

Charitable Irish Society of Halifax Membership Scholarship Program

The Charitable Irish Society of Halifax initiated changes to its membership categories and fees in 2008 in order to include both couples and family membership categories beyond the regular single member option. With these changes, we hope to successfully stimulate interest with current members, their families, friends and acquaintances in taking advantage of these new membership categories.

In recognizing the importance of youth membership, the Society has established two annual \$2500 scholarships for Society members entering the first year of post-secondary study, in either university or community college programs.

The Executive believes that this initiative will further encourage Society participation of those youth holding family or single memberships in the Society, and support those awarded the scholarships as they begin their first year of post-secondary study.

Requirements for an application to be considered:

- The applicant will be entering a post-secondary program for the first time after high school graduation (a gap year between leaving high school and entering a post-secondary program is acceptable)
- The applicant will have obtained a minimum aggregate average of 80% for all subjects in the first semester of the grade 12 year.
- The applicant will be an individual Society member, a family member, or the grandchild of a Society member.

Information required by applicant:

- The applicant must provide the following information to the Society by April 15 of each year:
 - o A completed **CIS Scholarship Application Form**.
 - o **Transcript** of high school marks following the first semester of grade 12.
 - o A **resumé** which clearly outlines involvement **during high school years**:
 - All extra-curricular activities, both school and community related, which were engaged in for personal satisfaction and growth.
 - Leadership roles assumed both at school and within the community.
 - Volunteer work, engaged for the benefit of others, both school and community related.
 - Awards or citations for achievement obtained while in high school.
 - Work experience, especially where it benefitted personal growth and an understanding of career options.

- o One **academic reference**, pertaining to the overall performance and potential of the candidate, must also be included with the application.

Awarding of scholarships:

- A Scholarship Committee, made up of one (1) Executive member, who will be the Chair, and two (2) other members from the general membership, shall be established by the Executive for the review of applications for the two membership related scholarships. The decision of the Scholarship Committee regarding recipients of the two scholarships will be announced at the Annual General Meeting in May of each year.
- In the event of a conflict of interest of any Scholarship Committee member, a substitute shall be appointed by the Executive.
- Scholarship funds shall be provided to the designated recipients upon their showing proof of attendance at the post-secondary institution by the end of September of the year in which the scholarship was awarded.
- If in any year, one or both scholarships are not awarded because, in the opinion of the Scholarship Committee, no appropriate candidates were available, the un-awarded scholarships will be considered for awarding in the following year together with the scholarships for that year.

Completed applications, including all support documents, must be received no later than April 15.