



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

Information Session

The Rhodes Scholarship for University of Calgary students

Dr. Jared Secord, Coordinator of Scholars Programming

Dr. Christian Farrier, Rhodes Scholar 2021

Wing Sze Yam, Program Assistant, Scholars Programming

Zoom Session

- We are recording this session. A link to the video will be made available to you after, if you missed any information. You will also receive an email with a PDF copy of these slides and a list of all the links we shared.
- We will make sure to leave time for questions at the end of the session.
- As questions come up, please feel free to send them to us in the Chat.
- You can send questions publicly to everyone in the Chat. Or, if you'd prefer, you can send your questions privately to Wing Sze, who will be monitoring the chat during the session.

General Information

- The Rhodes Scholarships are funded by the estate of Cecil J. Rhodes and are considered one of the oldest and most prestigious international scholarships for outstanding scholars from any academic field of study.
- Rhodes Scholarships are tenable for postgraduate studies or a second bachelor's degree at Oxford University, for two years with the possible extension for a third year. The Scholarships cover all approved fees (such as matriculation, tuition, laboratory fees, and certain other set charges), in addition to living expenses.
- **Three scholarships are available in the Prairie Provinces (Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba).**



Since 2010, 10 UCalgary students have been named Rhodes Scholars.

Selection Criteria

Cecil Rhodes's will specifies four selection standards:

- Literary and scholastic attainments;
- Energy to use one's talents to the full, as exemplified by fondness for and success in sports, athletics, community, art, etc.;
- Truth, courage, devotion to duty, sympathy for and protection of the weak, kindness, unselfishness, and fellowship; and
- Moral force of character and instincts to lead, and to take an interest in one's fellow beings.

In short, Rhodes Scholarship selection committees will be seeking young people of outstanding **intellect, character, leadership, and commitment to service**. The Rhodes Scholarships support students who demonstrate a strong propensity to emerge as “leaders for the world’s future.”

Eligibility – 2024, 1 of 2

- **a. Nationality/citizenship:** You must be a Canadian citizen or a permanent resident of Canada. Applications from refugees/asylum seekers currently residing in Canada will also be considered in this constituency.
- **b. Education/residency:** You must be domiciled in Canada.
- **c. Age:** i. You must be aged 18-23 on 1st October 2023 (i.e. you must have been born after 1 October 1999 and before 2 October 2005).
- OR (for older candidates who completed their first undergraduate degree later than usual)
- ii. You must be under the age of 27 on 1st October 2023 (i.e. have been born after 1 October 1996) AND you must also have completed your first undergraduate degree on or after 1 October 2022. A university's policy determines the date of completion of academic requirement for a degree and this may be different from when a degree is considered awarded by the university or the date of a graduation ceremony. The National Secretary will make the final determination of completion where required.

Eligibility – 2024, 2 of 2

- **d. Academic achievement:** You must have completed an undergraduate degree (usually a Bachelor's) by July 2024, and you must have an academic background and grade that - at a minimum - meets or exceeds the specific entry requirements of your chosen course at the University of Oxford (<https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate/courses/courses-a-z-listing>).
- Candidates will have a higher chance of successful admission to Oxford if they have:
 - ○ A First-Class Honours Degree or equivalent, or,
 - ○ A GPA of 3.70/4.0 or higher
- Please contact the National Secretary if you require further advice about academic requirements of the Scholarship.

University endorsement is required to compete for the Rhodes Scholarships in Canada. To receive endorsement, you must first submit your application to the UCalgary Rhodes Committee for review.

The deadline is August 13, 2023. The application should be emailed as a single PDF file to sap@ucalgary.ca.



University of Calgary students are encouraged to meet with me (Dr. Jared Secord, jared.secord1@ucalgary.ca) to discuss the application.

Application Material, 1 of 2

All University of Calgary applicants:

Due August 13, 2023 (single PDF file to sap@ucalgary.ca)

- Academic CV (2 pages; minimum 12-point font)
- Personal Statement (no more than 750 words)
- Academic Statement of Study (no more than 350 words)
- Unofficial transcript
- List of 6 names of references
 - 3 or 4 of the references need to be faculty members who have taught and graded you in your studies.
 - The other 2 or 3 references will write about your character and involvement in extra-curricular, service, or leadership activities.

Application Material, 2 of 2

All UCalgary applicants will be notified of their application status by the end of August or very early in September.

At that point, applicants who have been shortlisted will revise and prepare their applications to be submitted to the Rhodes selection committee.

Shortlisted candidates: application deadline is September 28, through the Rhodes Application system.

- Academic CV (2 pages; minimum 12-point font)
- Personal Statement (no more than 750 words)
- Academic Statement of Study (no more than 350 words)
- 6 Reference letters (references will receive an email from the Rhodes application system)
- Official transcript
- Copy of passport
- Copy of birth certificate
- Letter of endorsement from the University President
- Head-and-shoulders colour photograph



Dr. Christian Farrier, 2021 Rhodes Scholar

What makes a competitive application?



The Academic Curriculum Vitae

“A full curriculum vitae (CV) which should include specific details about academic qualifications, prizes, scholarships, positions of leadership, employment positions, involvement in student, voluntary, community or political activities and any cultural, musical or sporting accomplishments. This should not exceed two letter size pages in length with a minimum 12 pt font.”

- Other items to include: research and publications; certificates; memberships and affiliations

The Personal Statement

In your personal statement of 750 words, we ask you to address each of the following prompts by weaving them into your statement (the word allocation across the three is up to you):

- 1. Which Rhodes Scholar quality do you display most strongly, and how are different contexts and people helping you to develop the other qualities?*
- 2. What would you like to learn from and contribute to the Rhodes community in Oxford?*
- 3. From your place in the world, how will you use your energy and talents to address humanity's pressing challenges?*

- 750 words maximum
- I recommend being fairly explicit in your answers to the questions.

References

- For all candidates: list references and include professional or institutional affiliation
 - 3 or 4 of the references need to be faculty members who have taught and graded you in your studies.
 - The other 2 or 3 references will write about your character and involvement in extra-curricular, service, or leadership activities.
- Never include people to whom you are related

Info about programs at Oxford

Types of programs:

- Bachelors
 - Masters: MSc, MPhil, MSt,
 Master Taught/Master Research [no third-year funding]
 Master of Philosophy [possible third-year funding]
 - DPhil
 - MFE (Financial Economics) and MBA
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- Full details on eligible programs: [Detailed Conditions of Tenure of the Rhodes Scholarship](#)

Advising Resources

For **academic advice** on courses of study, consult:

- [Oxford Graduate Admissions](#)
- Faculty and advisors in appropriate UCalgary departments, schools, and research centers
- Potential advisors and instructors in appropriate Oxford departments, programs, and research centers.
- [Rhodes Canada website](#)

Final Thoughts

- Start your application early
- Reach out to referees
- Have courage to submit your application!

- Rhodes Application is (likely) due before any other applications you will be submitting for graduate/professional school.
- Completing Rhodes Application is a good way to get a start on all of your applications for the year.

Resources to help with your application

- I will be offering a workshop on CVs and Personal Statements for Scholarship Applications.
 - Three offerings of the same workshop:
 - Thursday, July 20: 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.
 - Friday, July 21: 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.
 - Monday, July 31: 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.
- To book a spot, go to [Elevate](#).
 - After you have logged in, click “Student Success Centre,” then “SSC Events / Workshops.”
- A recorded version of the workshop will be posted to [our website](#).

Other scholarship and funding possibilities

- Canada Graduate Scholarships, Master's
- McCall MacBain Scholarships at McGill University:
- Sir James Lougheed Award of Distinction
- Cambridge Gates Scholarship at Cambridge University
- Knight Hennessey Scholars at Stanford University
- Schwarzman Scholars at Tsinghua University in Beijing

Need more assistance?
Book an appointment at the Student Success Centre
through [Elevate](#)

Or email sap@ucalgary.ca with questions