

Master scholarship opportunities through
GLOBAL PATHWAYS
FOR GIRLS (GPG)

Initiative under EAGT Empower Afghan Girls Together



Mentor's Name: Riya Sirkhell

Position: Educational mentor at EAGT
Empower Afghan Girls Together under
Abaad: Afghan Women Forward

Country: Canada

Presented by: Abaad: Afghan Women Forward

Canada

Introduction:

Canada, with a population of about 38 million, is a diverse country known for its high standard of living. It is the second-largest country in the world by land area and has two official languages, English and French. Major urban centers include Toronto, Vancouver, and Montreal, which are home to large, multicultural populations. Canada is known for its cultural diversity and inclusive society, with over 200 ethnic origins represented.

The economy is highly developed, driven by industries such as natural resources, manufacturing, technology, and services, with strong trade ties, particularly with the United States. Canada's education system is considered one of the best globally, with a focus on academic excellence and inclusivity.

General Note on Applying for Masters'/Graduate Program in Canada

- 
- Highly competitive and merit based due to their advanced nature, designed to give students rigorous training
 - Along with good academic background, they look at the candidate's skills and experiences professionally as well
 - General requirements for applying to any Master's programs in Canada: IELTS/TOEFL Exam, statement of purpose, 2-4 letters of academic references, and updated resume/CV
 - Your scholarship application will be above and beyond this application – demonstrating strong financial need, merit-based skills such as leadership, community engagement, exceptional academic records, additional references, etc.
-
- **Graduate Dean's Entrance Scholarship, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC** Located in the West Coast of Canada, in Vancouver. Well known university with affordable tuition fees, with research opportunities available to students to support living expenses. Transportation is good with bus services to and from campus to the city. SFU campus itself is very large and has affordable student housing
 - **McCall MacBain Scholarships, McGill University, Montreal, Quebec:** Montreal is a vibrant, bilingual city with majority of the population with French as their first language. Getting around is easy with Montreal's extensive public transport system, including metro, buses. At McGill University, graduate students have access to various on-campus job opportunities that can help with both funding and professional development. The weather, especially in winter, as it can get quite cold. Learning some French will be an asset
 - **The Aga Khan Foundation's International Scholarship Programme:** Need and meritbased scholarship program structured as half grant and half loan

1. Scholarship Name: Graduate Dean's Entrance Scholarship

Name of Hosting Institution: Simon Fraser University

Scholarship details:

This award is intended to recruit outstanding admission applicants to master's and PhD programs by offering a multi-year award. Award value depends on academic unit approval and budgetary restrictions. Not all departments offer this award.

Value and duration: students must be registered full time, regular (not 'on leave') to receive payment:

- Valued between \$1,000 - \$8,000 (annual max per year is 24k)
- Held for a maximum of 2 (master's) or 4 (PhD) years.

Eligibility Criteria:

The candidate must:

- Be entering as a full-time graduate student in a master's or PhD program.
- Have a minimum CGPA of 3.00 (75%)
- In programs where fees are assessed on a per-credit basis, the successful candidate must be taking at least six credits to be eligible to hold the award.
- TOEFL/IELTS requirement

Application Requirements:

Students do not apply; they are nominated for this award. Awards are made by the Senate Graduate Awards Adjudication Committee (SGAAC) on the recommendation of the Academic Unit's Graduate Program Chair or Awards Committee.

Deadlines: N/A

Starting date: N/A

Ending date: N/A

Website/Contact Information:

University website: <https://www.sfu.ca/gradstudies.html>

Scholarship announcement link:
https://www.sfu.ca/content/dam/sfu/gradstudies/awardfunding/internal-donor/GDES_Guidelines.pdf

Tips for Success:

- Check out the list of eligible Master's programs here: <https://www.sfu.ca/gradstudies/awards-funding/internal-donor-funded.html>.
Choose a program that is eligible for the Graduate Dean's Entrance Scholarship
- Email gradawards@sfu.ca to confirm the deadline for your Master's program application and confirm if students in the program is eligible to receive the Graduate Dean's Entrance Scholarship
- Find specific graduate degree awards on this website: <https://gradawards.sfu.ca/>

2. Scholarship Name: The Aga Khan Foundation's International Scholarship Programme

Name of Hosting Institution: Aga Khan Foundation

Scholarship details:

The Aga Khan Foundation's International Scholarship Programme (AKF ISP) is a merit-based scholarship for outstanding scholars from selected countries, including Afghanistan, to those who have no other means of financing their studies, to pursue postgraduate education. Award recipients are selected through a global, annual, and competitive application process. The AKF ISP offers a limited number of new awards in each cycle.

AKF ISP awards are structured as half grant and half loan – where you need to repay 50 percent of the award amount. A guarantor is required to sign the loan agreement. Scholarships for Master's studies are granted for the entire duration of the degree course. The award covers tuition expenses and student living expenses.

Eligibility Criteria:

- A guarantor (such as a family member) is required to sign the loan agreement
- Have excellent academic records;
- Hold a bachelor's degree or equivalent training/professional experience;
- Demonstrate genuine financial need
- Be admitted to a reputable postgraduate institution
- Be starting the first year of the programme
- Have strong leadership potential, professional experience, extracurricular and/or entrepreneurial achievements, and volunteer contributions

Application Requirements:

- Demonstrate a thoughtful, reliable, multi-source funding plan that covers all years of study
 - Admission into a reputed university

Deadlines:

Starting date: Jan 4, 2025

Ending date: March 31, 2025

Application Process Date: from 04/01/2025 to 31/03 /2025 (follows similar cycles early)

Website/Contact Information: <https://the.akdn/en/what-we-do/developing-humancapacity/education/international-scholarships>

Tips for Success:

- AKF ISP gives priority to Master's programmes but will also consider applications for PhD studies.
- Check out the list of additional scholarships listed on their website, and apply for multiple awards/scholarships to show multiple sources of funding in your plan

3. Scholarship Name: McCall MacBain Scholarship

Name of Hosting Institution: McGill University

Scholarship details:

The McCall MacBain Scholarships at McGill are Canada's first comprehensive, leadership-driven scholarships for master's and professional degree studies. The scholarship program brings together a diverse group of scholars who aspire to *lead with purpose* – those who have demonstrated leadership potential and an inner drive to make a positive impact in other peoples' lives. 30 full scholarships and 100 entrance awards will be offered to the top candidates.

The scholarship covers:

- [Tuition and fees](#) for the full normal duration of the master's or professional program
- A living stipend of \$2,300 per month during academic terms
- A one-time relocation grant for moving to Montréal
- Beginner to advanced French language courses offered through McGill

Scholars not pursuing an academic term during the summer may apply for up to \$5,000 to pursue meaningful summer initiatives.

Eligibility Criteria:

- You are a current student on track to earn your first bachelor's degree by August 2026
- You earned your first bachelor's degree in the last five years (January 2020 or later)
- You earned your first bachelor's degree more than five years ago, and were 30 years or younger on January 1st, 2025
- You will also need to meet the minimum degree and language requirements (IELTS/TOEFL) for McGill master's program admission.

Application Requirements:

- Choose Master's program and complete application with required information: <https://mccallmacbainscholars.org/program/#degrees>
- Complete the scholarship application: <https://mccallmacbainscholars.org/resources/>
 - Two rounds of interviews after selection **Deadlines:**

Starting date: June 2025

Ending date: August 20, 2025

Application Process Date: from 01/06/2025 to 20/08/2025

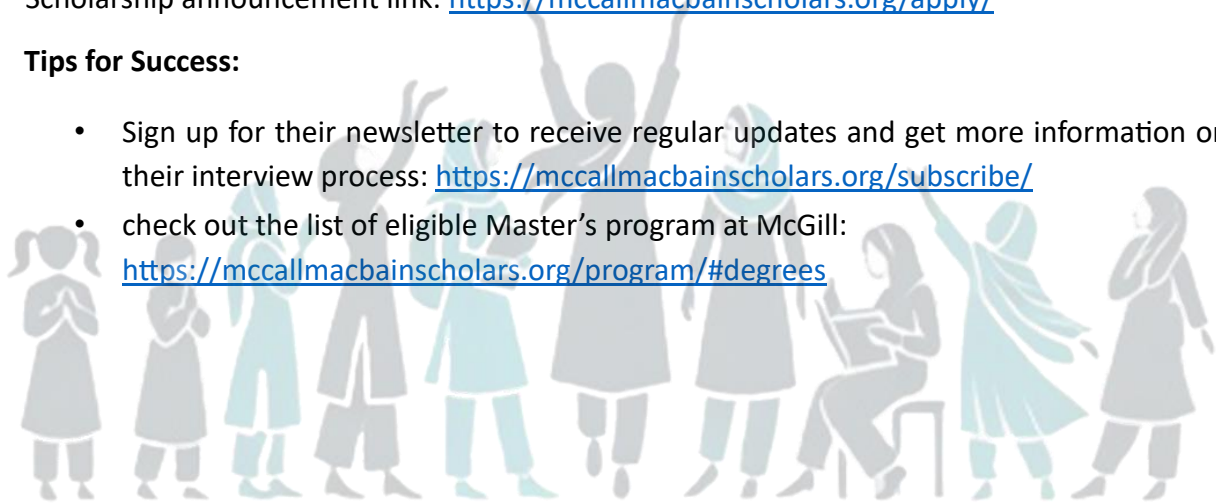
Website/Contact Information:

University website: <https://www.mcgill.ca/gradapplicants/programs>

Scholarship announcement link: <https://mccallmacbainscholars.org/apply/>

Tips for Success:

- Sign up for their newsletter to receive regular updates and get more information on their interview process: <https://mccallmacbainscholars.org/subscribe/>
- check out the list of eligible Master's program at McGill: <https://mccallmacbainscholars.org/program/#degrees>



CONNECT WITH US



www.abadafghanistan.org



admin@abadafghanistan.org



Abaad: Afghan Women Forward



[abaa_afghanwomenforward](https://www.instagram.com/abaa_afghanwomenforward)



[AbaadAfghanWomenForward](https://www.youtube.com/AbaadAfghanWomenForward)

