

The Edith Aston-McCrimmon Professionalism Award

School of Physical and Occupational Therapy



Edith Aston-McCrimmon

Considered a pioneer in the development of the physical therapy profession in Canada, Professor Edith Aston-McCrimmon taught an estimated 15,000 students in her over 50-year career. Not one to shy away from a challenge, she transformed the physical and occupational therapy program at McGill to the highly regarded school it is today, founded the first provincial association for physiotherapists (today's OPPQ) and was an active member of many national organizations in support of this field. Her commitment and dedication to advancing the profession by promoting the need to establish it as an academic discipline in the late 1960s changed the face of physiotherapy curricula worldwide.

Her work has profoundly shaped physiotherapy at McGill and elsewhere, and to honour her passing, the Professionalism Award named in her honour promotes the values of leadership and professionalism that she embodied.

Purpose and Objective of the Award

To recognize students from the graduating class of the professional Occupational and Physical Therapy Programs who espouse the ideals of professionalism and demonstrate outstanding commitment to their chosen profession based on their participation in professional affairs at local, provincial, national and/or international levels.

This award was established in 2003 through donations from the McGill community of faculty, family, friends and graduates. It is awarded to students of the graduating class by the School of Physical and Occupational Therapy to support expenses related to attending and representing McGill University and their profession at a provincial, national or international professional congress/conference (e.g. OEQ, OPPQ, CAOT, CPA, WCPT, WFOT). This Award is not intended to be used to support a student

presenting a poster or a paper at a congress/conference as other funds are usually already available for this endeavour.

Eligibility

- Students in the graduating class from the School's professional Occupational or Physical Therapy Programs.
- Students will only be considered for one award per degree program (unless unused funds are available).

Evaluation Criteria

The selected student/s must have demonstrated commitment to their chosen profession through such activities as:

- being the student member and/or representative of McGill University to a provincial, national, or international professional organization;
- active participation in the Ordres and/or Associations and/or their professional sub-groups i.e.- student caucuses, special interest groups;
- promoting and imparting the ideals of professionalism to their classmates and the community at large.

Activities that promote the ideals of professionalism and related to health promotion/participation of people with disabilities could strengthen the consideration for the award (e.g. para-olympics, summer camps for children with disabilities).

Value of the Awards

Each year, a sum of up to \$2000.00 will be available for each of the School's professional programs of Occupational and Physical Therapy (a total of \$4000.00).

Eligible expenses

This award is to cover conference/congress expenses including registration fees, travel and lodging. The conference/congress must occur in the year between April 1st and March 31 following the application date.

Responsibilities

Awardees will be expected to give a presentation to their respective student bodies summarizing the conference activities and their perception of the value of attending the conference, which will be organized by the Awards Committee.

Application Process

a) Each application must include:

1. A completed and signed application form which must include a description of the activities that the student has participated in which demonstrates their professional commitment. This description must be limited to 500 words to be considered.

b) Electronic submission of the application materials is to be sent to the **Chair of the Awards Committee through the student's McGill email** by 16h00 on February 28th. Applications that are incomplete will not be considered.

Review Process

- Applications will be reviewed by the Awards Committee, with input from the Director of the Occupational Therapy Program, the Director of the Physical Therapy Program, and ad hoc faculty members, as needed.
- All applicants will receive notification from the Chair of the Awards Committee once the selection process is complete.
- The awards will be presented at the reception held on the day of convocation each year.

Payment of the Award

The award is paid as a reimbursement (no requests for advances will be considered) of travel expenses in accordance with McGill's Reimbursement of Expenses Policy.

An expense report with **original** receipts (no photocopies will be accepted) must be presented within 1 month of the final date of the conference/congress to the financial officer of the School of Physical and Occupational Therapy. Students can make arrangements by contacting the Awards Committee support staff at

APPLICATION FORM

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name:	
Address:	
Telephone:	Email:
Occupational Therapy Student <input type="checkbox"/>	Physical Therapy Student <input type="checkbox"/>

DESCRIBE THE ACTIVITIES THAT DEMONSTRATE PROFESSIONAL COMMITMENT (Description must be limited to 500 words and attached to this application)

<input type="checkbox"/> Participation in Professional Association/Ordre activities
<input type="checkbox"/> McGill representative to Professional Association/Ordre
<input type="checkbox"/> Promoting professionalism to classmates or the community at large
<input type="checkbox"/> Other

DESCRIPTION OF CONFERENCE/CONGRESS

Name of professional conference/congress for which the award is sought:
Location of professional conference/congress (City/Country):
Date of the professional conference/congress (From – To):
Detailed breakdown of estimated costs and the amount being sought:

Date _____ Student's Signature _____

Send by February 28th to the Chair of the Awards Committee at awards-committee.spot@mcgill.ca