

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

ELIGIBILITY

1. How is the minimum average calculated?

The 85% minimum average calculation on the most recent three years of final grades on the student's transcript. If the official transcript in your province only shows the last two years of final grades, that transcript will be sufficient to apply.

2. I am currently a student at a university or college. Can I still apply for your award?

No. Current post-secondary students are not eligible for our awards.

3. I am a student applying from outside of Canada. Can I apply?

Yes, but only if you are a Canadian citizen or permanent resident. You should apply to the direct pool.

4. I am hesitant to move away from home for university. Should I still apply?

The Loran Scholar experience emphasizes leadership development and personal growth through new experiences that test boundaries and expand each scholar's world view within a supportive community of scholars, alumni, volunteers and partner organizations across Canada and around the world. The Loran Award is much more than simply financial support to access an undergraduate education – it involves participation in an intensive, four-year undergraduate experience, and life-long participation in a community of shared values centred on service for others.

Loran Scholars move away from their family home to attend one of our [25 partner universities](#) in a new community in Canada. Over the course of their undergraduate studies, scholars live in university residence for a minimum of one year, participate in a mentorship program, attend annual retreats and Loran community events, take on three different summer experiences across the public, private and non-profit sectors, and engage in a fourth year transition program. By the time of graduation, Loran Scholars have had the experience of engaging in a new university community, have spent time living in one or several new provinces, and have travelled internationally for work and/or study. These experiences are an integral part of the Loran Award and allow scholars to develop their independence, flexibility, and resilience while gaining an appreciation for the diversity of perspectives in our national and global community. We believe that the development of these traits is essential for leaders of the future.

Each scholar develops their experience in the program in consultation with coaches, mentors and Loran staff. The Loran Scholars Foundation acknowledges that candidates may have unique personal circumstances that impact participation in certain aspects of the program (for example, attending a university in a new community outside of their home region). We encourage all candidates interested in the Loran Award to submit an application, with the understanding that they will have the opportunity to discuss their circumstances and the parameters of the Loran Award with foundation staff should they advance to National Selections.

5. I am interested in attending a university that is not on your list of participating universities. Am I still eligible for your awards?

Loran Awards are only tenable at [participating universities](#) in Canada, but finalist and provincial awards are tenable at any accredited public university in Canada.

6. I am interested in attending a private university. Am I eligible for this award?

None of our awards are tenable at private institutions.

HOW TO APPLY

1. When are applications available? Where can I get them?

Our 2020-2021 application period is now open! [Learn more about becoming a Loran Scholar](#) and [apply now](#).

The application process is entirely online. If you would like to submit a sponsored application, please contact your guidance counsellor to inquire about the sponsorship process at your school. Students at Cegeps can also consult the [list of Cegep representatives](#).

2. What are the deadlines?

For those entering university in 2021, the deadline for submission of sponsored applications is **October 15, 2020 (before 8:00PM Eastern Time)** and the deadline for direct pool applications is **October 22, 2020 (before 8:00PM Eastern Time)**.

3. What counts as an official transcript?

We accept transcripts that are produced by either the school or the Ministry of Education

4. Who can write my reference letter and how do I submit it?

You must request a reference letter from a teacher, a member of the community or someone else who is familiar with your activities. The reference writer may not be a family member or a friend.

After your application is finalized, your reference writer will receive a reference request email from info@loranscholar.ca. This email will contain a link to the online sponsorship form, where your reference writer will be able to see your application and access the online reference form (250 words maximum).

For sponsored applicants, the online reference form must be completed before sponsorship confirmation, and both forms must be completed before the **October 15, 2020** deadline. For direct pool applicants, the online reference form must be completed before **October 22, 2020**.

5. What is the difference between a sponsored and direct pool application?

A sponsored application is one that is nominated by the school. Each high school can sponsor up to three students,

Direct pool applications do not include school sponsorship and can be submitted one week later (**October 22, 2020**).

6. How do I request sponsorship from my school?

Please contact your guidance counsellor, teacher or school administrator to express interest to learn about the sponsorship selection process at your school. You will then need to select *Sponsored by my school* in the online application, and subsequently enter the name & email address of a school contact in the Educational Background section.

When both the application and reference letter have been completed, the school contact will be asked to review your application and fill out a short online form confirming whether or not your application is sponsored. Applications that are not sponsored will be evaluated in the direct pool.

7. What should I do if my school will not sponsor anyone?

See your guidance counsellor & stress the importance of school sponsorship. Remind them that, historically, more provincial awards are granted to sponsored applicants than direct pool applicants. If your school still declines to sponsor any students, contact info@loranscholar.ca. If you are not sponsored, then you may still apply as a direct pool applicant.

8. I missed the deadline for the application. Do you consider late applications?

We do not accept any late applications. Students who miss the sponsored application deadline of **October 15, 2020 (8:00PM Eastern Time)** can still apply through the direct pool (deadline **October 22, 2020 at 8:00PM Eastern Time**).

9. If my reference writer or school sponsor is away, can I get an extension?

No. Both the reference and school sponsorship forms must be completed before the application deadline.

If your reference writer or school sponsor is unable to complete their task before the deadline, you may ask another qualified individual to do so. For example, a vice-principal may agree to complete the sponsorship form if your principal or guidance counsellor is unexpectedly away.

If the school sponsorship form is not completed before the application deadline of **October 15, 2020**, you may submit a direct pool application without sponsorship, provided that both your application and reference are completed before **October 22, 2020**.

10. When will I be notified about the status of my application?

Once your application is fully submitted, you will receive a confirmation email. Afterwards, only applicants selected as semi-finalists are notified of the status of their application.

If selected as semi-finalists, candidates are invited to participate in online interviews via videoconference. These interviews are an opportunity for semi-finalists to connect with one another, meet the local leaders who serve as our interviewers, and gain valuable interview experience. Candidates selected for semi-final interviews will be contacted at least 2 weeks in advance of their interview date.

After semi-final interviews, our committees invite outstanding semi-finalists to participate in national interviews which will be held online in February and March of 2021. Our committees also grant provincial & territorial awards and honour citations to semi-finalists who distinguish themselves at the semi-final regional level.

11. How do I support a student's application?

Please check out our [Information for Schools](#) page for detailed instructions.

MORE QUESTIONS?

Please check the [Becoming A Scholar](#) overview or contact us:

Phone: 416.646.2120 x100

Toll-free: 1.866.544.2673 x100

Email: info@loranscholar.ca

Technical support will be available up until **8:00PM Eastern Time on October 22nd, 2020**.

INFORMATION FOR SCHOOLS

Any high school may sponsor applications for the Loran Award. We are deeply grateful for the annual participation of teachers, counsellors and school administrators who help us discover students who show tremendous promise of character, service and leadership. Each school may sponsor applications for up to three students, and each Cegep may sponsor up to eight students. We encourage you to sponsor students who have demonstrated integrity, courage, grit, personal autonomy, a commitment to serving others and overall leadership potential. Students must meet [our eligibility criteria](#) in order to apply. Learn more about the Loran Award & application process, attend [informational webinars](#).

IMPORTANT DATES

October 15, 2020 (8:00PM Eastern Time)

Deadline for all sponsored applications to be submitted, including reference form and school sponsorship confirmation.

October 22, 2020 (8:00PM Eastern Time)

Deadline for all direct pool applications, including the reference form.

If there are more interested, qualified students than there are sponsorship spots at your school, we offer a direct pool application option for students not selected by your school. Although we encourage students to seek sponsorship, where possible, we continue to discover and select Loran Scholars through both application pools.

1. How many students may I sponsor? 3

2. How do I sponsor a student's application?

The student must select *Sponsored by my school* in the online application, and then enter your name and email address as the School Contact on the Educational Background page. Once they finalize their application and have a reference letter completed, you as the School Contact will receive a sponsorship request email from info@loranscholar.ca.

The sponsorship request email will contain a link to the online sponsorship form, where you will be able to see the student's application and transcript. It is your responsibility to review the application and confirm that the school is willing to sponsor this student's application. The sponsorship form must be completed before the application deadline of **8:00PM (Eastern Time) on October 15, 2020**. If student's application isn't sponsored it will be considered direct pool.

3. Do I also need to write the reference letter?

You are not required to write the reference letter, but you may choose to do so if you know the student well. The reference letter may be written by another person at the school or in the community. It cannot be written by a family member or a friend

4. We missed the deadline for the application. Do you consider late applications?

We do not accept any late applications. Students who miss the 2020 sponsored application deadline of **October 15 (8:00PM Eastern Time)** can still apply through the direct pool (deadline **October 22, 8:00PM Eastern Time**).

5. Will I be notified about the status of a student's application?

Only applicants selected as semi-finalists are notified. If your student is selected as a semi-finalist, you will be cc'd on the email notification.

MORE QUESTIONS?

Please check the [Becoming A Scholar](#) overview or contact us:

Phone: 416.646.2120 x100

Toll-free: 1.866.544.2673 x100

Email: info@loranscholar.ca

LORAN TEACHERS BUILDING LEADERS AWARD

We work with graduating Loran Scholars to recognize and thank the primary and secondary school teachers who provided them with early inspiration, guidance & growth opportunities. Loran Teachers Building Leaders Award.