

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR A NON-ENDOWED FUND

NAME OF NON-ENDOWED FUND

**GABRIEL DARQUENNE SCHOLARSHIP FOR STUDENTS WITH
EXCEPTIONAL LIFE JOURNEYS**

INTRODUCTION

This scholarship was generously created by Nathalie Goyette in honour of Gabriel Darquenne.

In 1999, Gabriel Darquenne began to experience various problems following a difficult separation from his parents. He was in the care of Quebec's youth protection agency, the Direction de la protection de la jeunesse, until he reached the age of majority. Over the years, he went through a dozen living environments — secure youth centres, semi-secure, open, group homes, foster families — finally ending up in a supervised apartment, about to turn 18. Quickly reaching the age limit to benefit such housing, he found himself homeless and moved over 40 times. Despite these hardships, Gabriel joined the workforce and managed to meet support himself for many years, while not giving up on his most precious dream — to become a lawyer. In 2017, his exceptional path finally led him to studies in the University of Ottawa's Faculty of Law, Civil Law Section, where he received a degree in 2019, at the age of 28.

PURPOSE OF FUND

This scholarship is for students who have faced personal and socioeconomic hardship, or who have experienced systemic discrimination as a result of their socio-economic status or ethno-cultural background, who demonstrate leadership in their communities or who have the potential to become leaders and change their communities. Applicants can be of immigrant background or come from disadvantaged socioeconomic circumstances, a cultural minority or an Indigenous community. The scholarship can also be awarded to those who do not meet our minimum requirements for admission to studies in law (80% for college students and 78% for university students).

FUND DETAILS

Eligibility Criteria

Applicants must meet these criteria:

1. be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident, person with protected or refugee status, or an international student;
2. be admitted to an undergraduate program in the Faculty of Law, Civil Law Section, of the University of Ottawa;
3. demonstrate financial need, as determined by the Financial Aid and Awards Service of the University of Ottawa; and
4. have experienced personal and socioeconomic hardship, or have faced systemic discrimination due to their socioeconomic status or ethno-cultural background.

Value of the award:	\$5,000
Number of awards:	1
Frequency of the award:	Annual

Level or program of study: Undergraduate
Application contact: Financial Aid and Awards Service
Application deadline: March 31

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Applications must be made through Online Scholarships and Bursaries, which can be accessed through the uoZone portal, and should include:

1. the Financial Questionnaire; and
2. a letter from the applicant (500 words max.) summarizing the personal and socioeconomic hardship they have faced in their life or the systemic discrimination they have experienced as a result of their socioeconomic status or ethno-cultural background.