Understanding the Differences Between Scholarships and Bursaries

The Scholarships and Student Aid Office administers financial support programs based on academic merit and on financial need.

McGill ranks #1 in Canada in our category for proportion of operating expenditures dedicated to scholarships and bursaries!

Entrance Scholarships

Our merit-based Entrance Scholarships are based on academic excellence for high school and CEGEP students entering a full-time undergraduate degree program. Scholarships are noted on the McGill transcript.

Two types of entrance scholarships are offered:

- One-year Entrance Scholarships, valued at $3,000 (non-renewable unless otherwise stated). All undergraduate degree applicants are automatically considered, NO separate application is required.

- Major Entrance Scholarships, valued between $3,000 and $12,000 (renewable). Determined by selection committees and awarded on the basis of academic achievement and outstanding leadership. A separate application is required. <u>Do not</u> wait to be admitted to apply!

For more details, please visit our website: ***mcgill.ca/future-undergrads-scholarships***

Should I apply?

Estimated minimum academic requirements are noted on our website, but may be higher or lower depending on available scholarship funds and the number of applicants.

What should I expect?

Applicants receiving an Entrance Scholarship offer will be notified of the award amount and type by email with a PDF letter attached.

When should I apply?

Major Entrance Scholarship applications must be submitted soon after your application for admission:

- Feb 7th - applicants from a school outside of Canada

- Feb 7th - applicants from a school in Ontario and in the rest of Canada

- March 7th - applicants from a school in Quebec

Are there additional merit-based awards available during my studies?

In-course scholarships & awards are available to students who have excelled in their program of study. They are awarded in subsequent years of study by the individual faculties and have their own set of award criteria.

Entrance Bursaries

McGill is committed to supporting the academic pursuits of qualified undergraduate students from all geographic locations who require financial assistance. Our need-based Entrance Bursary Program helps students from low to modest income families who may not otherwise be able to accept their offer of admission. Bursaries are confidential and do not appear on the McGill transcript.

For more details, please visit our website:
mcgill.ca/future-undergrads-bursaries

Should I apply?

If you have concerns about covering your basic educational costs you are encouraged to apply as a newly accepted, first-year undergraduate coming from high school or CEGEP.

Newly accepted, first-year undergraduates entering professional programs in Medicine and Law can also apply.

What should I expect?

Decisions begin in February, and continue on a rolling basis, 2-3 weeks from the date of a completed submission. Entrance bursaries range in value and award amounts are determined by:

- The level of need demonstrated by the student and their family, relative to other applicants

- The tuition fee rate charged based on the program of study and student residency (Quebec, rest of Canada, US, International)

When should I apply?

We strongly recommend applying within 30 days from the date of acceptance to the University as funding is limited and offered on a rolling basis until resources are exhausted. The application officially closes on June 30th.

Is there additional need-based funding available during my studies?

Our program of In-Course Bursaries and Loans, as well as the Work Study Program and Fee Deferrals, is designed to help current degree students facing financial challenges. The program supplements existing financial resources such as government aid, part-time work and parental support.