

2027
Castle Skilled Trades Scholarship Program Presented by CIBC

TERMS AND CONDITIONS / OFFICIAL RULES

1. Scholarship Program

The 2027 Castle Skilled Trades Scholarship Program presented by CIBC (the "Scholarship Program") is offered in partnership by Castle Building Centres Group Ltd. ("Castle") and CIBC.

Each Scholarship applicant is bound by these Terms and Conditions and by the decisions of the Scholarship Selection Committee, including eligibility, selection and awarding of scholarships.

Throughout these Terms and Conditions, the terms "Applicant", "they", "their", "themself", "one's", or "oneself" are used inclusively to refer to each individual applicant, regardless of gender identity.

The decisions of the Scholarship Selection Committee are final and are not subject to appeal.

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2. Eligibility

The Castle Skilled Trades Scholarship Program presented by CIBC for the Winter 2027 term eligibility requirements:

- Applicant must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident with a valid Canadian SIN (Social Insurance Number)
- Entering full-time into the first or second year of an eligible skilled trades program at a recognized Canadian skilled trades college;
- Certificate, diploma, co-op, and pre-apprenticeship program applications from the eligible skilled trades list are eligible; apprenticeship term applications are not eligible. For programs to be considered that are not listed under eligible skilled trades programs, contact scholarship@castle.ca to verify eligibility.
- Complete application must be sent by email as an attachment to scholarship@castle.ca by November 30th, 2026. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

Applicants must satisfy all eligibility requirements at the time of application and, where applicable, at the time the Scholarship is awarded.

Employees, officers, directors, representatives and agents involved in the administration or judging of the Scholarship Program may be excluded from eligibility where determined appropriate by Castle.

A recipient is limited to receiving one Castle Skilled Trades Scholarship per trade program.

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3. Scholarship Award

Each Castle Skilled Trades Scholarship consists of a **non-repayable award of $2,500 or $5,000 CAD** to assist an eligible student with tuition costs associated with attendance at an eligible Canadian skilled trades college.

Each Scholarship must be accepted as awarded and may not be transferred, assigned, substituted or redeemed for cash.

Any costs or expenses associated with the recipient's education that exceed or are not covered by the Scholarship are the sole responsibility of the recipient.

Winning or being selected for a Scholarship is conditional upon the applicant satisfying all eligibility, verification, and documentation requirements contained in these Terms and Conditions.

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4. Scholarship Selection Criteria

Castle Skilled Trades Scholarships will be awarded to eligible skilled trades students who demonstrate qualities including:

- Strong work ethic, integrity, and character;
- Academic and/or professional ambition;
- Diligence, skillfulness, and achievement;
- A passion to make a positive impact within the community.

Scholarships are awarded based on these qualifications and are not awarded based on financial need.

Scholarship recipients are selected by the Scholarship Selection Committee, an independent third party. The decision of the Scholarship Selection Committee is final and not open to appeal.

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5. Application Deadline

The deadline for submission of a complete Castle Skilled Trades Scholarship application for the Winter 2027 term is:

November 30th, 2026

Applications received after the deadline, or applications that are incomplete as of the deadline, will be deemed ineligible.

Proof that an application was sent does not necessarily constitute proof that it was received by Castle.

6. Required Application Materials

To be considered, applicants must submit their complete application package as an attachment via email to **scholarship@castle.ca** by November 30th, 2026, containing the following required documentation:

1. A completed and signed Castle Skilled Trades Scholarship Application Form.

2. A minimum 500-word original essay describing the following about oneself and one's aspirations:
   - Educational and work background;
   - Extracurricular activities;
   - Community involvement;
   - Academic and career goals; and
   - How the applicant aspires to use their skilled trade to make a positive community impact.

3. A minimum of one recommendation letter from a teacher, principal, clergy member, business or community leader indicating their knowledge of the applicant's strong work ethic, character, integrity, and/or community involvement.

4. Proof of the applicant's full-time admittance and their confirmed acceptance from a recognized Canadian skilled trades college into an eligible trade program.

5. A minimum of one of the following considering the applicant's recent education and required documentation noted:
   - High school transcript, diploma, or GED;
   - Skilled Trade program transcript or previous term grades, **required if entering the second term or second year of the trade;**
   - Resumé/CV outlining one's recent work and life experience, **required if one has not attended school within the previous three years.**

Failure to provide the required materials by the application deadline will result in the application being deemed incomplete and ineligible.

7. How to Apply

Completed applications must be **sent by email as an attachment to scholarship@castle.ca by November 30th, 2026.**

Applications must be received in accordance with the stated submission deadline and requirements.

8. Application and Essay Requirements

All application materials submitted must be truthful, accurate, and the applicant's own work where applicable.

The applicant's essay and other submitted materials must not:

- Contain false, misleading or defamatory statements;
- Contain unlawful, threatening, abusive, harassing, obscene, discriminatory, hateful or otherwise objectionable material;
- Infringe the copyright, trademark, privacy, publicity or other rights of any third party;
- Misrepresent Castle, its partners, participating organizations or any other person or organization; or
- Contain material inconsistent with the purpose and values of the Scholarship Program.

Castle reserves the right to disqualify an application that it reasonably determines does not comply with these requirements.

Mass submissions, automated submissions, applications submitted fraudulently or by unauthorized third parties, and applications that are late, incomplete, illegible, inaccurate or otherwise non-compliant may be declared void.

9. Originality and Rights to Submitted Materials

By submitting an application, each applicant represents and warrants that they have the right to submit the materials included in their application and that the submission does not infringe the intellectual property, privacy, publicity or other rights of any third party.

Applicants retain ownership of their original work, subject to the permissions granted under these Terms and Conditions.

By applying, applicants authorize Castle and its authorized Scholarship Program partners to reproduce, review, store, and use submitted application materials as reasonably necessary for:

- Administration and judging of the Scholarship Program;
- Verification of eligibility;
- Selection and notification of recipients by the Scholarship Committee, an external third party; and
- Scholarship-related communications and publicity, where permitted.

Any broader promotional or public use of an applicant's submitted materials may be subject to additional consent where required by applicable law.

10. Recipient Notification

Scholarship applicants and recipients/winners are expected to be notified by December 18th, 2026.

Scholarships are expected to be awarded in January 2027.

Selected applicants may be required to respond to Castle within a specified period and to provide documentation confirming their eligibility before being declared an official Scholarship recipient.

If a selected applicant:

- Cannot be contacted;
- Does not respond within the period specified by Castle;
- Fails to provide requested proof of eligibility;
- Provides false or misleading information;
- Does not provide required releases or documentation; or
- Otherwise fails to comply with these Terms and Conditions,

the applicant may be disqualified and Castle may select another eligible recipient.

11. Verification

All applications and potential recipients are subject to verification by Castle.

Castle may request documentation confirming an applicant's:

- Identity;
- Canadian citizenship or permanent resident status;
- School enrolment or acceptance;
- Academic standing;
- Eligibility;
- Authorship of submitted materials; and/or
- Other information contained in the application.

Providing false, misleading, incomplete or fraudulent information may result in immediate disqualification.

If false information is discovered after a Scholarship has been awarded, Castle reserves the right, where legally permitted, to require repayment or return of the Scholarship.

12. Publicity

By accepting a Scholarship, recipients may be asked to authorize Castle, CIBC, and their authorized Scholarship Program partners to use the recipient's:

- Name;
- City and province/territory of residence;
- Photograph;
- Likeness;
- Voice;
- Biographical information;
- Educational information;
- Submitted statements; and
- Information relating to their Scholarship award

for reasonable advertising, promotional, editorial and publicity purposes relating to the Castle Skilled Trades Scholarship Program presented by CIBC.

Such use may include Castle and CIBC websites, social media channels, newsletters, press releases, promotional materials, in-store communications and other media.

Where required, recipients may be asked to sign a separate publicity or media consent form.

13. Personal Information and Privacy

Personal information collected through the Scholarship Program will be used for purposes that may include:

- Administering the Scholarship Program;
- Determining eligibility;
- Evaluating applications;
- Contacting applicants and recipients;
- Verifying application information;
- Awarding and administering Scholarships; and
- Fulfilling legal, financial and regulatory requirements associated with the Scholarship Program.

Personal information will be handled in accordance with applicable Canadian privacy laws and the applicable privacy policies of Castle and any authorized organizations involved in administering the Scholarship Program.

Information will not be used for unrelated purposes except with consent or where otherwise permitted or required by law.

14. Limitation of Liability

To the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, Castle, its affiliates, Scholarship Program partners, representatives, agents, suppliers, contractors and members of the Scholarship Selection Committee will not be responsible for any loss, damage, injury, claim or liability arising from or relating to:

- Participation in the Scholarship Program;
- Submission or processing of an application;
- Acceptance, possession or use of a Scholarship;
- Incomplete, inaccurate, lost, delayed or misdirected applications or communications;
- Technical, network, computer, server, email or telecommunications failures;
- Unauthorized access to or alteration of applications;
- Human, mechanical, electronic, printing, programming or administrative errors; or
- Circumstances beyond their reasonable control.

Nothing in these Terms and Conditions limits liability where such limitation is prohibited by applicable law.

15. Right to Disqualify

Castle reserves the right to disqualify any applicant who:

- Fails to comply with these Terms and Conditions;
- Provides false or misleading information;
- Attempts to interfere with or manipulate the application or selection process;
- Acts fraudulently or dishonestly;
- Attempts to gain an unfair advantage;
- Infringes the rights of another person; or
- Engages in conduct that Castle reasonably determines could compromise the integrity, fairness or reputation of the Scholarship Program.

16. Right to Amend, Suspend or Discontinue the Program

The Scholarship Program may be altered, amended, suspended or discontinued at the discretion of Castle Building Centres Group Ltd. and CIBC.

Without limiting the foregoing, Castle and CIBC reserves the right to modify, suspend or terminate the Scholarship Program, in whole or in part, where circumstances beyond Castle and CIBC's reasonable control interfere with its administration, security, fairness, integrity or proper operation.

Such circumstances may include technical failures, errors, unauthorized intervention, fraud, tampering or other events that prevent the Scholarship Program from operating as intended.

Where reasonably possible, Castle and CIBC may determine an appropriate method of awarding available Scholarships from eligible applications received before any such interruption.

17. General Conditions

All applications are subject to verification.

Participation in the Scholarship Program constitutes acceptance of these Terms and Conditions. Castle's failure to enforce any provision of these Terms and Conditions shall not constitute a waiver of that provision.

If any provision of these Terms and Conditions is determined to be invalid or unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall continue to remain valid and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.

Castle and CIBC reserve the right to correct typographical, printing, administrative, computer programming or other errors contained in Scholarship Program materials.

The Scholarship Program is subject to all applicable federal, provincial and municipal laws and regulations and is void where prohibited by law.

Any attempt to deliberately damage, interfere with or undermine the legitimate operation of the Scholarship Program or any associated website may constitute a violation of civil or criminal law, and Castle and CIBC reserve all rights and remedies available to it under applicable law.

18. Administration and Final Decisions

All matters relating to the administration of the Scholarship Program, including eligibility, completeness of applications and compliance with these Terms and Conditions, will be determined by Castle.

All decisions relating to the evaluation and selection of Scholarship recipients will be made by the Scholarship Selection Committee in accordance with the stated selection criteria.

Such decisions are final and binding and are not subject to appeal.

Application Deadline for the 2027 Winter term: November 30th, 2026

