

Don Summerville

# SCHOLARSHIP

2025-26



CONTEXT

RIO CAN  
LIVING



applegrove  
community at its core



Toronto  
Community  
Housing

## Overview

Toronto Community Housing in partnership with our development partners, Context Developments Inc. and RioCan Living, with support from Applegrove Community Complex, is pleased to offer the Don Summerville Scholarship Program to relocated TCHC tenants in our Don Summerville community to help our tenants pursue post-secondary courses and create pathways to successful careers.

The revitalization builds the capacities of tenants, launches programs geared to tenant needs, creates job opportunities, and fosters social cohesion and community engagement.

This year we are excited to launch the sixth year of a dedicated Don Summerville scholarship program to help young people advance their education goals. This financial support will provide recipients with the invaluable opportunity to invest in their education through bursaries and tuition assistance at their chosen Canadian educational institutions.



CONTEXT

RIO CAN  
LIVINGapplegrove  
community at its coreToronto  
Community  
Housing

## Program offering

- Up to \$3,000 scholarship to cover tuition fees for any full-time or part-time program at a recognized post-secondary institution or training school (i.e., college, university, career academy, and trade school).
- A \$500 bursary to cover additional costs, including books, lab fees, transportation, and/or childcare.

---

## Eligibility

The program is available to all Toronto Community Housing (TCHC) tenants who meet all the following:

- Current or relocated (due to ongoing revitalization) Toronto Community Housing (TCHC) tenant of the Don Summerville community.
- 17 years old and up.
- Tenant in good standing with respect to rent payments.
- Entering or currently enrolled in a post-secondary institution (college, university) or taking training courses from a credible training or academic institution (college, career academy, trade school, etc.) on either a full-time or part-time basis.
- Able to demonstrate a need for financial assistance.
- Able to demonstrate community involvement and / or leadership.

**NOTE: Recipients may receive up to a cumulative or total maximum of \$10,000 (tuition plus bursaries) from the scholarship program throughout the revitalization period, or until funds have been exhausted.**

## Leadership and involvement in the community

**What is community involvement and/or leadership?**

Community involvement is meaningful, consistent participation in activities that support and improve people's well-being. A community may be geographic (building or neighbourhood) or based on shared experiences and interests (e.g. faith, social ofschool group you are involved with).

When you take initiative, support, and work with others in your community you are involved in your community and taking a leadership role.

### Some examples:

Some examples:

- Since the start of high school, A has run art workshops for children and their parents each summer at the local community centre.
- B is a newcomer to Canada. He has not had an opportunity to volunteer here, but back home was active with a local charity that advocates for food security.
- C is a mother of three, cares about healthy nutrition and wants to share her experience with other mothers. Each month she runs an event to share affordable recipes and tips, as well as a club at the local library where neighbors gettogether to talk about healthy food and self-care.
- D likes singing and performing at local events. Through her songs, D gives the message of hope, and encourages care and love for self, others, and the Earth.

## Application timeline

### Application opens:

**Online (Cognito form) – Monday, Mar 17, 2025, at 12:00 a.m.**

- You can find more details on how to submit your electronic package on page 16.

**In Person (Hardcopy pick up) – Monday, Mar 17, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.**

- You can pick up the physical application package from Applegrove Community Complex at 60 Woodfield Road, Toronto ON M4L 2W6.
- Call Applegrove (416) 461-8143 to enter their office through Duke of Connaught school from 8:30 am to 5pm.

### Application closes:

**In Person (Drop off) – Thursday, May 1, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.**

- Please drop off the physical application package at Applegrove Community Complex at 60 Woodfield Road Toronto ON M4L 2W6

**Online (Cognito form) - Friday, May 2, 2025, at 11:59 p.m.**

- Please complete your online application ensuring to submit all documents.

Please choose below the option that applies to you.

☐

First year postsecondary student (starting September 2025)

☐

Currently enrolled in a postsecondary institution

☐

Mature student (over 21 years and out of school for two or more consecutive years)

---

## Evaluation process

The Don Summerville Scholarship Program prioritizes community leadership and engagement, educational aspirations, and achievements, as well as volunteer and work experience in pursuit of your long-term educational and career objectives. Recipients will be chosen by an impartial committee and will be evaluated based on:

- Leadership and involvement in the community
- Academic goals and accomplishments
- Work experience (resume)
- Personal statement
- Clear outline of career and educational goals

---

## How to apply

To apply for the scholarship, please complete the attached (below) application package from pages 6 to 15. The package includes the application form, reference, resume, academic transcript, career and education plan, budget and financial statement, biography, personal statement, and the application checklist. You can find more info on how to submit at the end of this application package.

## 1 - PERSONAL INFORMATION

First Name :  Last Name :

Gender : ☐ M ☐ F ☐ Other ☐ Prefer not to answer Date of Birth:     
DD MM YYYY

Address :  Unit :

City :  Province :

Postal Code :  Phone Number :

E-Mail :

Which of the following best describes your racial or ethnic identity? (select all that apply)

☐ Arab, Middle East, or West Asian
 ☐ Black
 ☐ East Asian
 ☐ First Nations, Inuit, or Metis
 ☐ Latin American
 ☐ South Asian, or Indo Caibbean
 ☐ Southeast Asian
 ☐ White

☐ Not listed (Please describe)

☐ Prefer Not to Answer

Name and address of high school or learning institution currently attending (if applicable):

Name and address of a recognized Canadian post-secondary educational or training institute (i.e., college, university, career academy and trade school) you hope to attend in the upcoming academic year:

Date :

DD MM YYYY

Signature

## 2 - REFERENCE

Please attach one reference letter (no longer than two pages or one page double-sided) that outlines your involvement as a community leader or your participation in community building initiatives, your academic goals or your work experience and that speaks to the likelihood of success in your chosen post-secondary career.

**Note: This reference letter must be from a representative of your school or learning institution, a community agency or resource/employment counsellor/case worker. Your reference should be current (written at least within the last 3 years) and should describe specific ways in which the candidate fulfills the criteria for the scholarship.**

Referee Name :

Relationship :

Phone Number :

## 3 - RESUME

Please attach a resume that outlines your relevant work experience, including volunteer work. Resume must be up-to-date and complete.



## 4 - CAREER AND EDUCATION

Please complete the career and education plan below.

### CAREER GOALS

What is your chosen career field?

*(If applying for multiple programs, please indicate your first choice).*

### EDUCATION OR TRAINING NEEDED

What are the entry requirements of the program?

Do you meet the requirements?

How long is the program?

Are there entrance exams and/or specific courses that you need? Please specify:

Upon completion of program, will you receive a diploma, certificate, degree, license, and/or accreditation?

☐  
**Diploma**

☐  
**Certificate**

☐  
**Degree**

☐  
**License**

☐  
**Accreditation**

### CURRENT EDUCATION OR TRAINING

List any education or training programs you have completed to date.

*I.e. Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) or equivalent, pre-employment training, certificates, etc.*

**5 - PERSONAL STATEMENT**

Please prepare a written statement below (400 to 500 words) highlighting your leadership roles in the community or your participation in community building activities, your academic goals, and achievements or how your work experience has help contributed to the Don Summerville communities. Include frequency/length of your community involvement and description of your leadership. Please highlight any barriers that may have prevented you from attaining postsecondary education. Explain how you overcame (or are currently overcoming) these challenges.

## 6 - BUDGET

Please complete the budget plan below for the upcoming academic year (eight months) outlining your expected sources of income, financial aid, living expenses, and your projected expenses.

## A - ESTIMATED INCOME

\$

Employment Income

\$

Non-employment Income (i.e., family support, investments)

\$

Family Contributions

\$

Other (please specify):

\$

TOTAL INCOME

\$

## B - ESTIMATED LIVING EXPENSES

\$

Rent

\$

Groceries

\$

Other (please specify):

\$

TOTAL LIVING EXPENSES

\$

<b>C - ESTIMATED EDUCATION EXPENSES</b>		<b>\$</b>
<b>Tuition and Fees</b>		\$
<b>Textbooks and Course Supplies</b>		\$
<b>Student Health / Dental</b>		\$
<b>Travel Expenses</b>		\$
<b>Transit Expenses (TTC, GO, etc.)</b>		\$
<b>Other (please specify):</b>		\$
<b>TOTAL EDUCATION EXPENSES</b>		\$

## **D - SUMMARY OF INCOME & EXPENSES**

Subtract your total education and living expenses from your total income for the estimated balance.

**ESTIMATED BALANCE** \$

<b>E - ESTIMATED FINANCIAL AID</b>		<b>\$</b>
<b>OSAP Financial Aid</b>		\$
<b>Non-OSAP Financial Aid</b>		\$
<b>Bank Loan / Line of Credit</b>		\$
<b>TOTAL FINANCIAL AID</b>		\$

**7 - FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

**In one paragraph (max of 350 words), please outline your current financial need, including any additional sources of funding you may receive and any circumstances that may affect financial stability during your studies. Also, please mention any financial systemic barriers you face and how the Don Summerville Scholarship program will support you.**

## 8 - BIOGRAPHY

Please provide a biography (150 to 300 words). This will be included in the scholarship announcement (which will be made public) should you be selected as a recipient of the scholarship.

The following will help you to prepare your biography:

- What is your name?
- How long have you been part of the Don Summerville community?
- Highlight some of the community and leadership activities you have participated in.
- What academic institution will you be attending?
- What are your future academic and career goals?

**Important:**

- Please note that your biography may be altered to meet formatting requirements before final printing (upon applicant approval):

**9 - APPLICATION CHECKLIST**

Please review this checklist carefully to ensure that a complete application package is submitted. An incomplete package will NOT be considered.

☐ Completed and signed application form (pages 6 to 13)

☐ One reference letter – **please attach**

☐ Resume – **please attach**

☐ Detailed career and education plan (page 8)

☐ Personal statement (page 9)

☐ Budget plan and financial statement - completed budget outline (included) and a typed paragraph outlining your current financial need, how you are preparing financially for school and how this scholarship will address your need. (page 10/11)

☐ Financial Statement (page 12)

☐ Biography (page 13)

☐ Additional materials (optional) - you may attach additional relevant visuals and supporting documentation related to your community involvement, leadership or community certifications, including but not limited to newspaper clippings, letters of support, samples of work, and relevant audio or video recordings.

## 11 - CERTIFICATION

Please read and make sure that you understand and agree to the following:

- ☐ I certify that the above information is accurate and complete and understand that any false or incomplete information may invalidate my application.
- ☐ I certify that I am a TCHC tenant living (or relocated due to the revitalization) in Don Summerville.
- ☐ I accept that scholarship decisions made by the Don Summerville Scholarship Program selection committee are final.
- ☐ I understand that scholarship funds will only be granted to me when: I submit all of the documents included in the "Scholarship Package," AND Present proof of enrolment in a recognized Canadian post-secondary educational program for the upcoming academic year.
- ☐ I understand that requests for scholarship deferrals will not be granted and that scholarships must be claimed no later than January 31, 2026.
- ☐ I agree to the public release of my name, biography and photograph should I be awarded a scholarship.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

Date :

\_\_\_\_\_  
D D

\_\_\_\_\_  
M M

\_\_\_\_\_  
Y Y Y Y



12 - SUBMISSION

## Deadline

The deadline to submit your application:

- In-person/hard copy: **Thursday, May 1, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.**
- Online through Cognito forms: **Friday, May 2, 2025, at 11:59 p.m.**

## In-person/hard copy submission

Once completed and signed, put into the provided envelope with “Full Name” DS Scholarships 2025-26 on the front and drop off at Applegrove Community Complex 60 Woodfield Road Toronto ON M4L 2W6 between Mar 17 and May 1 on the following days:

- **Mondays - From 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**
- **Thursdays - From 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Supporting documents including resume, reference letter(s), report card/academic transcripts (or equivalent), and optional documents must be copied and included.

The application package will be available from Monday, March 17, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. to be picked up at Applegrove Community Complex 60 Woodfield Road Toronto ON M4L 2W6

## Online/Cognito form submission

Find the form at <https://torontohousing.ca/programs-and-tenant-engagement/scholarships/don-summerville-scholarship>

You will be asked to upload your supporting documents including Resume, reference letter(s), report card/academic transcripts (or equivalent), and optional documents.

## Privacy Notice

The personal information requested on this form is collected under the authority of the Housing Services Act, 2011 and s. 28(2) of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. The information will be used for the purpose of administering and planning outreach efforts for the Don Summerville Scholarship 2025-2026 and general administrative purposes. If you have any questions about the collection of this information, please contact:

William Mendes

**[William.Mendes@torontohousing.ca](mailto:William.Mendes@torontohousing.ca)**

**416-678-3439**

**APPLICATION SUPPORT**

APPLICANTS CAN ATTEND AN ONLINE INFORMATION SESSION FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING THE SCHOLARSHIP ON ONE OF THE FOLLOWING DATES:

**Online info session #1**

**Date:** Thursday, March 27, 2025

**TIME:** 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

**PLATFORM:** Teams

**Online info session #2**

**Date:** Wednesday, April 2, 2025

**TIME:** 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

**PLATFORM:** Teams

Contact Jade Shulist to register and receive meeting link.

- Jade.Shulist@torontohousing.ca
- (437) 922-3303

**1 on 1 support**

Feel free to book a private session with one of our staff if you need support with:

- Editing
- Filling in the electronic form
- Figuring out your budget
- Identifying a strong reference person
- Reviewing your personal and/or financial statement

**For more information contact:**

**Jade Shulist at [jade.shulist@torontohousing.ca](mailto:jade.shulist@torontohousing.ca) or 437-922-3303**