

**The Hydro One  
Aboriginal Award for Graduate Studies in Public Policy and Administration**

**Department of Politics and Public Administration  
Faculty of Arts**

**Criteria and Selection Guidelines**

**Source of Funds**

- Hydro One Networks Inc.
- Ontario Trust for Student Support (OTSS)

**Purpose**

To provide financial assistance and recognize the academic achievement of an Aboriginal student entering the Master of Arts in Public Policy and Administration program at Ryerson University.

The Hydro One **Aboriginal Award for Graduate Studies in Public Administration** will be awarded to up to two Aboriginal students entering the Master of Arts in Public Policy and Administration program.

**Award Amount**

The endowed funds will provide up to two annual awards whose combined total will be up to \$17,000. The actual amount will be dependent upon the income generated throughout the previous year.

**Eligibility & Application Information**

- Applicants may be self-nominated or be nominated by their peers or Department of Politics and Public Administration faculty or staff.
- Applicants must be of Aboriginal descent.
- Interested candidates will need to supply:
  - One-page cover letter describing why they are an ideal candidate
  - Resume
  - Three Letters of support from both academic and community-based references
  - OTSS Budget Form

The applicant/nominator should write, in confidence, to the Chair of the Department of Politics and Public Administration and copy the Graduate Directors, naming The Hydro One **Aboriginal Award for Graduate Studies in Public Administration** and explaining how the student meets the Award criteria and how the program and the community would benefit from the student's contribution.

In keeping with the admission requirements of the Master of Arts in Public Policy and Administration program and the requirements of the Ontario Trust for Student Support initiative (OTSS), a candidate for the scholarship must have:

- A four year degree with a least a B average in the last two years of study.
- Demonstrated competence in the English Language.
- Canadian citizenship or be a protected person;
- Ontario residency (in accordance with OTSS requirements);
- Demonstrated financial need as determined by Ryerson University;
- Letters of recommendation that support the applicant's academic abilities.
  - A student may substitute one letter from an employer for one of the academic references.
  - In addition, a letter of recommendation from an Aboriginal community or organization supporting the applicant's future contributions may enhance the award application.
- A statement of interest.
  - The statement should address the applicant's reasons for pursuing graduate studies in this program, research interests which the applicant may wish to pursue, how the applicant's previous studies and experience have prepared him/her for the MA program, and the applicant's career objectives and how this program relates to them.

### Weighting of Criteria

Criteria	Weighting
Entrance CGPA	30%
Demonstrated Need (Budget)	10%
Cover Letter and resume	40%
Letters of Support	<u>20%</u>
	100%

### Selection

The selection committee will be composed of three members from the Ryerson University Department of Politics and Public Administration community. They will review the weighted criteria (see above). The Committee will prepare a ranked list of qualified Award recipients and will make the final selection of the recipient based on the weighted criteria.

If, in the opinion of the selection committee, no applicants meet the outlined criteria, the award shall not be given to any applicant that year.