THE HELLENIC INITIATIVE CANADA

GUIDELINES FOR THE HELLENIC INITIATIVE CANADA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR 2027-2028 ACADEMIC YEAR

THE HELLENIC INITIATIVE CANADA (THI Canada) Scholarship Program provides scholarships for students who are Greek or Cypriot citizens*, and accepted in master's programs at Canadian universities. The submission deadline for applications for the 2027-2028 academic year is **March 31, 2027**.

Scholarships will be awarded to outstanding graduate students with a passion for their field of study. Priority will be given to students in areas of study that are in demand in the workforce in Greece, in areas of leading-edge technologies or in specialized fields that respond to modern needs. Priority will also be given to students based on financial need, and to students who intend to return to Greece or Cyprus to pursue their careers.

THI Canada is committed to investing in education as the foundation for students to shape the future of Greece. THI Canada also supports initiatives that complement education through work-experience, skills training and other incentives offered in Canada and Greece that may have positive outcomes in reversing the "brain drain" in Greece and empowering scholars to contribute to the growth, prosperity, and well-being of Greek society.

Areas of Study in Canada:

Areas of study for consideration may include (other areas may also be considered):

- Business and Organization Management
- Computer Science (Data Science, Machine Learning and Applications, Artificial Intelligence, Robotics, Cloud Computing and Business Systems)
- Microelectronics and Embedded Systems
- Nanoscience and Nanotechnology
- Materials Science, Energy Resource Production and Management
- Agriculture, Forestry, Environmental Sciences
- Engineering
- Biology
- Biomedical Technology, Life Sciences
- Pharmacy
- Science of Nutrition, Food Technology
- Public Health

Criteria for awarding scholarships:

- Applicants must be Greek nationals, residing in Greece at the time of application.
- Applicants must meet Canadian entry/visa requirements for study in Canada, accepted into a graduate (master's) university program in Canada, and meet English or French proficiency requirements, as required by the university.
- Applicants will be considered based on merit, with a grade point average of at least **8 out of 10** in undergraduate studies, equivalent to **3.5 out of 4** GPA.
- Applicants must be enrolled full-time. Applications for part-time or distance learning are not accepted.
- The financial ability of applicants to carry out their studies in Canada will be taken into consideration.
- The intent of applicants to return to Greece upon completion of studies in Canada will be taken into consideration.
- The start date of the scholarship is September 1, 2027, and no later than the official start of the respective study program. Scholarships are not retroactive.
- The deadline for submitting applications is **March 31, 2027** Applications and supporting documents must be submitted online using the following link **https:// thehellenicinitiative.ca/thic-scholarship-application-form/**

Each applicant will be informed of the results of their application by email.

For 2027, THI Canada will award at least two scholarships. In future years, THI Canada intends to expand the number of recipients based on the interest expressed and the capabilities of THI Canada.

Those interested can find more information about the application submission process on THI Canada's website at **https://ca.thehellenicinitiative.org/thic-scholarship-application-form/.**

Application and supporting documents:

The online application must be completed by **March 31, 2027**, and submitted electronically on THI Canada's website . For early consideration, supporting documentation must accompany the application. In circumstances where students have not yet received their acceptance from a Canadian university, or there are delays regarding the submission of documents, students must notify THI Canada immediately regarding the delays and submit required documentation as soon as possible.

Supporting documents:

- Copy of national ID.
- Passport type photo.
- Letter of acceptance from a Canadian university. The registration or pre-registration certificate of the university where the candidate will study must state the duration of study, tuition costs, degree title and specialization.
- Copy of undergraduate university degree.
- Official transcript of undergraduate studies with grade point average up to the date of application, which should be at least 8 out of 10.

- Two Letters of recommendation from university faculty members in Greek, English, or French which must be submitted through the application or sent directly electronically to **info@ca.thehellenicinitiative.org** by the faculty members.
- Copy of the latest available E-1 Income tax form, or E-3 form in the case of income resulting from business activities, for both applicant and parents of the applicant.
- Solemn Declaration of Law 1599/86, issued through: https://www.gov.gr/ipiresies/polites-kai-kathemerinoteta/psephiaka-eggrapha-gov-gr/ekdose-upeuthunes-deloses, in which the applicant discloses any grants, scholarships, and/or financial aid for purposes of study, and affirms that he/she has not been convicted, nor is a charge pending for acts prosecuted by criminal law.

Selection process:

The THI Canada Selection Committee screens applications against the criteria, invites select scholarship applicants to a virtual online interview, short-lists candidates for the scholarship and makes recommendations to the THI Canada Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors has the absolute discretion to select the scholarship recipients, and the number of scholarships to be awarded based on the criteria of the scholarship program (qualifications, distinctions, area of study, need for financial support and intentions to return to Greece upon completion of studies).

The scholarship is finalized and awarded after the verification of the application and supporting documents and the signing of the scholarship contract. The start of the scholarship cannot be deferred.

Scholarship amount and duration:

The total amount of the scholarship is up to $10,000 CAD that can be allocated to cover costs for tuition, accommodation and living expenses. The funds for the scholarship will be disbursed in two payments of up to $5,000 each in September 2027 and after the completion of the first semester.

If the master's program is longer than one year, the scholarship holder may re-apply to be considered for an additional grant based on financial need and academic progress.

THI Canada recognizes that there are significant costs for international students to study in Canada. For this reason, THI Canada does not exclude students who have received or will receive grants from other organizations. However, THI Canada reserves the right to take into consideration other grants, scholarships or financial aid provided to candidates.

Opportunities for complementary funding:

Graduate (Master's) students who have applied, and are accepted/or waiting for an acceptance, for study at accredited university programs in Canada are encouraged to apply to the respective

scholarship programs offered by THI Canada and Bodossaki Foundation. THI Canada is collaborating with Bodossaki Foundation with the aim of providing complementary funding for eligible graduate students to study in Canada.

Students must apply separately to the scholarship programs offered by THI Canada and Bodossaki Foundation, meet eligibility criteria and other requirements set by each organization, receive written confirmation of the scholarship from each organization, and receive an offer of acceptance from a Canadian university.

Complementary funding from THI Canada and Bodossaki Foundation has the potential to significantly increase the total scholarship amount to study in Canada.

Other benefits of the scholarship program:

THI Canada will endeavour to stay connected with the 2027 scholarship recipients while in Canada and hopes to continue this connection after completion of studies. THI Canada can provide networking, mentoring, access to professionals and business leaders and other opportunities for scholars.

Scholars will be invited to THI Canada events, as guests, and, if interested, welcomed to participate in THI Canada New Leaders, a community of professional Greek-Canadians, under the age of 40, committed to addressing issues in Greece.

If appropriate, and supported by the scholar, THI Canada will use its connections and partners in Canada and Greece to identify possible training and work experience opportunities that would better prepare scholars to pursue their profession and careers in Greece.

Obligations of the scholarship holder:

The scholarship holder undertakes the obligation to:

- Submit a progress report that includes an overall grade standing at the completion of each semester to THI Canada (report template provided on THI Canada's website).
- Complete an online survey at the completion of studies that includes information regarding study experience in Canada and intentions regarding professional/career planning following studies in Canada.

The scholarship holder agrees to permit THI Canada to recognize and promote the awarding of the scholarship.

Termination of scholarship:

THI Canada may suspend the granting of the scholarship or seek any unduly paid amounts in the following cases:

- Failure to complete studies, prolonged interruption of studies (without cause), or unsatisfactory progress of studies.
- Failure to comply with obligations.
- Other reasons, such as a significant change in the scholarship holder's financial situation, declaration of false information, concealment of information.

*Applicants may not hold Canadian citizenship.