



## Estonian Foundation of Canada 2023 EFC Scholarship Application

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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 Scholarship: Martin & Heljo Mäeks Scholarship Fund**

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

- Entering 2<sup>nd</sup> or higher year of undergraduate studies.
- Able to speak Estonian at approximately an A2 level (see last page for details).

### **2. EFC Scholarship: 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.
- There is no Estonian language proficiency requirement for this scholarship.
- 2022 minimum value: \$2000.

### **3. EFC Scholarship**

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

- entering 2<sup>nd</sup> or higher year of undergraduate studies.
- 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 ONLINE

Please complete the application online via GoogleForms and upload the following requirements online (link at <https://www.estonianfoundation.ca/en/efc-scholarships>)

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

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### Guidelines:

Submit completed application form and all accompanying documents, in English or Estonian, to EFC Office or [info@estonianfoundation.ca](mailto:info@estonianfoundation.ca) on or by **June 1** (to submit via email, please download the application form from <https://www.estonianfoundation.ca/en/efc-scholarships>)

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 attend the EFC Annual Members Meeting, or send a representative
- To provide EFC with a short description (approx. 250 words) of the personal impact of the scholarship by December 31 of the year received.



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### Decision

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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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\* 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 Mäeks Scholarship also allows the EFC Board of Director to consider the financial need in awarding scholarships. This is options, by request below:

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

#### **3. Scholarship amount**

At the discretion of the EFC Board of Directors the maximum amount of 2023 individual scholarships from the Martin and Heljo Mäeks fund will be up to \$2,000.