

POST-SECONDARY SCHOLARSHIPS

The Calgary Lithuanian Cultural Society (CLCS) will offer a number of post-secondary scholarships to eligible applicants. These scholarships are open to the community in general and not just to members of this organization and their families. Scholarships may be awarded for a course of full-time studies at any accredited post-secondary institution inside or outside Canada.

For the 2026/27 academic year, commencing September 2026, the deadline for receipt of applications and supporting material is October 25, 2026.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Applicants who are high school seniors must be current residents of Alberta, have graduated from an Alberta high school, and be enrolled in a course of full-time studies leading to a degree or diploma at an accredited post-secondary institution.
- Applicants other than high school seniors must be current residents of Alberta and be enrolled in a course of full-time studies leading to a degree or diploma at an accredited post-secondary institution.
- Each applicant shall submit:
 1. An Application sent by email. It is the responsibility of the applicant to provide complete information. ***Only information provided by the applicant will be considered in determining eligibility and marks.***
 2. An essay on a topic to be announced by CLCS and posted on the website. No applicant shall submit an essay on a topic which they have previously submitted. For high-school seniors, the essay shall be 700 words in length. For applicants other than high school seniors, the essay shall be 1000 words in length. **All essays shall be typed and double-spaced, provided in both PDF and Word formats. Also, please, send separate files for essay, application, recent report card etc.**
 3. The applicant's most recent report card (for high school seniors) or most recent transcript of marks from an accredited post-secondary institution (for applicants other than high school seniors).
 4. Proof that they have been accepted in a course of full-time studies leading to a degree or diploma at an accredited post-secondary institution.

Note: all documents should be provided in separate attachments, not in one document.

Evaluation Criteria:

Each applicant will be assigned a mark out of 100, based on the following:

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| • Quality of the essay | - 60% |
| • Academic achievement | - 30% |
| • Community involvement, including participation in
volunteer activities in the community, as well as
arts or sports activity and participation | - 10% |
| | 100% |

Essays will be evaluated according to generally accepted formal writing standards, including structure (introduction, main body and conclusion), be based primarily on research rather than personal experience or opinion, be supported by proper citations and a bibliography, contain correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, paragraphs, etc.

Academic Achievement will be evaluated on the basis of the report card or transcript provided by the applicant, for the most recent academic year.

Community Involvement will be evaluated strictly on the basis of the information provided by the applicant in the application. Only activities carried out between July 1, 2025 and the date of the application will be considered. If candidates wish to present historical information about their community involvement, they may do so. However, only information about current activities will be utilized in the evaluation process. Contact information must be provided so the Evaluation Committee or the President and Executive Committee may confirm the information provided, should they, in their discretion, decide to do so.

Additional requirements. Essays must contain at least one personal story, experience, or reflection connected to volunteering or your heritage.

IMPORTANT: Any essay that is written or generated (in whole or in part) using Artificial Intelligence (AI), including but not limited to ChatGPT, automated writing tools, apps, or websites, will result in IMMEDIATE DISQUALIFICATION.

The applicant will also be suspended from submitting essays for the CLCS Scholarship the following year.

The Evaluation Committee and CLCS are not required to provide any explanation, justification, or proof of suspicion in such cases.

Evaluation Process:

- The application and all supporting information shall be submitted electronically, not later than **October 25, 2026** as attachments to an e-mail, addressed to the President, CLCS, at lietuviaikalgaryje@gmail.com. Every applicant will receive a message confirming receipt of their

application within 48 hours of submission. The President will forward all materials to the Evaluation Committee.

- The Evaluation Committee will evaluate each essay and assign a mark of 1 to 60. They will determine an academic grade point average, from the submitted report card or transcript, and assign a mark of 1 to 30. They will also evaluate the applications and supporting materials and assign an aggregate mark from 1 to 10 in the Community Involvement category. They will then determine a final grade by combining the marks from the three categories. The Evaluation Committee will provide the President, not later than **November 17, 2026** with a list of total marks for each candidate, broken down by categories of criteria, together with the final grade that has been assigned to each.
- The President, in consultation with the Executive Committee, will review and make a final determination of the number and amount of scholarships to be paid, and will communicate the results to the applicants, not later than **December 1, 2026**.

Scholarship Amount Formula:

The President, in consultation with the Executive Committee, will determine the first three places for scholarships to be awarded, using the following formula:

- The top-ranking applicant shall receive a First Prize Scholarship of \$1500.
- The second-ranked applicant shall receive a Second Prize Scholarship of \$1000.
- The third-ranked applicant shall receive a Third Prize Scholarship of \$500.

Evaluation Committee:

The Evaluation Committee shall consist of three people, appointed by the President and Executive Committee of CLCS.

Deadlines:

- The deadline for receipt of applications is **October 25, 2026**. No applications or supporting materials will be accepted after that date. Neither the applications nor any supporting materials will be returned to the applicants. CLCS may, in its discretion, publish the essays in whole or in part.

- Applications shall be submitted electronically to the President of CLCS at lietuviaikalgaryje@gmail.com
- Applicants will be advised of the final decision by the President and Executive Committee not later than **December 1, 2026.**
- Scholarships will be paid to successful applicants in one instalment at the beginning of the academic year, upon each providing: (1) proof that they have paid their tuition for the first term to the accredited post-secondary institution, and (2) an electronic copy of a photograph of themselves to be posted on the CLCS website and/or in its Newsletter.