

Instructions for the University of Calgary
Applications for the Rhodes Scholarship Competition 2023
(These set of instructions cancels those issued for previous years)

About the Rhodes

The Rhodes Scholarships are funded by the estate of Cecil J. Rhodes (The Rhodes Trusts) and are considered one of the oldest and most prestigious international scholarships for outstanding scholars from any academic field of study.

Rhodes Scholarships are tenable for postgraduate studies or a second bachelor's degree at Oxford University, for two years with the possible extension for a third year. The Scholarships cover all approved fees (such as matriculation, tuition, laboratory fees, and certain other set charges), in addition to living expenses.

Eleven Canadian Rhodes Scholars are chosen each year from among those nominated by Canadian universities across the country. Three of these scholarships are allotted to The Prairie Region (Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta).

Please familiarize yourself with the [2023 Rhodes Scholars Package](#). The Rhodes Canada document is the official information for candidates. The current document outlines the internal endorsement process for UCalgary students only.

As noted on the Rhodes website, Cecil Rhodes's vision in founding the Scholarship was to develop outstanding leaders who would be motivated to fight 'the world's fight' and to 'esteem the performance of public duties as their highest aim', and to promote international understanding and peace. His will outlines four criteria to be used in the election of Scholars:

- literary and scholastic attainments
- energy to use one's talents to the full
- truth, courage, devotion to duty, sympathy for and protection of the weak, kindness, unselfishness, and fellowship
- moral force of character and instincts to lead, and to take an interest in one's fellow beings.

In short, Rhodes Scholarship selection committees will be seeking young women and men of outstanding **intellect, character, leadership, and commitment to service**. The Rhodes Scholarships support students who demonstrate a strong propensity to emerge as “leaders for the world’s future.”

Eligibility

For the 2023 Scholarship, all candidates must be:

- a. Nationality/citizenship: You must be a citizen or permanent resident of Canada. Applications from refugees/asylum seekers currently residing in Canada will also be considered in this constituency.

- b. Education/residency: You must be domiciled in Canada.
- c. Age: You must meet either of the below criteria:
 - i. Upon 1 October 2022, you must be at least 18 and have not reached your 24th birthday (i.e. you must have been born after 1 October 1998 and on or before 1 October 2004). OR (for older candidates who completed their first undergraduate degree later than usual)
 - ii. Upon 1 October 2022, you must not have reached your 27th birthday (i.e. have been born after 1 October 1995) AND you have met or will meet the academic requirements for completing your first undergraduate degree on or after 1 October 2021
- d. Academic achievement: You must have already completed, or will have completed by July 2023, an undergraduate degree (normally a Bachelor's degree) with an academic background and grade that - at a minimum - meets or exceeds the specific entry requirements of your chosen full-time [course](#) at the University of Oxford Given the very intense international competition for places at the University of Oxford, candidates will have a greater chance of successful admission to Oxford if they have: A GPA of 3.70/4.0 or higher

Before Applying

Before applying, potential candidates should research the academic programs offered at Oxford. The strongest applicants are able to articulate their suitability for a program at Oxford that corresponds with their academic profile and aspirations. For further information, please visit the [Oxford website](#).

You may also reach out to the Scholars Academy Office, Dr. Jessica Cohen, cohenj@ucalgary.ca for questions on the UCalgary Rhodes Process, including personal statements, CVs, courses of study, etc.

Application

Overall, the application (including your interview if you are a finalist) must tell a *coherent narrative* of your life, your accomplishments, and how a Rhodes Scholarship will help you achieve your academic and professional aspirations.

All candidates enrolled at the University of Calgary must submit a **pre-application** and **internal screening** process and earn the institutional endorsement of University President, Dr. Ed McCauley. The pre-application requires:

- (1) A full curriculum vitae which should include specific details about academic qualifications, prizes, scholarships, positions of leadership, employment positions, involvement in student, voluntary, community or political activities and any cultural, musical or sporting accomplishments. **This should not exceed two letter size pages in length with a minimum 12 pt font.**
- (2) A **Personal Statement** of no more than 750 words. The personal statement is your chance to tell your story in your own voice: Who are you? Your academic transcript and academic statement of study, your curriculum vitae, and your reference letters will provide the substantive detail of

your commitments and accomplishments, whereas the personal statement gives you the opportunity to cast an overarching narrative for the selection committee.

Prompts:

In your personal statement of 750 words, we ask you to address each of the following prompts (the word allocation across the three is up to you):

1. Which Rhodes Scholar quality do you display most strongly, and how are other contexts and people helping you to develop the others?
2. What would you like to learn from the Rhodes and wider community in Oxford?
3. From your place in the world, what is humanity's greatest need?

Note: further guidance on the personal statement can be found in the [Information for Rhodes Candidate](#). **It is highly recommended that you review it in detail.**

At the bottom of your personal statement, you must acknowledge and include the following statement: "This statement is my work alone, and no external assistance of any kind was received in its creation or editing."

(3) An academic statement of study of no more than 350 words.

The reason we ask for an academic statement is that entry to the University of Oxford is becoming ever more competitive and, should you win a Rhodes Scholarship, you will have to submit your application to Oxford within a very short timeframe. Researching and writing this statement will help you prepare for that. You should also be aware that once you are at the University of Oxford it is very difficult to change courses. It is therefore advisable to give some serious thought to your desired courses in advance.

The academic statement of study should, in a factual and concise manner:

- i. Tell us your reasons for wishing to study at the University of Oxford, what your chosen course(s) of study is (are), and how this fits in your academic trajectory. Further, you may wish to explain how you hope to be stretched academically at the University of Oxford, and any academic support you imagine might be helpful.
- ii. Demonstrate that you are able to at a minimum meet or exceed the specific entry and other academic requirements of the course(s) you have chosen. Tell us how you are prepared for the course(s) academically and otherwise. It is very important that you have a firm idea of which courses are viable for you to study at the University of Oxford (if you are listing a one-year course, please give an indication of your intentions for the second year). Please read the Oxford graduate studies course pages carefully: <http://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate>. Note that not all University of Oxford courses are covered by the Rhodes Scholarship - and you should refer to the Conditions of Tenure for further information. For applicants interested in pursuing a second BA degree, please see guidance under 'Procedure after Selection' on the Rhodes sites.
- iii. If you wish to undertake a DPhil, provide a brief outline of your proposed research area, how it contributes to your future career plans, and list both the Department in which

you propose to undertake your research and one or more researchers with whom you would like to work in Oxford.

- (4) A photocopy of **Transcripts** (official copies are required for the official application, but not for the internal review).
- (5) The names and contacts of your **six possible referees**. Letters are not required for the Pre-application package but will be required should you be endorsed for the regional competition. Please include name and affiliation (ex. Dr. Isabella Ng, Associate Professor Schulich School of Engineering)

The application should be submitted as ONE document in the order outlined above (CV, Personal Statement, Academic Statement of Study, Transcript, Names of Referees). Please do not include a title page.

The application should be sent to sap@ucalgary.ca with the subject line: “Rhodes Scholarship Application.” The deadline is August 14, 2022.

Steps for successful internal applicants

The Internal Rhodes Review Committee will shortlist students. If you are selected, in addition to the items above, you will also be required to include a head shot, birth certificate / passport (evidence of age) and an Institutional Endorsement from the University President. An access code will also be provided once your pre-application Package is approved by the Internal Rhodes Review Committee. You will then also be ready to contact your referees. Information on submitting a reference letter for the Rhodes Scholarship can be found [here](#).

Have questions?

We can help you! Please reach out to the Scholars Academy Office, Dr. Jessica Cohen, cohenj@ucalgary.ca for questions on the UCalgary Rhodes Process, including personal statements, CVs, courses of study, etc.