



Estonian Foundation of Canada 2024 EFC Scholarship Application

The Estonian Foundation of Canada offers 3 Scholarship opportunities for students of Estonian Canadian heritage who are pursuing post-secondary studies.

All applicants must be:

- Canadian citizens or permanent residents
- Registered at an accredited university, college, or community college not necessarily in Canada

Unique eligibility criteria for each scholarship include:

1. EFC Martin & Heljo Mäeks Scholarship Fund

This EFC scholarship may be granted annually to one or more eligible students who are:

- entering their **second-to-last** or **final** year of undergraduate studies**
- able to speak Estonian at approximately an A2 level (see application for details)
- not a previous recipient of an EFC undergraduate-level scholarship

In his last will and testament, Martin Mäeks stipulated that only the earnings on his bequest are to be used for EFC scholarships in his name. The amount available for the EFC Mäeks scholarship therefore varies from year to year due to market conditions. For 2024, eligibility for this scholarship has been expanded to include students entering their **second-to-last or **final** year.

2. EFC Vilma & Heinrich Blum Scholarship Fund

This scholarship may be granted annually to one or more eligible students who are:

- pursuing a Masters, Doctorate, or other professional degree.
- not a previous recipient of an EFC graduate-level scholarship.
- There is no Estonian language proficiency requirement for this scholarship.
- Minimum value: \$2000.

3. EFC Scholarship

This scholarship may be granted annually to one or more eligible students who are:

- entering 2nd or higher year of undergraduate studies.
- not a previous recipient of an EFC undergraduate-level scholarship
- This scholarship is intended for students with limited or no proficiency in the Estonian language.
- Approximate value: \$2000.



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How to Apply

Applications may either be completed:

- **ONLINE** - via [Google Forms](#) with required attachments uploaded to the online form.
- **OFFLINE** - with the **form on pages 4 and 5** and all required attachments sent to the EFC Office or by email to info@estonianfoundation.ca

Required Attachments

1. **EFC Scholarship Application Form** – can either be completed via Google Forms or via Page 4-5 of this document.
2. **Cover Letter/Letter of Intent**, including brief bio, academic/professional goals, description of Estonian heritage and any involvement in the Estonian community.
3. **Short Essay**: What does being Estonian mean to you? Why is it important? (maximum 500 words)
4. **Short Question**: Why is the Estonian Foundation of Canada important to the community? (80-100 words)
5. Curriculum Vitae
6. 2 Letters from Character references; one from the Estonian community, if possible
7. Digital Photo – head shot in color, with a neutral preferably monotone background, minimum size 720×1080 px
8. Proof of registration at a post-secondary institution
9. Proof of Canadian Citizenship or Permanent Resident status (e.g. birth certificate, passport or PR Card)

Guidelines:

Submit completed application form and all accompanying documents, in English or Estonian, by **June 1, 2024**.

If successful, scholarship applicants agree:

- To provide SIN number
- To be contacted by EFC
- To provide EFC with updated address information and ensure EFC has a current email address and contact information for 5 years following receipt of the scholarship.
- To receive a paid one-year membership to EFC AND to attend the EFC Annual Members Meeting, or send a representative, in the spring of the following year.



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Decision

EFC Board of Directors will review all applications. The number and amount of any scholarships is entirely at the discretion of the Board of Directors. All decisions of the EFC Board of Directors are final.



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EFC Scholarship Application Form

Full Name (As stated on passport) _____

Permanent Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Instagram Handle/Username (if any) _____

Date of Birth _____

Post-secondary Institution _____

Program and Year of Study _____

Scholarship of Interest (Please check only one):

- EFC Martin and Heljo Mäeks Scholarship* (see page 4)
 - EFC Vilma and Heinrich Blum Scholarship
 - EFC Scholarship
-

By submitting this application form, I acknowledge that all information is correct to the best of my knowledge and that I will abide by the requirements and guidelines set out by EFC on page 2 of this application form.

I also agree to the publication of my name, photo, and any written information submitted in conjunction with this application by EFC in digital or other format.

Signature _____

Date _____

How did you first hear about the EFC Scholarship?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eesti Elu Paper/Website | <input type="checkbox"/> Word of Mouth |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EFC Website | <input type="checkbox"/> Global Estonian Website |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EFC Social Media | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify below) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EFC Newsletter | _____ |



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EFC Scholarship Application Form

* EFC Mäeks Scholarship Applicants only

1. **Ability to speak Estonian (mandatory)**

The scholarship required Estonian language proficiency at the A2 level or above. The EFC Board will arrange an assessment of your ability to speak Estonian prior to consideration of your application.

For reference, Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR), describes **A2 proficiency** as:

Can understand sentences and frequently used expressions related to areas of most immediate relevance (e.g. very basic personal and family information, shopping, local geography, employment). Can communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar and routine matters. Can describe in simple terms aspects of his/her background, immediate environment and matters in areas of immediate need.

For more details and a self-assessment visit:

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/common-european-framework-reference-languages/home>

2. **Financial Need (optional)**

The EFC Mäeks Scholarship also allows the EFC Board of Directors to consider the financial need in awarding scholarships.

I would like my financial needs or individual circumstances to be considered via a confidential virtual meeting with 2 EFC Board members.