



Friends of We Care Foundation, Inc.

400A - 3100 Steeles Ave W. | Vaughan, ON | L4K 3R1



wecare-canada.org



info@wecare-canada.org



905-841-1223

The Lactalis Culinary Companion Scholarship: Investing in Talent, Inspiring Futures Scholarship Guidelines

About The Scholarship

Together, Friends of We Care Foundation Inc. (Operating as We Care) and Lactalis Canada are proud to launch the **Lactalis Culinary Companion Scholarship** — a national initiative dedicated to supporting young minds who identify with a disability, as they pursue their passion for Culinary Arts.

This scholarship reflects a shared commitment to empowering future culinary leaders, helping to ease the financial burden of post-secondary education, and recognizing potential where it shines brightest.

Through a one-time award of **\$4,000**, the scholarship will support one outstanding student living with a disability enrolled in a recognized post-secondary Culinary Arts program in Canada. The funds will be paid directly to the recipient in May 2026, enabling them to focus on their academic and career ambitions in the field of culinary arts.

This initiative is more than financial support — it's a celebration of talent, perseverance, and the power of inclusive opportunities. By investing in future chefs, Lactalis Canada and We Care aim to help individuals living with disabilities turn their culinary dreams into reality.

Eligibility Criteria

Applicants must be:

- A legal resident of Canada or legal international student studying in Canada.
- Accepted into and completing a post-secondary certificate/degree from a Canadian institution of higher learning for Culinary Arts academic program.
- This program is designed for applicants between 17 and 29 years of age on the date when your application is submitted.
- Must be living with a disability (all types are welcome).
- Enrolled in the educational program between September 2025 and August 2026.
 - Applicants can be at any stage of the program during this timeline.



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- Comfortable sharing their stories and journey to become culinary arts professional; through traditional or social media channels, as posted by Lactalis Canada Food Service and We Care and its marketing partners.
- You are not eligible to enter this contest if you, your spouse, child or parent or a person you are domiciled with, is an employee of Lactalis Canada Foodservice or We Care or their subsidiaries, affiliates, or their promotional or advertising agencies.

Anti-discrimination scholarship guidelines

- The Lactalis Culinary Companion Scholarship is guided by The Canadian Human Rights Act. Scholarship selection shall not hinder in or prevented from doing so by discriminatory practices based on race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital status, family status, genetic characteristics, or disability.

Restrictions & Conditions

- The Scholarship may be withdrawn if the recipient fails to remain in good academic standing at their institution or does not submit the required supporting documentation and progress report as requested during the scholarship year.
- A Scholarship may be terminated at any time by We Care upon the occurrence of any behavior on the part of the Recipient that We Care in its sole discretion, deems inappropriate.

**Read the full [Terms & Conditions](#).*

Submission

- No purchase is necessary to enter or receive the Scholarship. To apply, visit <https://wecare-canada.org/scholarships/> between 9:00 a.m. (Eastern Time) on December 1, 2025, and 8:00 p.m. (Eastern Time) on March 15, 2026. Complete and submit the PDF application form, then email to tsingh@wecare-canada.org with the subject line: "LastName_FirstName – Lactalis Culinary Companion Scholarship 2025-2026.
- Include an essay of maximum 1,500 words or video entry of no more than 5 minutes describing why you are pursuing a career in Culinary Arts, and how this career path will bring a meaningful contribution your community.



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- 2 reference letters (1 must be from an academic educator of a school you are currently or were previously enrolled in as a student)
- The Entry must be prepared by you or on your behalf and with your authorization by a family member or your support team. Online Entries, which may include any other recordings, pictures, videos or images (“Recordings”), must be received by March 15, 2026.
- Each Entry becomes the property of We Care and Lactalis Canada Food Service and will not be returned. Limit one (1) entry per entrant.
- An Entry must be submitted in English, be an original creation, be true and verifiable, created solely by entrant or on the entrant’s behalf, with no restrictions or limitations on entrant’s right to submit or Friends of We Care Foundation and Lactalis Canada Foodservice right to use the Entry.
- An Entry must be 100% original and not contain third party materials subject to copyright including but not limited to music, video clips, artwork, use of AI, and photos.
- An entry cannot defame or invade publicity rights or privacy of any person, living or deceased, or otherwise infringe upon any person’s personal or proprietary rights.
- Modifying, enhancing, or altering a third party’s pre-existing work does not qualify as entrant’s original creation.
- Entry must not be offensive or inappropriate, as determined by judges in their sole discretion. Friends of We Care Foundation Inc. and Lactalis Canada Foodservice reserves the right to disqualify any entry it deems to be inappropriate, offensive, or not in keeping with the image of We Care and Lactalis Canada Foodservice.

Selection Criteria and Process

- All eligible entries received will be judged by a panel of judges (appointed by We Care) on the criteria of (not necessarily in order of importance):
- The compelling nature of the story.
- How instructive is the story with regards to being an individual with disabilities attending culinary arts program and their goals for the future?
- The determination of the student to not allow his/her disability to prevent him/her from realizing the goal of pursuing higher education.



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- Selection of the scholarship recipients will be based only on the information provided in the application. No restrictions will be placed on scholarship recipients holding other grants or awards or receiving assistance or income from other sources.
- Potential recipients will be selected between March 16 - 31, 2026 and will be notified by telephone and/or email on or after April 1, 2026.
- We Care and Lactalis Canada Foodservice reserves the right not to award some or all allotted scholarships in the event it receives an insufficient number of entries, or a lack of entries that achieve a satisfactory minimum score based on the above judging criteria, as determined by the judges in their sole discretion.

Scholarship recipient notification

- The scholarship recipients will be notified on or after April 1, 2026. If, after making such efforts as We Care and Lactalis Canada Foodservice in its sole discretion deems reasonable, a potential scholarship recipient cannot be notified by telephone or email using the contact information provided on the application, or a potential scholarship recipient does not respond to any message and contact number left on any answering service associated with a potential scholarship recipient's telephone number, that potential scholarship recipient may be disqualified, and a runner-up may be notified (7 days limit).
- We Care and Lactalis Canada Foodservice shall not be responsible if, for any reason, the potential scholarship recipient does not receive notification. Potential scholarship recipients will be required to execute and return a Representation Agreement and a Consent, Waiver and Release within 15 days of notification. Non-compliance with the foregoing may result in disqualification and a runner may be notified.



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Scholarship Application Checklist

Before submitting your application, please make sure you have completed and included the following: Please note that incomplete applications will not be considered.

Completed application form. Ensure it includes:

1. Personal Information
2. Academic Institution & Program Information
3. Tuition & Financial Award Information
4. Confirmation of disability
5. How this scholarship helps you overcome financial barriers you may have
6. Declaration & Consent

Essay (1,000 – 1,500 words) or video (2-5 minutes maximum)

Headshot photograph

Proof of enrollment at or acceptance to an accredited post-secondary certificate/degree from a Canadian institution between September 2025 and August 2026.

2 Reference Letters (one must be from an academic educator of a school you are currently or were previously enrolled in as a student)

2 most recent years of education transcripts