

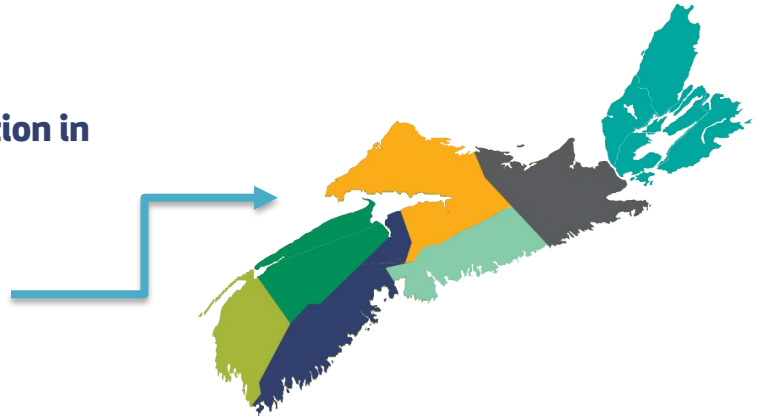


Divert NS Champion of the Environment Scholarship

2026

Divert NS is offering up to \$40,500 in scholarships to Nova Scotia Grade 12 students who have exemplified dedication in protecting our environment.

Seven (7) \$3,500 and seven (7) \$1,000 scholarships based on solid waste regions.



French Language Scholarships: Students can submit applications in French to compete for one (1) \$3,500 and one (1) \$1,000 scholarship. Visit divertns.ca/scholarship to access the French application package.

NEW in 2026: Indigenous and Black Nova Scotian Scholarships

One (1) \$3,500 and one (1) \$1,000 scholarships for Indigenous and/or Black Nova Scotian students.

To be awarded one of the scholarship prizes, your entry must include the following:

(Details on each application element can be found on the following pages.)

- 1 A summary of your recent environmental activities**
Provided in a short letter (750 words maximum), video, or audio file (two minutes maximum).
- 2 A letter of reference from someone in your school or community**
Provided in a short letter (500 words maximum), preferably on letterhead.
- 3 A written essay focusing on this year's topic**
1,500 words maximum written essay (not including references)
- 4 Complete the contact form and submit the application**
Visit divertns.ca/scholarship-form to submit your application online or email your application form and other requirements to scholarship@divertns.ca.

Deadline for submissions: Sunday, May 10, 2026, by midnight.

Winners announced: June 2026

SUBMISSION DETAILS

1 Summary of Environmental Activities

Submit one of the following:

- A written document (maximum 750 words), OR
- A video or audio recording (maximum 2 minutes)

Describe the ways you have been involved in protecting the environment. Your contributions may be within your school, workplace, personal life, family, or community. Your involvement is not limited to recycling or waste management. For example, you may have participated in your school's environmental club, organized a climate demonstration, promoted energy efficiency, helped your family reduce household waste, or led a community garden or litter clean-up initiative.

Your submission should explain:

- The initiatives or organizations you are involved with
- How long you have been involved
- Your specific contributions
- Why this work is meaningful to you

If submitting a video or audio recording:

- You may record using a smartphone or computer — professional equipment is not required
- Keep the length under 2 minutes
- Ensure your voice is clear and easy to hear
- Upload your file (MP4, MOV, MP3, or WAV) or paste a link (YouTube or Vimeo accepted)

2 Letter of Reference

Provide a signed letter of reference from a member of your school or community who can speak to your environmental involvement and impact. This may include a teacher, mentor, supervisor, volunteer coordinator, coach, community leader, or another individual who is directly familiar with your environmental activities and contributions.

Letter of Reference Requirements:

- Must be signed
- Preferably on letterhead
- Cannot be written by a relative
- Maximum 500 words
- Submit as a PDF or Word document

SUBMISSION DETAILS

3 Research Essay for 2026

Submit a written research essay addressing the 2026 topic:

Litter is an ongoing problem throughout Nova Scotia. Research litter clean-up and prevention programs implemented in Nova Scotia and/or other jurisdictions around the world. What successes and challenges have there been? Is litter a problem at your school or in your community? Based on your research, outline a litter prevention program that could be implemented in your community or across Nova Scotia.

Essay Requirements:

- Maximum 1,500 words (not including references)
- Must include research with sources cited in APA, MLA, or Chicago style
- Only one author per essay
- Submit as a PDF or Word document

4 Contact Form and Application Submission

Submit your completed application:

- Online at divertns.ca/scholarship-form
OR
- By emailing your application form (page 6 of the Scholarship Package) and all required documents to scholarship@divertns.ca

For full application details, judging criteria, and official rules, download the complete Scholarship Package (PDF).

If there are any parts of the application that require more clarity or if you're having trouble accessing or interpreting any of the requirements, please reach out to scholarship@divertns.ca.

A note on diversity and inclusion

We believe in the power of diversity and inclusion to better our environment. Diversity drives more innovative and creative thinking, and different perspectives make our environmental protection community stronger and more impactful. We encourage all applicants, regardless of gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, colour, sex, race, age, disability, religion, national or ethnic origin, citizenship, or family/marital status to apply.

JUDGING

Divert NS will assemble a judging committee of both internal staff and external partners to review submissions. The scoring will be based on your written essay (40%) and environmental dedication (60%).

Research Essay (40 %)

- Creativity and effort
- Accuracy of research and citations
- Organization and clarity of ideas
- Grammar, spelling, and syntax

Environmental Dedication (60 %)

- Description of activity, including impact on the environment
- Level of involvement/impact
- Letter of reference
- Duration of involvement

OFFICIAL RULES

- This scholarship competition is open to Grade 12 students in Nova Scotia.
- Entries must be submitted before the closing date of midnight on Sunday, May 10, 2026.
- Immediate family of, or those domiciled with the following individuals are not eligible to receive a scholarship:
 - Current and former employees and board members of Divert NS.
 - Employees of the Nova Scotia Environment and Climate Change Solid Waste Resource Management Section.
 - Employees of regional and municipal waste management authorities.
- Scholarships will be awarded only if submissions merit a scholarship. All decisions of Divert NS and the scholarship judging committee are final.
- Scholarships are issued directly to post-secondary institutions on behalf of the winning students.
- All entries become the property of Divert NS once they are submitted and may be used for publicity, promotion, marketing, illustration, advertising, web content, and all multi-media materials.
- By accepting a scholarship, the winner authorizes Divert NS to use, in any related publicity, the winner's name, city and province of residence, and any statements he/she/they may make regarding such scholarship for advertising and promotional purposes in any form of media, including the Internet.
- Incomplete submissions and submissions with falsified information will be disqualified. The decision to disqualify any submission is at the sole discretion of Divert NS and will occur without notice or communication to the entrant. The disqualification decision is final and not subject to review.



Divert NS is a not-for-profit corporation working in partnership with government, industry, academia, and Nova Scotians to improve the province's environment and economy through resource recovery and waste diversion. Divert NS builds a culture of recycling through environmental stewardship, regulatory oversight, funding, and education, helping to make Nova Scotia a recognized innovator in waste diversion solutions.

CONTACT FORM

Student Information

Student Name: _____

Preferred Pronoun : _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

How would you like to be contacted?

☐ By email

☐ By telephone

School Information

School Name: _____

School Phone: _____

School Address: _____

Principal: _____ Principal Email: _____

How did you hear about the scholarship?

☐ Teacher(s)/Guidance department

☐ Friends/Family

☐ Internet/Social Media

☐ Other (please specify below)

Which of the following best describes your ethnic or cultural origins?

- ☐ Indigenous (First Nations, Inuit, Métis)
- ☐ Arab
- ☐ Black (e.g., African, Caribbean, Afro Latinx)
- ☐ East Asian (e.g., Chinese, Korean, Japanese)
- ☐ South Asian (e.g., Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, Bangladeshi)
- ☐ Southeast Asian (e.g., Filipino, Vietnamese, Thai, Malaysian, Indonesian)
- ☐ West Asian (e.g., Iranian, Afghan)
- ☐ Latin American
- ☐ White (e.g., European origins)
- ☐ Mixed / multiple origins
- ☐ Prefer not to say
- ☐ Other

Student Declaration

- ☐ All of the information I have provided in my submission is true, complete, and accurate to the best of my knowledge. My summary of environmental activities and my research essay are original and written by me. I have read and understood the rules of the Divert NS Champion of the Environment Scholarship program and have fulfilled each and every requirement.

Student Signature : _____

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