

MELD



The McMaster English
Language Development Office

MELD Community Access Award

The McMaster English Language Development (MELD) Office is proud to announce the MELD Community Access Award. The award has been established in order to support up to 10 individuals living in the City of Hamilton who demonstrate financial need and are looking to improve their English language skills to achieve their personal, academic or career goals. Each recipient will receive a tuition and fees waiver valued at approximately **\$30,000** to attend the MELD Diploma program.

ABOUT THE MELD DIPLOMA PROGRAM

The MELD Diploma is an 8-month program designed for individuals whose primary language is not English and are looking to improve their communication skills. Through our carefully designed courses and our highly trained ESL instructors, MELD graduates greatly improve their:

- Speaking and presentation skills
- Note-taking and listening skills
- Ability to read critically in English
- Professional communication skills
- Academic skills to ensure success in a post-secondary English-speaking environment

The MELD program consists of top quality English language instruction that is rooted in evidence-based best practices combined with an innovative structure that facilitates mentorship, engagement and acculturation.

MELD is an ESL-focused program as well as an academic transition program, helping prepare individuals for both the language and broader expectations of an undergraduate degree program.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Students earn credits toward an undergrad degree
- Balanced diploma requirements, allowing students to complete the program in 8-months (September - April)
- Dedicated MELD Student Advisor with expertise in ESL and counselling to assist students with personal, social, and academic concerns
- Acculturation component which develops the cultural awareness skills needed to be successful in both an academic and professional English-language environment
- Innovative mentorship component, partnering MELD students with senior undergraduate students

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Applicants must meet the following criteria to be considered:

- Currently hold at least a high school diploma **or** expect to complete their high school diploma by June 2021
- Have obtained a minimum IELTS score of 5.0 (or equivalent CLB 5 or CEFR B1)
- Permanently reside in the City of Hamilton
- Demonstrate financial need and potentially difficulty accessing post-secondary education

Interest in pursuing an undergraduate degree at McMaster University is welcome but not required. If individuals intend to complete an undergraduate degree at McMaster upon successfully completing the MELD program, they must also meet the academic requirements as outlined by their program of interest. Qualifying candidates who have applied through OUAC will also receive a conditional offer to their program of interest for the 2022-2023 academic year.

Please note: due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the mode of delivery will not be known until final plans are announced by the university. Applicants should have reliable access to a computer and the internet.



APPLICATION & AWARD DETAILS

Applications are now open and will close on May 17, 2021.

Applicants are asked to submit the following:

- Completed application form, available for download at <https://meld.humanities.mcmaster.ca/meld-award>
- A 250-word Statement of Interest detailing how the MELD program could help them achieve their personal, academic, and/or career goals
- Proof of high school completion or current enrollment in their final year of high school
- Proof of IELTS Score of 5.0 (or equivalent CLB 5 or CEFR B1)
- Evidence of financial need
- Those wishing to complete their undergraduate studies at McMaster upon finishing MELD must also submit a standard OUAC application according to the requirements as outlined on the OUAC website

Completed application packages should be submitted electronically to meld@mcmaster.ca.

A selection panel will review all applicants and select up to 10 award winners. The MELD Community Access Award is valued at approximately \$30,000 and is only available for individuals attending the MELD Diploma program for the 2021-2022 academic year. The award is a tuition, course materials, and fees waiver and has no cash value.

Contact Us

If you have any questions about the MELD Community Access Award or the MELD program, please contact us at:



meld.mcmaster.ca



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