What Do These Terms Mean?

Academic Grant: Based on a combination of academic merit and financial need.

Athletic Financial Award: For outstanding student athletes.

Bursary: Based primarily on financial need.

Exchange Award: For students who participate in a formal exchange program to study abroad in the fall/winter semester. This is an award by application.

Ontario Graduate Scholarship: A merit-based scholarship at the Master’s or PhD level, based on province-wide competition.

Scholarship: Based primarily on academic merit.

Travel Award: For students who participate in summer travel and return in the fall semester.

Minimum Amounts to Establish an Award

An endowed award will exist in perpetuity, as the capital remains untouched. Only a portion of the investment income is awarded each year.

The minimum annual value required for a new endowed award is $800, which requires a commitment of $20,000 at the current expenditure policy rate of four percent.

An expendable award exists only for the period of time that funding is provided and is expended in its entirety for this duration, annually. It does not earn investment income.

The minimum value of a new annual award is $1,000, which requires a commitment of that amount annually for a minimum of five years.

* Awards that require an application (such as exchange awards, travel awards and some scholarships) require a minimum annual value of $2,500. This requires a commitment of $62,500 for an endowed award or a commitment of $2,500 annually for at least five years for an expendable award.

Need more information? giving@mcmaster.ca
The Cost of a University Education: How it All Adds Up

Annual tuition for an undergraduate student: $6,800 to $10,000.

Annual tuition for an international undergraduate student: $21,000 to $30,000.

Annual tuition for a graduate (Master’s or PhD) student: approximately $7,000.

Annual tuition for an international graduate student: approximately $16,000.

Books and supplies: $1,300/year.

Accommodation on campus: $5,335/year.

Food (meal plan): $3,210/year.

Only 5,500 bursaries are available each year at McMaster for the 8,000 students who apply for financial need every year.

Students today graduate with an average debt load of $29,520.

It takes most students 10 years to pay off their student loans.

How You Can Make a Difference

I want to support

An Undergraduate Student

A Graduate Student

by establishing a...

☐ Scholarship
☐ Bursary
☐ Academic Grant
☐ Travel Award
☐ Exchange Award (Study Abroad)
☐ Athletic Financial Award

☐ Scholarship
☐ Bursary
☐ Academic Grant
☐ Travel Award
☐ Ontario Graduate Scholarship (OGS)*

In this area of study (Faculty-specific or University-wide):

by funding an...

Endowed Award

Expendable Award

Name of award:______________________

Student awards may be named for the individual, family, group or organization that funds them. You may also name your award in honour of a special person in your life, or to commemorate a special event. Please see the reverse for more details on the minimum amounts to establish each award.

The Bottom Line

A financial award gives a student much more than money. It gives precious time to focus on academic studies and to pursue extracurricular activities. It offers encouragement and recognition for hard work and achievement. And it is a tangible reminder for the student that others share a belief in the importance of higher education. Thank you for supporting generations of bright young minds to come.

* Multiply your impact with the Ontario Graduate Studies program. Your donation of $2,500 will be matched with $2,500 from McMaster’s School of Graduate Studies. A further $10,000 in provincial funds will create a $15,000 award.
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“I can’t think of a better thing to do than support young people in their education.”

Douglas Coleman, ’54
McMaster Donor

“Much of the success I’ve achieved so far is due to the student award I received at McMaster. I can’t say enough how it has helped me.”

Kirsten Saguil
McMaster Student and Award Recipient

Investing in Students

McMaster University