

Funding opportunities for Indigenous students

In the following, we have tried to compile a list of links to websites that we found helpful. The three sections (A, B, C) are comprised of (A) **McGill-internal websites** and (B) **external websites** that provide more details and links to specific funding and that may serve as starting points for a search, as well as section (C), which lists a few **examples of specific scholarships available to Indigenous students at McGill**.

A. McGill websites with general info re funding:

1. McGill's **Indigenous Initiatives** (Office of the Provost and Vice-Principal (Academic)) provides a list of resources for Indigenous McGillians, including **Internal Support** and **External Support** (<https://www.mcgill.ca/indigenous/resources/indigenous-mcgilligans>). With its large number of links, it is one of the most important websites to start a search.
2. The research program on **Cultural and Indigenous Research in Counselling Psychology (CIRC)** has developed an extremely helpful table listing **Scholarship and Fellowship Opportunities for Indigenous Students**, which can be found on their website (<https://www.mcgill.ca/circ/scholarship-and-fellowship-opportunities-indigenous-students>). The table includes some 60 distinct funding opportunities along with links to relevant websites and information about eligibility and application deadlines.
3. McGill's **Indigenous Health Professions (IHP) Program**: The goals of the Indigenous Health Professions (IHP) Program are to train more Indigenous health professionals and to teach all future health professionals about the health needs of Indigenous peoples. The IHP Program has been developed through consultation and collaboration with Indigenous communities in Quebec, leaders of successful Indigenous Health programs at other Canadian universities, and other McGill departments and programs. – Their **Scholarship and Support website** lists a number of Scholarship Opportunities as well as links to other sources of financial support and mentorship. <https://www.mcgill.ca/indig-health/students/current-students/scholarships-and-support>
4. McGill's **First People's House** provides a sense of community and a voice for Indigenous students who have left their communities to study at McGill. A "home away from home," First Peoples' House offers a mentoring program, computer facilities, guest lectures, elder visits, academic counselling, and an ever-expanding resource centre as well as housing). Website: <https://www.mcgill.ca/fph/>
5. McGill's **Scholarships and Student Aid**, a member of McGill's Student Services, has a special **website on Funding for Indigenous Students**: <https://www.mcgill.ca/studentaid/special-funding/indigenous-student-funding>. It is

somewhat similar to the First People's House's funding website above. However, this website also contains links to additional financial aid accessible to *all* students.

B. External Websites

6. **Indspire** is a national Indigenous registered charity that invests in the education of First Nations, Inuit and Métis people for the long term benefit of these individuals, their families and communities, and Canada.
Since 2004, Indspire has provided over \$115 million in financial support to more than 37,500 First Nations, Inuit and Métis students. All *Building Brighter Futures* donations are matched by the Government of Canada allowing us to be double the impact for students. For information on **Bursaries, Scholarships and Awards**, please visit <https://indspire.ca/programs/students/bursaries-scholarships/>. Some of their funding opportunities at McGill are listed below under point (C).
7. The Government of Canada **Indigenous Bursary Search Tool** is a searchable list of 624 bursaries, scholarships and incentives across Canada: <https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1351185180120/1351685455328>

C. Examples of Scholarship Opportunities at McGill:

- [The Elaine Kilabuk Inuit and Indigenous Health Professions Award](#)
previous deadline: July 12, 2020
This scholarship is intended to help support the training of an Inuit student from Nunavut in medicine at McGill. Other Indigenous health professions students may be eligible for this scholarship per the criteria outlined in the document above. The award is named after Dr. Elaine Kilabuk, an Inuk medical graduate from Nunavut.
<https://www.mcgill.ca/indig-health/students/current-students/scholarships-and-support>
- [Dr. John H. Burgess Distinguished Scholarship](#) (McGill University)
Established in 2011 by John H Burgess, B.Sc.'54, M.D.,C.M.'58. Awarded by the Faculty of Medicine to one or more students from Indigenous communities in Canada on the basis of academic merit, with preference given to students of Inuit, Métis or First Nations heritage or to one or more students nominated by the Widening Participation Committee that attends to diversity and equity in recruitment and admission to Medicine at McGill University. For over three decades Dr. Burgess demonstrated his commitment to serving the Inuit in Canada's North as a consulting cardiologist. Dr. Burgess wishes to continue his legacy of service by supporting the training of future physicians from underserved regions in Canada.
Scholarship value: varies. May be renewed. <https://www.mcgill.ca/indig-health/students/current-students/scholarships-and-support>

- [Dr. John G. Cassils Major Entrance Scholarship](#) (McGill University)
Established in 2015 by Dr. John G. Cassils, B.Sc.'61, M.D.'66 (University of Alberta) for one or more students in the M.D.,C.M. program from Indigenous communities in Canada on the basis of academic merit. Preference will be given to students of First Nations, Inuit or Métis heritage. Awarded by the Faculty of Medicine's Scholarships Committee on the recommendation of the Office of Admissions.
Scholarship value: varies. <https://www.mcgill.ca/indig-health/students/current-students/scholarships-and-support>
- [McGill's Indigenous First-Year Award with Indspire](#)
This is a one-time, \$2,000 award given to Indigenous students entering their **first year**. This award is **non-renewable** and **non-deferrable**. However, recipients are permitted to hold it alongside other scholarships or bursaries received from McGill or other sources. (<https://www.mcgill.ca/fph/scholarships-and-bursaries-0>)
- [McGill's Indigenous Bursary with Indspire](#)
This is an award ranging from \$1,000- \$10,000 based on demonstrated financial need, available to Indigenous students pursuing a degree program. Students may [re-apply to Indspire](#) in each year of study. (<https://www.mcgill.ca/fph/scholarships-and-bursaries-0>)