

Emerging Leaders in the Americas Program (ELAP)

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Source https://www.educanada.ca/scholarships-bourses/can/institutions/elap-pfla.aspx?lang=eng	Application deadline March 31, 2026 at 11:59 p.m. EDT	Page modified March 4, 2026
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Important 2026–2027 update: Canadian institutions are now responsible for selecting students. Program-level selection is based on the institution’s Management and Accountability Framework (MAF), and the Privacy Notice Statement (PNS) is the only supporting document that institutions upload for students in the portal.

Program overview

ELAP supports short-term study or research in Canada for students from Latin America and the Caribbean. It was established in 2009 and is funded by Global Affairs Canada through the Academic Relations Program. Only Canadian post-secondary institutions may submit applications; students cannot apply directly.

Objectives

- Support eligible Canadian institutions in awarding scholarships for short-term inbound mobility.
- Develop human capital and the next generation of leaders across the Americas.
- Strengthen institutional partnerships and people-to-people ties between Canada and the region.

Who can apply

- Applicants must be Canadian designated learning institutions (DLIs).
- Canadian institutions must waive tuition fees for scholarship recipients.
- Institutions identify and select students before submitting the application.

Scholarship project scope

A project may include one or more individual scholarships supporting short-term inbound mobility to a Canadian post-secondary institution. Projects begin after a contribution agreement is signed and must be completed no later than September 30, 2027. Global Affairs Canada funding is capped at \$150,000 per project.

Eligible student profile

- Citizen of an eligible country or territory in Latin America or the Caribbean.
- Enrolled full-time at a post-secondary institution in an eligible country or territory.
- Paying tuition to the home institution at the time of application and for the full mobility period in Canada.
- Able to complete all project activities by September 30, 2027.

Students who are not eligible

- Those who hold or have a pending application for Canadian citizenship or permanent residence.
- Those already funded by Global Affairs Canada or another Canadian federal granting agency for the same period, unless other funding is properly declared and allowed.
- Those already enrolled in a degree, diploma, or certificate program at a Canadian post-secondary institution.

Eligible countries and territories

Region	Eligible countries / territories
Caribbean	Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Cuba
Central America	Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama
North America	Mexico
South America	Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela

Scholarship value and duration

Mobility length	Level / activity	Scholarship amount
4 months / 1 academic term	College or undergraduate study / research	\$8,600
4 months / 1 academic term	Graduate study / research (Master's or PhD)	\$8,600
5 to 6 months	Graduate study / research (Master's or PhD)	\$12,400

The Canadian institution receives the funding through a non-negotiable contribution agreement and is responsible for disbursing funds to selected students. Changes to planned mobilities may lead to funding adjustments.

Eligible expenses

- Scholarship amounts paid to students.
- \$500 per implemented scholarship to cover institutional administrative costs, including the employer compliance fee paid to IRCC when applicable.

Tuition is not an eligible expense and must be waived by the Canadian institution.

How to apply

- Submit one or more scholarship nominations through the My EduCanada portal.
- Email the completed Management and Accountability Framework (MAF) to Scholarships-Info-Bourses@international.gc.ca by the deadline.
- Assign a program coordinator for the application.
- Sign in or create a Global Affairs Canada Single Sign-On account and register the institution in My EduCanada.
- Complete the application form, validate entries, and upload the signed Privacy Notice Statement (dated within the last 6 months).
- Review the application, accept the declaration, submit, and save/print the confirmation for institutional records.

Project selection criteria

- Fair and transparent selection process for scholarship recipients.
- Verification of selected candidates' eligibility.
- Authenticity and maintenance of supporting documentation.
- Broad representation across eligible countries and territories.
- Equitable gender participation.

Key dates

Milestone	Date / timing
Application deadline	March 31, 2026 at 11:59 p.m. EDT
Notification of results	May 2026
Latest project completion date	September 30, 2027

Frequently asked questions — highlights

If an institution applies to both ELAP and Study in Canada Scholarships (SICS), does it need two MAFs?

Yes. A separate Management and Accountability Framework is required for each scholarship program.

Is the \$500 administrative fee part of the \$150,000 project maximum?

The contribution agreement includes the approved project amounts for ELAP and SICS as well as the \$500 administrative fee.

Must institutions rank their students?

No. Canadian institutions are responsible for selecting students and do not need to submit a ranking.

Are MOUs still required?

No. A memorandum of understanding or exchange agreement is no longer an eligibility criterion, although institutions may still rely on their own agreements to waive tuition or manage mobility.

What is the earliest possible start date?

The earliest start date is the date the contribution agreement is signed.

Who issues scholarship confirmation letters now?

Because institutions now select the final recipients, the confirmation letter must be issued by the institution.

Contact

Scholarship administrator: Scholarships-Info-Bourses@international.gc.ca
Phone: 613-237-4820

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