

# **Rhodes Scholarship Information Session**

**WELCOME!**



Tuesday, March 25, 2025

# What we will do in today's info session...

- Introductions
- Overview of the Rhodes Scholarships
- The Eligibility Criteria
- The Selection Criteria
- The Application Timeline and Process
- Q&A

# Overview of the Rhodes Scholarships



# What are the Rhodes Scholarships?

- Prestigious **postgraduate awards** for study at the **University of Oxford**, UK
- Support **outstanding all-round students**.
- Open to undergraduate and graduate students in **all faculties**.
- Rhodes scholars can choose their own course of study in **any of the 39 colleges** at the University of Oxford.



# What does the scholarship cover?



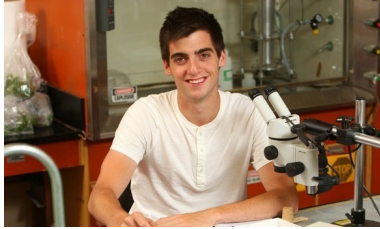
Image Source: [ox.ac.uk](http://ox.ac.uk)

- All university and college fees.
- University application fee.
- A personal stipend.
- One economy class airfare to Oxford (at the start) and from Oxford (upon completion).
- International health charge.

# What is the duration of the scholarship?

- The 2025 Rhodes application process is for admission to Oxford in **September 2026**.
- **Normal** duration of scholarship is for **2 years**.
- **Exception**: Can be held for one year depending upon the program of study.
- **Extension**: Can be renewed to a third and final year for pursuing doctoral studies.

# ***Dalhousie is looking for its 94<sup>th</sup> Rhodes Scholar!***



Paul Manning, 2013 (Agriculture)



Michael Mackley, 2014 (Science)



Isabelle Roach, 2020 (Science – King's College)



Ashely Jackson, 2022 (Medical Sciences)



Brittany Graham, 2015 (Science)



Sarah Burns, 2016 (Science – King's College)



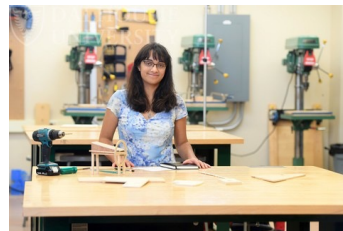
Sierra Sparks, 2021 (Engineering)



Diana Adamo, 2024 (Medical Sciences)



Maike van Niekerk, 2017 (Health)



Nayani Jensen, 2018 (Engineering)

***Recent Rhodes Scholarship  
Recipients from Dalhousie and  
King's College***

# The Eligibility Criteria





# Eligibility – Rhodes Canada Scholarship

- Be a **Canadian Citizen** or a **permanent resident** in Canada
- Be **domiciled** in Canada
- Must meet either of the criteria below upon 1 October 2025:
  - ▶ Be at least 18 and have not reached your 24th birthday (must have been born after **October 1, 2001**, and before **October 2, 2007**)

**OR (for older candidates who completed their first undergraduate degree later than usual)**

- ▶ Not reached your 27th birthday (must have been born after **October 1, 1998**) AND your first undergraduate degree must have or will be awarded on or after October 1, 2024
- Have completed/will have completed by **June/July 2026, an undergraduate degree** from a college or university (normally a Bachelor's degree) to a sufficiently high standard (e.g., First Class Honours or Distinction).

# Which Rhodes Scholarship?

- Jurisdictional
- Multi-jurisdictional
- Inter-jurisdictional
- Global

# Which Rhodes Scholarship?

Jurisdictional – “I meet the eligibility criteria for one Rhodes Constituency only” (e.g., domiciled in Canada)

Example:

Amira is a Canadian citizen, was born and raised in Toronto, and is completing her undergraduate degree at Dalhousie.

She is domiciled in Canada and does not hold any other nationality or strong ties elsewhere.

She applies under the Canada Rhodes constituency.

# Which Rhodes Scholarship?

Multi-jurisdictional – “I meet the eligibility criteria for more than one constituency” → need to choose one

Example: David holds dual citizenship (Canada and South Africa).

He was born in Johannesburg but has lived in Vancouver since high school and is now completing his undergrad degree at Dalhousie.

He is eligible for both the Canada and Southern Africa constituencies but must pick one to apply through.

# Which Rhodes Scholarship?

- Inter-jurisdictional – “I do not meet the eligibility criteria, but I have sustained and verifiable connection to two or more constituencies” → apply for this.

Example:

Shyam was born in India, spent several years of his childhood and completed high school in Qatar, and is completing undergrad at Dal.

However, he does not meet the full eligibility rules for any one country (e.g., citizenship or degree not aligned with residency).

He may apply inter-jurisdictionally by demonstrating his long-term ties to multiple constituencies.

# Which Rhodes Scholarship?

- Global - for international students not eligible to apply in any constituency

Example:

Lina is a citizen of Chile, but Chile does not currently have a dedicated Rhodes constituency. She is completing her undergraduate degree in Canada.

She applies through the Global Scholarship, which exists to accommodate international candidates like her who are otherwise ineligible elsewhere.

# Jurisdictional Rhodes Scholarships

For others (inter-, multi-, and global) please check with Linda (Rhodes@dal.ca)

# Which province to apply?

- You can apply in either the province where you attend university or in your province of residence.
- Must be endorsed through a university.
- Allotment of scholarships in Canada:
  - Two to Maritimes (NS, NB, PEI)
  - Two to Ontario
  - Two to Quebec
  - Three to Prairies (Alberta, Manitoba, Saskatchewan)
  - One to Newfoundland and Labrador
  - One to BC



# The Selection Criteria



# Broad selection criteria (from the Rhodes Trust ...)

Academic excellence

Energy to use your talents to the full (as demonstrated by mastery in areas such as sports, music, debate, dance, theatre, and artistic pursuits, including where teamwork is involved)

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 your fellow human beings.

# In a nutshell...

1. **Academic Excellence**
2. **Achievement in Arts, Athletics and/or other high impact activity**
3. **Volunteering, Community Service and Leadership**

**Outstanding all-rounders!**

# The Application Timeline and Process



# Rhodes Scholarship Applications 2025: Timeline



- Your application is due at Dalhousie.
- **Send your application to [Rhodes@dal.ca](mailto:Rhodes@dal.ca)**
- Dalhousie committee reviews applications; short lists candidates.
- Short listed candidates are interviewed by Dalhousie committee.
- Selected Dalhousie candidates to go forward to the Regional competition are notified.
- External application submitted online to Regional competition.

# Rhodes Scholarship Applications 2025: Timeline



Oct.

- Letters from your referees are due.



Oct.

- Regional committee reviews applications;
- Short listed candidates at regional level are notified.



Nov.

- **Regional competition: Social engagement and interview**



Nov.

- Rhodes scholars announced.

# What you need to submit to Dalhousie

- Two-page CV
- Personal statement
- Academic Statement
- Unofficial transcripts from all universities attended.

# The two-page CV

- Academic qualifications.
- Prizes, scholarships and awards received.
- Positions of leadership held.
- Employment positions.
- Athletic, arts and/or other achievements.
- Leadership, community, volunteering, and other activities.



# The personal statement: Your story in your words

- **Essay style statement** not exceeding 1000 words.
- “Should be wholly accurate and a fair representation of your story, written in **your own words** and from your own perspective”.
- Build a narrative when you answer three prompt questions.

▪

# The personal statement: Your story in your words

## From the Rhodes website:

The personal statement is your chance to tell your story in your own voice: Who are you?

Address each of the following prompts by weaving them into your statement (the word allocation across the three is up to you):

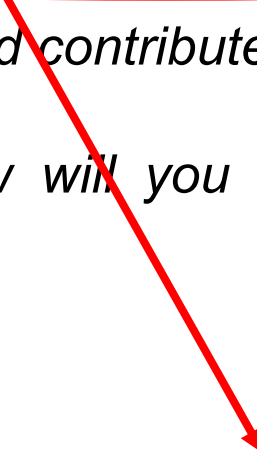
- 1. Which Rhodes Scholar quality do you display most strongly, and how are different contexts and people helping you to develop the other qualities?*
- 2. What would you like to learn from and contribute to the Rhodes community in Oxford?*
- 3. From your place in the world, how will you use your energy and talents to address humanity's pressing challenges?*

Every statement is individual; there is no single, “right” model. For over 120 years personal statements have been diverse and ever-changing. Selectors are looking for an original portrait of you as a candidate for the Rhodes Scholarship.

# The personal statement: Your story in your words

From the Rhodes website:

1. *Which Rhodes Scholar quality do you display most strongly, and how are different contexts and people helping you to develop the other qualities?*
2. *What would you like to learn from and contribute to the Rhodes community in Oxford?*
3. *From your place in the world, how will you use your energy and talents to address humanity's pressing challenges?*

- 
1. Energy to use one's talents to the full
  2. Truth, courage, devotion to duty, sympathy for and protection of the weak, kindness, unselfishness and fellowship
  3. Moral force of character and instincts to lead, and to take an interest in one's fellow human beings

# Academic Statement of Study

**Factual and concise statement not exceeding 350 words, addressing the following:**

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

# Letters of Reference

- Six referees.
- At least three must be academic referees → must speak to your academic achievements.
- Two or more referees must speak to your character and/or your involvement in extracurricular/service or leadership activities.
- Provide a list of referees in your applications.
- Referees must upload their letters in October (please check the Rhodes website for the exact date).

# Sources and References

- <https://www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/scholarships/apply/global/canada/>
- <https://www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/scholarships/constituency-information/>
- <https://www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/scholarships/application-overview/>
- <https://www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/scholarships/applications/canada/>