

2026

Investing in Our Diversity Scholarships



Toronto
Community
Housing



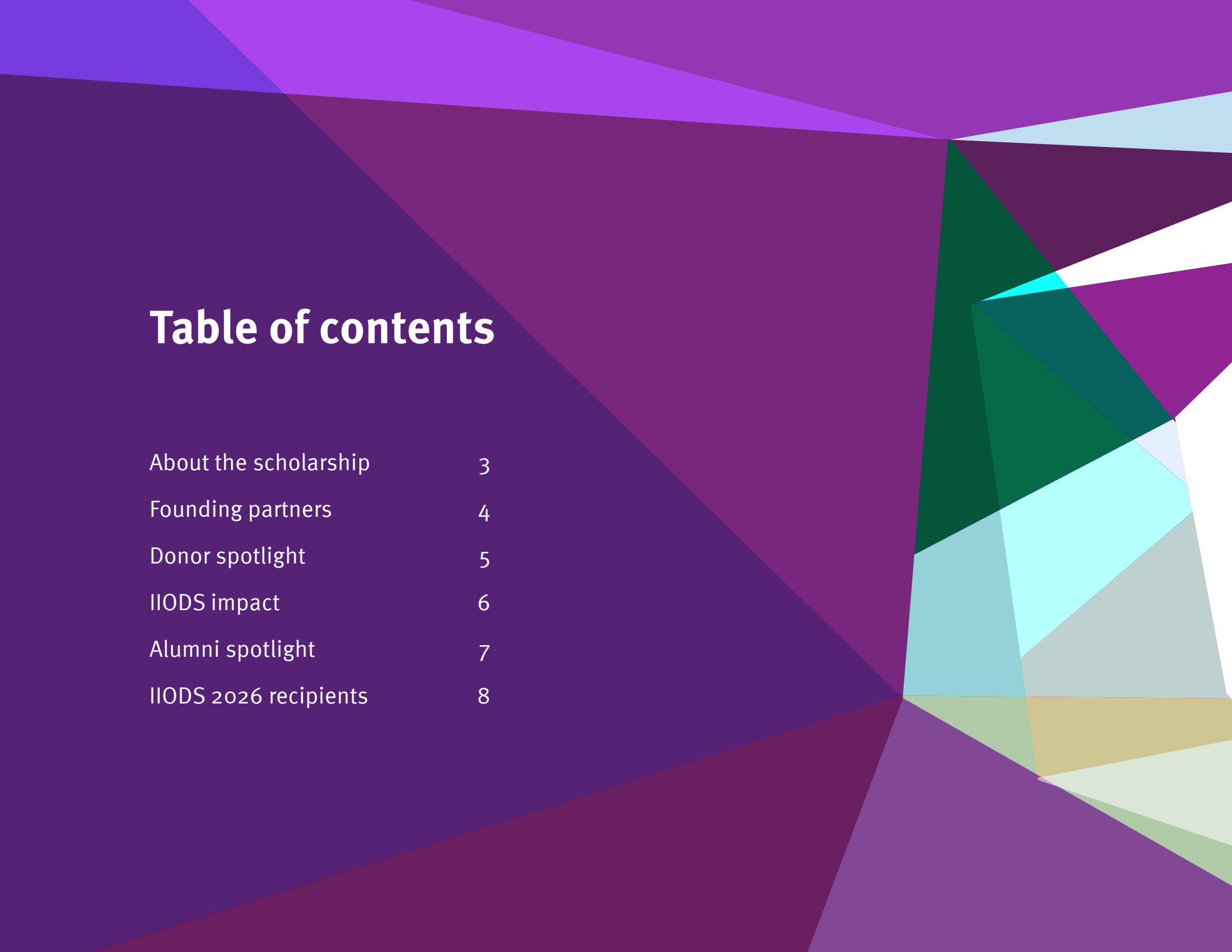


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About the scholarship

The Investing in Our Diversity Scholarships (IIDS) are awarded each year to Toronto youth based on academic excellence, financial eligibility and volunteer involvement in community leadership, anti-racism or diversity initiatives. The scholarships promote youth empowerment, diversity and community safety in Toronto.

Students receive up to \$4,000 to pursue post-secondary studies or professional training.

Founding partners and donors

The Investing in Our Diversity Scholarship Program was founded in 2001 by the late Bill McMurtry, Founding Partner, Blaney McMurtry LLP, and Kevin Lee, former Executive Director of Scadding Court Community Centre. Toronto Community Housing became a partner in 2006.



Blaney McMurtry LLP

Founded and based in the heart of Toronto's financial district, we are one of Canada's premier law firms. Our down-to-earth lawyers are passionate about our clients' needs and goals. It is in our DNA to deliver efficient, practical legal services to support our clients' businesses in a proactive way. For over 70 years, we at Blaney McMurtry are who we've always been. A Bay Street firm with personality but without the trappings or the ego. An excellent, entrepreneurial, sincere firm populated by creative individuals who think out of the box.

- Blaney McMurtry Diversity Scholarship
- William R. McMurtry Anti-Racism Scholarship



Scadding Court Community Centre

Founded in 1975, Scadding Court Community Centre (SCCC) is a multi-service, community-based organization with programs and services geared toward under-served, culturally and racially diverse groups including low-income women, children and families, at-risk youth, people with developmental and/or physical disabilities, and seniors. SCCC aims to create a community in which every individual and group has the capacity to achieve their full potential.

- Kevin Lee Anti-Racism Scholarship
- Scadding Court Diversity Scholarship

Thank you to our donors

Atura Power

- The Altura Power Skilled Trades Scholarship



- BOLT Foundation Diversity Scholarships

Ed and Fran Clark

- Clark TCHC Diversity Scholarships

Anne Fleming

- Everett Fleming Diversity Scholarship
- Frederica Fleming Diversity Scholarship
- Robert Fleming Diversity Scholarship



- Harry A. Newman Memorial Foundation Diversity Scholarships

Robb MacDonald

- Robb MacDonald Criminal Law Office Scholarship

**Emily Naddaf,
Joshua Lerner
& Friends**

- The Chrismukkah Community Award



- Sinai Health Diversity Scholarships



- Yardi Canada Diversity Scholarships

**Wealthsimple
Foundation**

- The Tyler Hamilton Wealthsimple Foundation Award
- The Prince Narcisco Wealthsimple Foundation Award
- The Narges Afzal Wealthsimple Foundation Award

ILODS impact

38 scholarship recipients in 2026

807 students have benefited from the program to date.

We average over **150 applicants** every year

Recipients will attend **15 different colleges** or **universities** across the country.

Total dollars donated to date:
\$1.87 million

40+ donors over the years

Areas of study:

Aerospace engineering
Architectural studies
Biomedical science
Biotechnology
Business law
Business management
Business technology management
Commerce

Creative writing
Doctor of Pharmacy
Education
Engineering
Health and society
Legal studies
Mechanical engineering
Nursing
Police foundations

Psychology
Public health
Science
Social work
Social service work
Sociology
Urban and regional planning

Alumni spotlight

Where are they now?



“The IIOD Scholarship took some of the financial burden of post-secondary education off of me which allowed me to focus on school and not work during my study time. My program was very demanding so this was really essential for me. I’m now an actor, writer, and director! My first short film, *Fourteen*, just got selected for a festival in LA.”



“The IIOD Scholarship had a significant impact on my educational and professional journey in nursing. Since beginning my Bachelor of Nursing degree in 2016, I have remained committed to advancing my knowledge and skills despite the financial and personal challenges that can accompany post-secondary education. The support provided through this scholarship helped alleviate financial pressures, allowing me to focus more fully on my studies and clinical experiences, particularly while completing my nursing education during the COVID-19 pandemic. After graduating in 2021, I began my career as a trauma nurse and have since progressed into leadership and educational roles as a team leader, consultant, and now nurse educator. These opportunities have strengthened my passion for lifelong learning and leadership in healthcare.”



“When I applied for IIODS, I was planning to return to school to pursue a degree in Global Health from York University. I was also applying to several nursing jobs. I had just graduated from York University with a degree in nursing at such a tumultuous time globally. The scholarship meant a lot to me at the time because it gave me additional dollars to support myself while in school. Beyond material needs, I believe the scholarship was the gift that kept on giving. With so little accomplishment to my name at the time, receiving a prestigious award that was created to recognize and reward young people who have shown leadership in diversity and anti-racism initiatives was very helpful. It boosted my CV and signalled to other award-grantors that I am driven and highly capable. Today, I am a doctoral candidate in the Health Policy PhD program at McMaster University. I also work as a Nursing and Health Policy Analyst for the Canadian Nurses Association.”

Anne Fleming Diversity Scholarships

Anne Fleming

Everett Fleming
Diversity Scholarship

Winter Baker

George Brown Polytechnic,
Social Services Worker



Robert Fleming
Diversity Scholarship

Tracy Ikpekhia

Ontario College of Art &
Design University,
Creative Writing



Frederica Fleming
Diversity Scholarship

Fadima Hussein

York University,
Biotechnology



The Atura Power Skilled Trades Scholarship

Atura Power

Mariam Rfifi

University of Toronto,
Bachelor of Mechanical
Engineering



Blaney McMurtry Diversity Scholarships

Blaney McMurtry LLP

Blaney McMurtry
Diversity Scholarship

Angela Atrero

Toronto Metropolitan
University, Urban and
Regional Planning



William R. McMurtry
Anti-Racism Scholarship

**Kishia Jill Daives
Calopez**

Toronto Metropolitan
University, Business
Management



BOLT Foundation Diversity Scholarships

BOLT Foundation

**Fadumo Mahad
Abokor**

University of Toronto,
Architectural Studies



**Joshua Stephen
Budisa**

McMaster University,
Ph.D., Mechanical
Engineering



Purity Chima

Western University,
Bachelor of Engineering



Clark TCHC Diversity Scholarships

Ed and Fran Clark

Anas Lachabi

Toronto Metropolitan
University, Aerospace
Engineering



Farhiya Mohamed

York University, Honours
Biomedical Science



Bochra Mekoui

Toronto Metropolitan
University, Social Work



**Halimat
Omowonuola
Makinde**

Queen's University,
Psychology



**Darius Marvin
Antonio Rojas**

Western University,
Psychology



Ibrahim Yussuf

Queen's University,
Nursing



Clark TCHC Diversity Scholarships

Ed and Fran Clark

**LaToya Tasheka
Thompson**

Humber College, Social
Service Work



**Rayhan Osana
Osazin**

York University,
Bachelor of Education
/ Biomedical Science
(Concurrent)



The Chrismukkah Community Award

Emily Naddaf, Joshua Lerner & Friends

Shania Francis

Ontario Tech University,
Legal Studies



Robb MacDonald Criminal Law Office Scholarship

Robb MacDonald

Deshawn Jay James

Carleton University,
Business Law



Scadding Court Community Centre Scholarships

Scadding Court Community Centre

Kevin Lee Anti-Racism
Scholarship

**Alishba Ahmed
Zafar**

Toronto Metropolitan
University, Bachelor of
Social Work



Scadding Court
Diversity Scholarship

**Alwyn Tebogo
Mabe**

Toronto Metropolitan
University, Engineering



Sinai Health Diversity Scholarships

Sinai Health

Asiya Yasin Ahmed

University of Waterloo,
Doctor of Pharmacy



Ikran Ismail Yusuf

University of Toronto,
Master of Public Health -
Nutrition and Dietetics



Asmaa Ahmed

Toronto Metropolitan
University, Bachelor of
Nursing



**Karyssa Daina
Blake**

McMaster University,
Health and Society



Ifrah Ali Ismail

University of Toronto,
Master of Public Health



Tahmidur Rahman

Toronto Metropolitan
University, Biomedical
Science



Harry A. Newman Memorial Foundation Diversity Scholarships

Toronto Central Lions Club

**Jayden Noel
Higgins**

Centennial College,
Police Foundations



**Tyniah Azariah
Janelle Blake**

George Brown
Polytechnic, Social
Service Worker



Wealthsimple Foundation Scholarships

Wealthsimple Foundation

The Narges Afzal Wealthsimple
Foundation Award

Jenessa Gina Katounas

Queen's University,
Concurrent: Education /
Bachelor of Arts
(Psychology)



The Prince Narcisco
Wealthsimple
Foundation Award

Samatar Abdi

York University,
Bachelor of Education



The Tyler Hamilton
Wealthsimple Foundation
Award

Fatima Hashim

Toronto Metropolitan
University, Sociology



Yardi Canada Diversity Scholarships

Yardi Canada

Ahmed Mohamed Hassan

University of British Columbia, Bachelor of Science



Harris Isam Ali

Seneca College, Business Technology Management



Dwayna Doush Dixon

York University, Concurrent Bachelor of Education



Helena Mehader

McMaster University, Engineering

Elijah Pope-Wade

Toronto Metropolitan University, Bachelor of Commerce (Honours)



Jayden Josiah Musinguzi

Toronto Metropolitan University, Business Management



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