

Guide for International University Representatives Universidade de São Paulo (USP)

Application deadline: **August 25, 2022** Endorsement deadline: **September 1, 2022** Target number of endorsements: **3**

Thank you for supporting students and recent graduates in accessing this scholarship opportunity. This guide provides information on the criteria and endorsement process to **representatives of partner universities outside of Canada and the United States**. The university guide is not intended for distribution to applicants.

Please review the accompanying brochure to learn about the McCall MacBain Scholarships, eligible study options at McGill University, life in Montréal, Canada, the application process, and interviews.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Scholarship applicants must meet the minimum degree and language requirements specified by McGill University for master's program admission. The requirements can be found at <u>mcgill.ca/gradapplicants/international</u>. Generally, applicants must have a four-year bachelor's degree and an adequate level of proficiency in English.

WHO ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

McCall MacBain Scholars will be selected for their exceptional character, track record of community engagement, leadership potential, entrepreneurial spirit, academic strength, and intellectual curiosity:

EXCEPTIONAL CHARACTER	We are looking for integrity, honesty, humility, empathy, resilience, an unwavering commitment to the pursuit of excellence and to hard work and service, continual learning and self-awareness, long attention-span, perseverance, and a willingness to take meaningful risks and learn from failures.
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT	We are looking for a track record of service: thoughtful, committed experience working for and with others to address challenges that face communities large and small. We are looking for a breadth and depth of interests, evidenced by sustained involvement in extra-curricular or other activities. These activities may include mastery in the arts, athletics, or other pursuits.

LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL	We are looking for experience working with and leading others towards a common goal, of taking on tough leadership roles to advance meaningful change. We are looking for those with a collaborative spirit who seek to improve the lot of others and develop the potential of those they lead.
ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT	We are looking for those who can identify needs and gaps and to motivate others in developing and implementing creative and effective solutions to address them. We are looking for people who are not afraid to forge new paths and are not held back by fear of failure.
ACADEMIC STRENGTH & INTELLECTUAL CURIOSITY	We are looking for those with a deep interest in and curiosity about people, ideas, and the world around them. They will have an interest in and experience working with others with perspectives different from their own. We are looking for a good fit between the proposed graduate program(s), the candidate's qualifications, and their plans for the future.

We expect that our scholars will come from different communities, with diverse backgrounds and life experiences. Collectively, they will pursue a broad range of academic paths. They will be introverts and extroverts. They will have different political stripes, with passions and interests that cover the spectrum of pressing issues facing Canada and the world.

Understanding that our future scholars will be at different points in their journeys and will have had access to different opportunities, McCall MacBain Scholars will be united by a track record of community engagement, informed by a sense of duty, empathy, intellectual curiosity, grit, and a willingness to take risks. They aim to create meaningful and lasting change, while improving the lives of others.

APPLICATION TIMELINE

June 1, 2022 Applications open	Starting in June, students can start their application online at <u>https://mccallmacbainscholars.org/apply</u> .	
August 25, 2022 Applications due	Students must submit their online application, including both online reference forms, by August 25 at 4:00 PM Eastern Time.	
September 1, 2022 Endorsements due	Starting August 26, you will be invited to review completed applications. You will have until September 1 st to fill out the brief endorsement form.	
October 2022 Regional interviews		

March 8-12, 2023 Final interviews in Montréal	After regional interviews, up to 50 Canadian and 30 international finalists will be invited to in-person final interviews in Montréal.* Travel costs and accommodations will be covered.
September 2023 Scholars arrive on campus at McGill	Most of the 30 McCall MacBain Scholars will begin their studies at McGill in September, with a few exceptions for scholars whose classes begin in the summer (May-August).

*Travel requirements, including information necessary for procuring visas and any vaccination requirements, will be communicated to international finalists in November. Please visit the Government of Canada's website (travel.gc.ca) for current guidelines.

UNIVERSITY ENDORSEMENTS

After submitting their applications, all current university students and recent graduates (those who graduated in 2021 or 2022) must earn an endorsement from their institution. Partner universities are invited to endorse multiple applicants from their school.

What does the endorsement mean?

When you endorse an application, you tell us that you consider the applicant to be a suitable candidate for the McCall MacBain Scholarships at McGill. In our online endorsement portal, you will be able to select Yes / No and enter an optional comment (up to 50 words per applicant).

The minimum threshold for endorsement is good standing in terms of academics and overall conduct. We invite you to consider endorsing a diverse range of applicants. We know that talent comes in many forms and from a variety of lived experiences. We understand that context is critical in finding those who may not have had as many opportunities, but whose exceptional character, community engagement, leadership potential, entrepreneurial spirit, academic strength, and intellectual curiosity make them excellent candidates for an opportunity like this one. Feel free to share your comments with us confidentially regarding candidates you feel especially strongly about, or where you have additional context about a candidate to help us better understand their application.

It is important that the ones you select are the candidates you would be proud to have represent your university, and that they are not lost in a very large group of applicants from one university. For selection criteria questions, please contact Natasha Sawh, Dean of the Scholarships, at <u>natasha@mccallmacbainscholars.org</u>.

Do I have to provide an institutional letter of support for each candidate being endorsed?

No, institutional letters of support are not required. However, you are welcome to provide one comment (up to 50 words) for each applicant in the online system. To share additional confidential context or information, contact natasha@mccallmacbainscholars.org.

Are there quotas by region? If I have international students from different parts of the world, will they be interviewed close to my university or close to their "home" region?

There are no quotas by region. Applicants will be interviewed in their university's region.

How do I endorse applicants?

After the application deadline, you will be invited to access an online portal to complete the endorsements.

What parts of the application will I see?

You will see the finalized application, including several short essays, two references, a one-page resumé, and applicant-submitted unofficial transcripts or grade summaries.

How can I help students put together a strong application?

While applicants may seek general advice, they will be asked to certify that what they are submitting is their own work in their own words, and that it has not been edited by anyone other than them. This does not preclude you from reading a draft application and having a conversation with students about how they might improve it. It does, however, mean that you should not be editing/wordsmithing and that the prose should come from them.

Applicants are encouraged to consult our website (<u>mccallmacbainscholars.org</u>) and ask questions during online information sessions. They may also email our team at <u>info@mccallmacbainscholars.org</u>.

When do I have to complete the endorsements?

All endorsements must be submitted by September 1, 2022.

How many endorsements can our university submit?

We want to see a breadth and diversity of applications from among your students who meet the criteria. At the same time, it is important that the candidates you endorse are those you would be proud to have represent the university and that they are not lost in a very large group of applicants from your school. For Universidade de São Paulo (USP), we look forward to receiving about 3 endorsed applicants in a given year.

Please contact <u>natasha@mccallmacbainscholars.org</u> if you have questions about the number of endorsements.

Will applicants see my endorsement comment?

No. Your endorsement comment will be treated confidentially and used solely for the purpose of selecting applicants for the scholarships.

Will applicants be notified of my decision?

No. We leave it to you to determine how you share your endorsement decisions with your students. All applicants will receive a notification once their applications are considered complete. Applicants invited to a regional interview will be notified by email at least two weeks before the relevant interview date.

SELECTION PROCESS

What happens after I endorse candidates from my university?

We will keep you informed of the progress of candidates from your institution.

The files of endorsed candidates will be reviewed by our team of assessors. At least two assessors will independently review each application.

From their assessments, 60-75 international semi-finalists will be selected for online regional interviews in October and November (dates on Page 2). They will spend a half-day participating in three interviews with our volunteer interviewers. The interviewers may include business executives, academics, public servants, and other active community leaders. Collectively, they will have professional or personal connections to the region for which they are conducting interviews.

Afterwards, 30 international finalists will advance to final interviews in Montréal, Canada in March 2023. They will be joined by up to 50 Canadian finalists at those interviews. From there we will select up to 30 McCall MacBain Scholars (10 international and 20 Canadian). International finalists who are not offered a full scholarship are eligible to receive a one-time award of \$20,000 CAD.

Do candidates also have to apply separately to McGill University for admission?

Yes. Applicants will submit their application to the McCall MacBain Scholarships by August 25, 2022. In mid-September 2022, they can start their application to an eligible graduate program at McGill. Those deadlines range from October 2022 to March 2023. Applicants who are invited to final interviews in March, however, will be required to submit their completed application to the relevant department in December 2022. Formal invitations to attend interviews will be issued only after a review of their application by the relevant department at McGill University.

Are costs covered to attend interviews?

For final interviews in Canada, travel costs and accommodation will be covered.

Will there be any other awards beyond the full scholarships?

Candidates who attend final interviews, but are not selected as McCall MacBain Scholars, will be eligible for a Finalist Award. International finalists are eligible to receive an International Finalist Award (\$20,000 CAD).

ENTRANCE AWARD	VALUE	CONDITIONS OF TENURE	# OF AWARDS
International Finalist Award	\$20,000 (one-time)	Full-time enrolment in an eligible master's or professional program at McGill University	Up to 20

For more information, please consult our Frequently Asked Questions: mccallmacbainscholars.org/faq.