



Economic
Developers
Council
of Ontario

EDCO Scholarship Application Guidelines For the Application Period: April 1st – 30th, 2024

The EDCO Scholarship Fund was established by the EDCO Professional Development (PD) Committee. The purpose of the fund is to encourage and assist members, especially those new to the profession, in achieving or maintaining one's professional designation (Ec.D. or CEcD).

The program funds \$4,000 for professional development annually. Funds are dispersed as follows*:

- \$1,000 scholarships to Northern Ontario recipients.
- \$1,000 scholarships to Southern Ontario recipients.
- \$1,000 to an emerging professional recipient.
- \$1,000 to an organization for DEI training.

Northern Ontario recipient for the purpose of this Scholarship is an individual working for an organization in the jurisdiction of Federal Economic Development Agency for Northern Ontario. Please visit [FedNor](#) for a description of their coverage area.

Southern Ontario recipients includes an individual working for an organization not covered with the Federal Economic Development Agency for Northern Ontario jurisdiction.

Emerging professional recipient is defined as anyone who is new to the economic development profession with less than five years of economic development work experience.

Diversity Equity Inclusion training recipients is defined as any organization who is providing training for their employees on the topic of DEI. Priority will be given to economic development professionals receiving this training.

DEI Training Opportunities: These training opportunities are suggested and are not endorsed by EDCO.

[KAIROS Blanket Exercise](#), [GBA+ Course](#), [Canadian Equality Consulting](#), [Costron+co](#), and [I2C Immigration Consulting](#)

The committee will review and select the winning applications. The information provided in the application will determine the need for professional development and the ability to pursue professional development opportunities that contribute to

the Ec.D. or CEcD certifications. The PD Committee reserves the right to distribute funds differently based on the program intake.

Eligibility

Applicants must be a member of EDCO in good standing, with a commitment to maintaining a membership in future years. Students may apply provided they apply for an Emerging Professional Membership and the membership is paid by the time applications are due. Each individual is only eligible to receive one scholarship from this program for their lifetime.

Current EDCO Board of Directors and those evaluating applications are not eligible for the scholarship.

Eligible Expenses

Applicants can use scholarship funds to offset the cost for professional development opportunities for one calendar year (January 1 to December 31). The funds may be used for registration fees for professional development training associated with an approved partner from the below list. Only fees associated with the Ec.D. or CEcD examinations will be accepted, and no funding will be provided for re-taking of examinations.

List of approved partners:

- Economic Developers Council of Ontario
- Economic Development Association of Canada
- International Economic Development Council
- Ontario Professional Planners Institute
- Accredited Ontario university or college

All training should be associated with achieving or maintaining one's professional designation(s).

Payment of Scholarship

The scholarship will be paid upon successful completion of the course(s) and proof of a paid invoice(s) are submitted to PD Committee via the Executive Director of EDCO. Funds not used within the calendar year granted, will be returned to the scholarship fund. Recipients seeking an extension of their scholarship will need to provide written explanation for their request by September 1st of the same year to the PD Committee. It will be up to the discretion of the PD Committee to determine if an extension is provided and if any conditions are placed on the extension.

Scholarship Application

Interested applicants who meet the eligibility criteria can apply using the online link found at <https://edco.on.ca/Member-Benefits>.

For more information about completing an application, contact Stephanie Crilly, Executive Director at edco@edco.on.ca

Recognition and Awarding

Scholarship recipients will be contacted prior to the start of the calendar year with notice of acceptance. Scholarship recipients will be recognized at EDCO's Annual Conference & Showcase in Toronto, ON. For more information about the conference, visit www.edcoconference.com.