



VITTORIA ADHAMI IMMIGRANT WOMEN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Vittoria Adhami Immigrant Women's Scholarship Fund was established in honour of Vittoria Adhami for her dedication and commitment to COSTI for over three decades. Vittoria Adhami's priority when she first began was to ensure that services to our female clients were enhanced. She was responsible for launching the first Women's Conference dedicated exclusively to COSTI's female staff. The conference continues on an annual basis.

The Vittoria Adhami Immigrant Women's Scholarship Award is funded by COSTI Board of Directors and individual donations.

A. DESCRIPTION

The Vittoria Adhami Immigrant Women's Scholarship Fund is designed to recognize high academic achievement and financial need of immigrant women who are current or former COSTI clients, under the age of thirty and enrolled in an accredited post-secondary institution. Applications are evaluated by the Scholarship Awards Committee. One scholarship, up to a maximum of \$3,000 are available for 2023/24.

B. HOW TO SUBMIT

Nomination forms must be submitted by email to scholarships@costi.org, accompanied by one reference, short essay and written proof of enrollment at an accredited post-secondary institution.

C. ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must be a current or former COSTI client and a Permanent Resident of Canada, or Canadian citizen. All applicants must have obtained a minimum overall average of 80%.

D. NOMINEE INFORMATION

First Name:

Last Name:

Address:

City:

Province:

Postal Code:

Home Phone Number:

Cell Phone Number:

Email Address:

Gender:

Date of Birth:

Citizenship:

- Canadian Citizen
 Permanent Resident of Canada

Number of years in Canada:

E. COSTI PROGRAM(S) OR SERVICE(S)

Provide the name of the program(s) or service(s) you are currently receiving or have received from COSTI:

F. SCHOOL/PROGRAM/CAREER PROFILE

Your High School: If you are currently attending high school, provide the full name and province of the school.

Name:

Province:

Your University/College: Provide the name and address of the college/university you will be/are enrolled in during the academic year 2023/24.

Name:

Address:

City:

Province:

Postal Code:

University/College Number: Provide your college/university student number:

Your University/College Program: Provide the official name of your 2023/24 program of study. Consult your college/university's official documents (or website) to determine the official name of your program.

The Level of your University/College Program: For academic year 2023/24 what is your level of study? Please check or select one.

- Certificate or Diploma (less than 1 year)
- Certificate or Diploma (1 year or more)
- Associate Degree
- Bachelor's Degree
- Master's Degree
- PhD/Doctorate

Duration of your University/College Program: What is the total number of years in your program? Please check or select one.

- One year or shorter
- Two years
- Three years
- Four years
- Five years
- Greater than five years

Your Year of Study: In which year of your program will you be enrolled during academic year 2023/24? Please check or select one.

- First year
- Second year
- Third year
- Fourth year
- Fifth year
- Year higher than fifth year

Your "time status." Scholarship will be granted to students enrolled part-time or full-time.

Will you be enrolled full-time?

- Yes No

Will you be enrolled part-time?

- Yes Number of courses:
 No

LETTER OF REFERENCE – Preferably a teacher and not a family member

Along with this application, you are required to submit a letter (PDF format only) from a teacher (high school, college or university), guidance counsellor, principal or vice-principal who knows you well and can write about your academic accomplishments and other outstanding attributes. Ideally, this letter should be written on official letterhead. To reinforce your academic standing, we recommend the letter reference any major academic awards you were granted. If you are currently in university/college and prefer having your letter from your former high school, this is acceptable. If you recently changed high school and prefer a letter from your former high school, this is acceptable. This letter should support your case for a scholarship.

Please verify:

- I will act to submit my teacher's letter of recommendation, in PDF format, and send it to COSTI via separate email (using the submission process described in Section I).

Short Essay on why the scholarship is important and significant to you and what your career/occupational objectives are. *500 words or less*

G. YOUR ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Your Academic Transcript (University/College)

If you were enrolled in a university or college prior to the academic year 2023/24, provide an original copy of your university/college academic transcript. Your university/college may stamp your transcript with the term Issued to Student before providing it to you. We will accept this. At the time you submit your application, we welcome receipt of a copy of your academic transcript in PDF format.

However, we will require you to submit a hardcopy original version of your transcript. Your university/college may prefer to mail your official transcript directly to COSTI and this could result in the document being received by COSTI after the **September 29th** application deadline. Should this happen, act as follows:

- a) submit your scholarship application on-time by the September 29th deadline,
- b) electronically submit a PDF copy of your transcript to COSTI's Head Office (See COSTI's email address in Section I) the moment you receive your transcript from your school), AND
- c) mail/deliver the hardcopy edition of your transcript to COSTI's Head Office so that it arrives no later than **October 6, 2023**. (See COSTI's address in Section I)

Check or select one of the following:

- I have submitted a PDF of my university/college transcript to the COSTI's email address (i.e., by September 29th), AND the hardcopy version has been mailed to COSTI's Head Office with the expectation it will be received by COSTI no later than October 6, 2023.
- I have not yet obtained my high-school transcript but I will electronically submit a PDF version of it to COSTI, AND I will ensure the hardcopy version is delivered to COSTI's Head Office no later than October 6, 2023 (See *COSTI's address in Section I*).
- I have not yet obtained my hardcopy university/college transcript. However, my university/college has agreed to mail it directly to COSTI's Head Office so that it is received by COSTI no later than October 6, 2023.

Your Academic Transcript (High School)

If you were not previously enrolled at a college or university, you must submit your high-school academic transcript with your application. At the time of applying, you should submit a copy of your high-school transcript in PDF format. Thereafter, you must submit a hardcopy original version of your high-school transcript. Should there be a delay in obtaining your high-school transcript, act as follows:

- a) submit your scholarship application on-time by the September 29th deadline,
- b) submit your high-school transcript in PDF format the moment you receive it (see COSTI's email address in Section I), AND
- c) mail/deliver the hardcopy edition of your transcript to COSTI's Head Office (See COSTI's Head Office address in Section I), but make sure it is received by COSTI no later than the October 6, 2023 deadline.

Please select and check one:

- I have submitted my high-school transcript in PDF format to COSTI's email address (i.e., by September 29, 2023), AND the hardcopy version has been mailed to COSTI's Head Office with the expectation it will be delivered no later than October 6, 2023.
- I have not yet obtained my high-school transcript, but I will electronically submit a PDF version of it to COSTI, AND I will ensure the hardcopy version is delivered to COSTI's Head Office no later than October 6, 2023. (See the COSTI address in Section I).

H. YOUR FINANCES

Financial Aid Application: Have you, or will you be applying for government student financial aid (e.g., OSAP in Ontario)? Please check or select one.

- Yes No

Do you have any outstanding debts?

- Yes No

If yes, please describe the type of debt(s) and amount(s) below:

OSAP – Amount:

Other Debt – Amount:

Other Debt – Description:

Is your family headed by a sole-support parent (i.e. your mom or dad)? Please check or select one.

- Yes No Not Applicable

Marital Status: Please check or select one.

- Single Married/Common Law

Accommodations While at School: Please indicate where you will live during the 2023/24 academic year.

Please check or select one.

- Family residence
- University/college residence
- Off-campus rental housing
- Other (Please describe - maximum 30 words):

Budget Synopsis for 2023/24 (from May 31, 2023 to April 30, 2024)

Notes:

- i) Calculate (project if necessary) your income and expenses for the timeframe May 31, 2023 to April 30, 2024. Be as accurate as possible and retain your working notes. Later in the scholarship cycle, you may be asked for details pertaining to your answers.
- ii) **Year 2023/24 income** should be based on these sources: employment income, government funding or income support provided directly to you, awards, scholarships, fellowships, bursaries and grants (e.g. OSAP), self-employment, co-op placement income, rental income, parental, spousal or other family contribution, RESP, interest/dividends earned from investments and in-trust accounts, lottery winnings, monetary gifts from a source other than parents and spouse, and court-ordered spousal support alimony payments.
- iii) **Year 2023/24 expenses** should be based on these items: mandatory tuition fees, mandatory ancillary fees, textbooks, residential fees, telecommunication service fees, travel/commuting fees, miscellaneous equipment and supplies, and other.

You must complete items i and ii below.

i: Total of your 2023/24 Financial Income From all Sources:

ii: Total of your 2023/24 Expenses (fall and winter semesters):

Your Financial Need

Here is an opportunity to make a convincing case for financial assistance. In the space below, describe the financial conditions you will encounter during academic year 2023/24. Here are some issues to address. Describe your financial pressures. What are the financial hardships facing your family and other conditions which may make it difficult for your parents to contribute to your education? What are your prospects for summer earnings and savings? Does your program of study impose extraordinary fees and other costs on you? Will you be taking a loan from a financial institution to cover your studies? Will loan funding from provincial financial aid be inadequate for your needs? At the end of your university/college studies will you be carrying debt and, if yes, what will your projected debt burden? Are you supporting children and/or family? Have you had occasion to suspend your studies due to lack of funding? Do you reside in subsidized housing? At the end, reveal how you plan to give back to the community if you are granted a scholarship by COSTI.

If you prefer to use 'bullet format' to make your case, please do.

Maximum 500 words

I. PERSONAL CONSENT

Should I be the successful recipient of the Vittoria Adhami Immigrant Women's Scholarship Fund, I agree to attend COSTI's Annual General Meeting. In addition, I grant permission to COSTI Immigrant Services to publish my name, photograph, videotape, make an audiotape of, film and/or interview myself and to publish said photographs, videotapes, audiotapes, films and/or interviews within COSTI and other COSTI publications/materials, including advertising, marketing and promotional materials, official websites and social media for current and future use for the purpose of carrying out the mission of COSTI.

Name:

Signature:

Date:

J. SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION AND DOCUMENTS

Use the word template for submission of the application. Immediately thereafter, submit supporting documents in a separate email to COSTI as noted above. Submit your application by the deadline of **September 29, 2023**.

Electronic Submission of Supporting Documents

Immediately after submitting your scholarship application, you must send an email to COSTI (scholarships@costi.org) with the following documents attached in PDF format:

- i) *A Letter of Recommendation from your Teacher*: PDF format
- ii) *Your Academic Transcript*: PDF format

Should you experience a delay in obtaining your hardcopy original transcripts, we will extend the receipt of your transcript to October 6, 2023.

Note: Indicate your name (Last Name, Given Name) on the subject line of all emails sent to COSTI. (Example: Doe, John)

Submitting Your Hardcopy Original Transcript

You must submit a hardcopy original of your academic transcript to COSTI's Head Office no later than **October 6, 2023**.

Communicating with Vittoria Adhami Immigrant Women's Scholarship Fund

Email Address: scholarships@costi.org

Postal Address: The postal address of the Vittoria Adhami Immigrant Women's Scholarship Fund is:

**COSTI Immigrant Services
Vittoria Adhami Immigrant Women's Scholarship Fund
1710 Dufferin Street
Toronto, ON M6E 3P2**

Phone: 416-658-1600