

Call for Applications for Queen Elizabeth Scholarships – Incoming Scholars

The McMaster Health Forum offers graduate students from Commonwealth countries (other than Canada) and non-Commonwealth low- and middle-income countries the chance to benefit from remarkable training, mentoring and networking opportunities. The Forum is an inter-faculty initiative that strives to be a leading hub for improving health outcomes through collective problem solving. Operating at the regional/provincial level and at national levels, we harness information, convene stakeholders and prepare action-oriented leaders to meet pressing health issues creatively. The Forum acts as an agent of change by empowering stakeholders to set agendas, take well-considered actions and communicate the rationale for actions effectively.

As part of our commitment to prepare action-oriented leaders in addressing pressing health challenges creatively, we are proud to have been selected as one of 20 Canadian institutions to be a host site for the Canadian Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Scholarship programs which will run from 2018 to 2021 inclusive (**now extended to the end of 2023**). Through this program, McMaster University will participate in activating a dynamic community of young global leaders across the world to create lasting impacts on health and social systems both at home and abroad through cross-cultural exchanges encompassing international education, discovery and inquiry, and professional experiences.

About the Queen Elizabeth Scholarship for incoming scholars

The Queen Elizabeth Scholars will be students from Commonwealth countries (other than Canada) or non-Commonwealth low- and middle-income countries pursuing a graduate degree at McMaster or, under exceptional circumstances, spending part of their education or field work at McMaster while pursuing a graduate degree elsewhere. Scholars will become part of our large and growing network of health- and social-system leaders.

Queen Elizabeth Scholars will:

- participate actively in all training, mentoring and networking opportunities, either face-to-face or online, as well as in all evaluations of such opportunities, during their period as a Queen Elizabeth Scholar;
- provide appropriate receipts for all travel-related financial support requested from the program;
- adhere to all reporting requirements, which includes tracking all additional travel-related expenses that they cover themselves or through other means (which is required for the Forum's reporting);
- identify opportunities for experimentation in the program and lead the development and evaluation of any 'experiments'; and
- participate actively mentoring and networking as an alumni of the program.

Eligibility requirements

Incoming scholars need to:

- 1) hold citizenship or permanent resident status in a Commonwealth country or a low- and middle-income country;
- 2) **be accepted into an eligible McMaster graduate program** (or under exceptional circumstances be accepted by a McMaster Health Forum faculty member to spend part of their education or field work at McMaster while pursuing graduate training elsewhere); and
- 3) be aged 35 or younger at the time of application.

Selection process

A selection committee, made up of McMaster Health Forum faculty and staff will evaluate all scholarship candidates based on their:

- 1) potential for real-world impact in strengthening health and social systems globally;
- 2) past experience with community engagement, both in Canada and in other countries.
- 3) academic track record; and
- 4) alignment of their proposed internship or graduate degree on health- or social-system strengthening with priorities identified by a country with which the McMaster Health Forum or one of its seven core partners has strong relationships.

How to apply

- 1) Queen Elizabeth Scholarship opportunities and application timelines will be posted on the Forum site – <https://www.mcmasterforum.org/learn-how/experiential-learning/queen-elizabeth-scholarships/how-and-when-to-apply-qes>
- 2) Applications must be submitted electronically to the McMaster Health Forum at forum@mcmaster.ca quoting “QES incoming scholar application” in the subject. Applications must be combined into one PDF file with the contents appearing in the order presented in the “Application requirements”, and the file name must be in the format of: lastname_QES_incoming_scholar.

Application requirements

- 1) two-page cover letter that describes:
 - what you would bring to the Forum and the Queen Elizabeth Scholar program (in terms of knowledge, skills and experiences),
 - the type of research you wish to conduct and how it aligns with priorities identified by a Commonwealth or low- and middle-income country with which the McMaster Health Forum or one of its seven core partners has strong relationships or your own country, and
 - what you would gain from the scholarship;
- 2) confirmation of the scholarship period for which you are applying;
- 3) resume (including your date of birth and your country of citizenship); and
- 4) transcript (please note that a PDF of the unofficial transcript is acceptable at the time of application; short-listed candidates will be required to provide an official transcript).

Terms of the scholarship

Recipients of the Queen Elizabeth Scholarship for incoming scholars will receive 12 months of funding of up to \$13,000 if they wish to complement their training in a master’s degree or a PhD at McMaster University with training related to health- or social-systems strengthening. These funds are to help cover academic expenses (tuition, supplies, research and conference expenses) and living expenses (food, accommodation, health insurance and an installation allowance) that are directly related to the scholarship.

For more information about the McMaster Health Forum, visit www.mcmasterforum.org.

The Canadian Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Scholarships (QES) is managed through a unique partnership of Universities Canada, the Rideau Hall Foundation (RHF), Community Foundations of Canada (CFC) and Canadian universities. This program is made possible with financial support from the Government of Canada, provincial governments and the private sector.