

REGENT PARK

SCHOLARSHIP

2024-25



TRIDEL®

Toronto
Community
Housing





OVERVIEW

Regent Park is a 69-acre housing complex in the downtown east area of Toronto, bordered by River Street (east), Shuter Street (south), Gerrard Street (north), and Parliament Street (west). One of the largest urban revitalizations of its kind, the Regent Park revitalization is a five-phase redevelopment project that is transforming the community into a mixed income, mixed-use neighbourhood.

As part of our community benefits investments, we heard from over a thousand Regent Park residents through the community benefits survey that one of your key priorities is funding for scholarships. This year TCHC and Tridel are excited to launch a dedicated Regent Park scholarship program to help people advance their education goals. In our inaugural season, we are proud to allocate \$50,000 towards empowering deserving residents. 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.

For this first pilot year, we are excited to unveil the following streamlined pathway under the Regent Park Scholarship Program 2024-25:

* Post-secondary degree





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

TCHC recognizes that the impacts of anti-Black racism have created negative outcomes for Black communities in Toronto, including underrepresentation in decision-making and access to social and economic opportunities. Through our Confronting Anti-Black Racism Strategy, we are committed to providing meaningful economic opportunities, such as creating and prioritizing access to scholarship opportunities that Black-identifying tenants can participate in and attain.

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

- 1 - Current or relocated (due to ongoing revitalization) Toronto Community Housing (TCHC) tenant of the Regent Park community.
- 2 - 17 years old and up.
- 3 - Tenant in good standing with respect to rent payments.
- 4 - 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.
- 5 - Able to demonstrate a need for financial assistance.
- 6 - 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

Community involvement is meaningful, consistent participation in activities that support and improve people's well-being. A community may be geographic (building or neighborhood) or based on shared experiences and interests (e.g. a faith, social or school group you are involved with) or an identity group (e.g. race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation).

When you take initiative, support and work with others in your community you are involved in your community and taking a leadership role. The Regent Park Scholarship Program welcomes applications from all and prioritizes applications from Black-identifying tenants who display leadership and involvement in their community.

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" recently immigrated to Canada from Jamaica. 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 a live event to share affordable recipes and tips, as well as a club at the local library where neighbors get together 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.

"E" identifies as Black and is of Caribbean descent. He is actively involved as a volunteer with a sport and recreation program in Regent Park for Black youth and reaches out to the other youth in his community to participate.

APPLICATION TIMELINE

Application opens:

- **In Person (hard copy pick up) – Thursday, May 23, 2024, at 10 a.m.**
You can pick up the physical application package from our office at 530 Dundas Street East on Mondays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **Electronic (fillable PDF) – Thursday, May 23, 2024, at 10 a.m.**
You can find the application in this package on pages 5 to 15.

Application closes:

- **In Person (drop off) – Monday, June 24, 2024, at 4 p.m.**
Please drop off the physical application package at our office at 530 Dundas Street East on Mondays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **Electronic (fillable PDF) - Monday, June 24, 2024, at 4 p.m.**
Please send your online application to: talkregentpark@torontohousing.ca

DIVERSITY

To ensure that the committee selects a diverse group of scholarship recipients, choose from one of three categories below that best reflect your current educational situation:

First year postsecondary student (starting September 2024)

Currently enrolled in a postsecondary institution

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

EVALUATION PROCESS

The Regent Park Scholarship Program prioritizes community leadership and engagement, academic 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 : Male Female Other **Date of Birth :**
D D M M Y Y Y Y
Address : **Unit :**
City : **Province :**
Postal Code : **Phone Number :**
E-Mail :

Which of the following best describes your racial 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, address, phone number and email address of employment support or resource counsellor (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:

 Signature **Date :**
D D M M Y Y Y Y



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 with a school or employment resource counselor.

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

Please list any education or training programs you have completed to date.

I.e. Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD), 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 Regent Park community. Include frequency/length of your community involvement and description of your leadership. Please highlight any barriers that may have prevented you from attaining post-secondary education. Explain how you overcame (or are currently overcoming) these challenges.

A large, empty light blue rectangular area intended for the applicant to write their personal statement.



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., investments)

\$

Family Contributions

\$

Other (please specify):

\$

TOTAL INCOME

\$

B - ESTIMATED LIVING EXPENSES

\$

Rent

\$

Groceries

\$

Other (please specify):

\$

TOTAL LIVING EXPENSES

\$

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

D - SUMMARY OF INCOME & EXPENSES

\$	\$	\$
TOTAL INCOME	(MINUS) TOTAL LIVING EXPENSES	(MINUS) TOTAL EDUCATION EXPENSES
ESTIMATED BALANCE		
\$		



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

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



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 Regent Park Scholarship program will support you.

Empty text area for the financial statement response.



8 - BIOGRAPHY

Please provide a biography (150 to 300 words). This could 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?*
- *What is your community's name and how long have you lived there?*
- *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):*

Large empty light blue rectangular area for writing the biography.

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)
- Financial statement (page 12)
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)
- 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 Regent Park.
- I accept that scholarship decisions made by the Regent Park 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
- I understand that requests for scholarship deferrals will not be granted and that scholarships must be claimed no later than January 31, 2025.

Yes **No**

- I agree to the public release of my name, biography and photograph should I be awarded a scholarship.

Date :

DD

MM

YYYY

Signature of Applicant

**12 - SUBMISSION****DEADLINE**

The deadline to submit your application:

- IN PERSON / HARD COPY: **Monday, June 24, 2024, at 4 p.m.**
- ELECTRONIC / FILLABLE PDF: **Monday, June 24, 2024, at 4 p.m.**

ELECTRONIC / FILLABLE PDF SUBMISSION

Please follow instructions below for submitting completed applications online.

1. Create a Folder - Save each document (i.e., application, transcription, reference, etc.) in one file folder. If you don't know how to create a new folder, please visit this web page: <https://support.office.com/en-us/article/Create-a-new-folder-cbbfb6f5-59dd-4e5d-95f6-a12577952e17>
2. Name Folder - Please include your last name in the folder name (e.g. Lastname-RP Scholarship.doc). Keep the file name simple; do not make the file name too long.
3. Zip File - Your application will include multiple documents. Please compress multiple files into one .zip file to upload. If you don't know how to compress multiple files into a single .zip file, please visit this web page: <http://windows.microsoft.com/en-ca/windows/compress-uncompress-files-zip-files#1TC=windows-7>
4. Please email completed applications to: talkregentpark@torontohousing.ca
Attention: Regent Park Scholarship 2024-2025 Selection Committee.

If you have any questions about the scholarship program, application process or how to submit your completed application:

talkregentpark@torontohousing.ca or call Esha Kidwai at 437-231-7874

12 - SUBMISSION

IN PERSON / HARD COPY SUBMISSION

Once completed and signed, put into the provided envelope with “Full Name” RP Scholarships 2024-2025 on the front and drop off at our office located at **530 Dundas St. East** between May 23 and June 24 on the following days:

- Mondays - From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Thursdays - From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Supporting documents including Resume, reference letter(s), and optional documents must be copied and included.

Just a reminder that the application package will be available from Thursday, May 23, 2024, at 10 a.m. to be picked up at the 530 Dundas St. East office.

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 Regent Park Scholarship 2024-2025 and general administrative purposes. If you have any questions about the collection of this information, please contact:

William Mendes

William.Mendes@torontohousing.ca

416-678-3439

APPLICATION SUPPORT

ONLINE INFO SESSION

Applicants can attend our online information session for more information regarding the scholarship and application process on:

Wednesday, June 5, 2024 from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

MEETING DETAILS

PLATFORM: ZOOM

TOPIC: REGENT PARK SCHOLARSHIP 2024/2025

TIME: 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. - Eastern Time (US and Canada)

MEETING ID: 851 7635 2317

PASSCODE: RPS2425

LINK: <https://us05web.zoom.us/j/85176352317?pwd=0FsCN88KcEjXhfoIHsZw9JubyAeD20.1>

IN-PERSON INFO SESSION (2 SESSIONS)

Two in person information sessions will be available on:

Thursday, June 13, 2024

LOCATION: 150 River Street - Recreation Room (Ground Floor)

TIME: Session 1 - 12 to 1:30 p.m.

Session 2 - 4:30 to 6 p.m.

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 info: talkregentpark@torontohousing.ca or call Esha Kidwai at 437-231-7874