

Tom Queba Scholarships for Social Change

Guidelines for Applicants

GENERAL INFORMATION

Canon Collins Trust in partnership with Tom Queba Memorial Fund and Pegasys invites applications for scholarships for Honours and Masters study at South African universities in 2026. We will provide funding for up to a maximum of two years and an opportunity to enhance your academic and leadership skills through organised events.

Across all our scholarships, our scholars demonstrate the potential to drive change towards just and equitable civil societies. The overriding requirement of the scholarship is that the proposed study contributes directly to social and/or environmental development, and particularly to the betterment of lives and livelihoods of the poorest people in South Africa.

We will award scholarships for social change within the following areas:

- **Justice**
- **Education**
- **Humanities and the Arts**
- **Sciences and Applied Sciences**

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE?

Applicants must:

- be a black African or coloured South African national, normally residing in South Africa
- be under 34 years of age at the commencement of your course
- be in possession of a good first degree (minimum second class, upper division or equivalent) or about to graduate in the year of application
- be studying or applying to study at Honours or Masters level at a South African university

Please apply only if you are eligible and meet ALL of the above criteria.

APPLICATION PROCESS

When we are open for applications you will be able to access the **online application form** [here](#). You will find full instructions online when you start a new form.

Please note that we have a strict AI policy. Applicants found to be using generative AI will be automatically disqualified. For further information, please see our [AI Policy](#).

All sections of the form need to be complete before the system will allow the application form to be submitted. Information can be saved and the application form edited until the applicant chooses to submit. All applicants are required to upload the following supporting documentation:

- Copy of degree certificates, if available
- Certified academic transcripts
- ID document (the following are acceptable: passport, birth certificate, driver's license)

You may also need to submit:

- Two recent payslips, if currently employed

FILLING IN THE FORM

Please remember that someone else will read your application. Therefore:

Please do

1. Pay attention to grammar and presentation
2. Complete all sections
3. Attach all necessary documents
4. Submit your application in a timely manner

Please do not

5. Repeat answers
6. Write in capital letters
7. Attach unnecessary documents

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

REFERENCES

We will ask you to attach references to your application form. One of these references must be an academic reference from your current or most recent academic supervisor, and one reference from an employer. If you have never been employed, we will accept a reference from voluntary work, or two academic references. You should ask your referees to write a reference that relates to your suitability for this scholarship.

GETTING A PLACE ON YOUR COURSE

You must apply to the universities you wish to study at for a place on your chosen course(s). If you are offered a scholarship but fail to get a place in a course, we will withdraw the offer.

SELECTION CRITERIA

In selecting scholars, the Trust will apply a number of criteria including academic merit, financial need and the potential to contribute to open and just societies in southern Africa.

Applicants will be assessed on the basis of the information that they supply on their application form against the criteria outlined below:

1. Academic Record and References

Applicants should have a minimum of an upper second-class (merit) undergraduate or Honours degree and excellent references.

2. Future impact

All applicants need to articulate how the scholarship and their studies will enable them to contribute to open and just societies in southern Africa.

3. Work Experience

We favour applications where there is a demonstrable continuity between applicant's past study and career and their proposed course of study.

4. Leadership Competencies

Canon Collins places a great deal of emphasis upon the leadership potential of individuals. Applicants will be asked to demonstrate how they have developed their leadership skills in the workplace, academia or in their personal life. Priority will be given to those who can describe an occasion/s in which they have used their skills to formulate a shared vision or strategy, build strategic relationships and networks, support peers and mentor others, and/or deliver results.

5. Alignment with the Trust's priorities

We will favour applicants who most clearly demonstrate that their proposed course and future plans align with the Trust's priorities.

TIMETABLE

We will open for applications on **Monday 4th August 2025**.

The deadline for applications is at **15:00 BST on Tuesday 2nd September**.

Late applications will not be considered.

WHEN WILL YOU HEAR FROM US?

Please do not email us to ask about the outcome of your application. All notifications will be by email so please make sure you provide an accurate email address.

We will be interviewing shortlisted applicants in October/November 2025. We will let you know the outcome of your application in December 2025.

We look forward to receiving your application. Good luck!