by creating a path for more Black students to enter the legal field.

PROGRAM CURRICULUM*

*Subject to change

The program will take place from Monday to Friday over two consecutive weeks for a total of 10 days. Days will start at 9:30am and end at 3:30pm (exceptions apply on days where we do field visits to firms, tribunals, and legal clinics). Breakfast, lunch and snacks will be provided daily to all participants for the duration of the program. Below you will find examples of what a day in the program will look like, this is for information purposes only.

The themes and areas of law that will be covered are tentatively:

- Demystifying law school
- Mentorship
- Building a network of support
- Access to justice
- Human Rights
- Sports and Entertainment Law
- Labour and Employment Law
- Criminal Law
- Business Law
- Indigenous Law

Some skills that you will develop are:

- Critical thinking
- Oral advocacy
- Writing and research
- Teamwork

Example 1

9:30am - Breakfast
10:00am - Interactive Lecture: Law in Everyday Life
11:15am - Break
11:30am - Outdoor Group Activity
12:30pm - Lunch
1:30pm - Free period to work on the personal project
2:30pm - Group mentorship circle with a law student
3:30pm - End of the day

Example 2

8:30am - Breakfast
10:00am - Field Visit to the Human Rights Tribunal
12:30pm - Lunch
2:00pm - Guest Lecture : Mediation and Negotiation 101 (with a practicing mediator)
3:15pm - Break
3:30pm - One-on-one mentorship session with a professional in the legal field
4:00pm - End of the day



THE APPLICATION PROCESS



Eligible Applicants

Black high school students who in Fall 2022 will be in sec 4 or sec 5. Also, Black students who, in Fall 2022, are either starting their first year of CEGEP, entering their 2nd year of CEGEP or starting their first year of University. Applicants must have a demonstrated interest in attending law school or more generally pursuing higher education.

Application Requirements

The application process will take place in two rounds.

The first round requires applicants to complete this [form](#) and submit a video (in English or French) answering the following three question in 5-7 minutes total;

1. Why would you like to participate in the program?
2. Why are you interested in pursuing a legal education or higher education?
3. What do you hope to learn and/or gain from the program?

After the first round, short-listed applicants will be contacted to take part in a group style activity at the Faculty of Law. The session will last approximately 1 hour and will take place in the evening (6:00pm). More details regarding the activity will be shared with applicants in the second round.

Tips

- Be your authentic self in your application. There is no perfect candidate. We are interested in getting to know you, what motivates you and why you want to be a part of the summer program.
- Feel free to answer the questions in a format that feels natural to you. We have no particular preference as long as all three questions are answered.
- If you need any help or have any questions do not hesitate to reach out to us. We are here to help and assist you with whatever needs you may have.
- If you have an accessibility need, please reach out to us and we will work with you to find an appropriate accommodation tailored to your need.

SELECTION PROCESS TIMELINE

March 3rd, 2022
Applications Open

April 14th, 2022
Successful Applicants will be contacted
to move to the final round
of the selection process

May 13th, 2022
Applicants being offered a place in the
Summer Program will be notified

April 8th, 2022
Applications close at 11:59pm

April 29th, 2022
Final round - Group activities at McGill's
Faculty of Law at 6:00pm

July 4th-15th, 2022
Frederick Phillips Summer Program



FAQs

If I speak French can I apply?

Yes, just as McGill's Faculty of Law is a bilingual faculty, the summer program will be bilingual. So, we welcome applicants whose first language is French.

Do I need to know for sure that I want to go to law school in order to apply?

No, you simply have to be interested in potentially pursuing a legal education and/or higher education.

Will the program be virtual or in-person?

We are planning for the program to be held in-person as long as the Covid-19 related conditions continue improving as they are currently. If the situation changes, the program will take place virtually.

Are there any fees associated with the program?

No, the program is completely free and all travel and meals will be covered for all participants for the duration of the program.

Where will the program be taking place?

The program will take place at Chancellor Day Hall, the building that is home to McGill's Faculty of Law.

Can parents or guardians of participants attend the program's sessions?

Unfortunately no, but we will be hosting an end of program event where parents and guardians are encouraged to attend.

Will the participants be supervised?

Yes, students will be divided into smaller groups and a law student will be overseeing each group in addition to the Assistant Dean Lee-Louis and her student coordinators.

Can I apply to the the program if I am a non-Black racialized youth?

No, at this time the program is only open to Black youth.



THANK YOU

Contact Information

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IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE
REACH OUT TO ASSISTANT DEAN KIMBERLY
LEE-LOUIS AND HER STUDENT
COORDINATORS, OMMU-KULSOOM AND
CHLOE