



H. J. Cambie Secondary School

4151 Jacombs Road, Richmond, BC V6V 1N7
Phone: 604-668-6430 Fax: 604-668-6132
Email: cambie@sd38.bc.ca Web: hjcambie.sd38.bc.ca

McEWEN FAMILY AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Jim and Eileen McEwen moved to Richmond in the mid 1970s, each of their three children (Jeffrey, Julianne, and Jennifer) were born in Richmond, and each received an excellent education from some inspirational teachers in Richmond's public elementary schools and high schools. Also, while living in Richmond, Jim McEwen used his PhD in biomedical engineering to create innovative new medical technologies, leading to improved quality of life for several thousand patients daily around the world and leading to many awards including two honorary doctorates and appointment as an Officer of the Order of Canada. The McEwen family is grateful that the enriched education received from our public school system has led to happy and fulfilling lives, and to opportunities to help others. The McEwen Family Awards are the family's way of expressing its gratitude, by providing recognition to students who have excelled academically in the face of personal or family adversities, who have demonstrated the imagination to innovate and the stamina to succeed in their innovations, and who have demonstrated their compassion by helping to improve the quality of life of others throughout their education.

Graduating H.J. Cambie students are invited to apply for the following awards:

Award	Number Available	Amount
Dr. Jim McEwen Innovation Award	1	\$5000
McEwen Family Scholarship	1	\$5000
Principal's Award, sponsored by the McEwen Family	1	\$5000
Potential for Future Achievement Award, sponsored by the McEwen Family	1	\$2500
McEwen Family Awards	7	\$1500

GENERAL CRITERIA

All scholarship applicants must be eligible for admission into an accredited post-secondary degree, diploma, or certificate program, preferably in a field through which they will apply creative thinking skills to become the problem solvers, innovators, and leaders of tomorrow. An applicant must be a Canadian citizen, has Permanent Resident status in Canada, or is a landed immigrant.

Applicants must be:

- focused on achieving their potential through academic and creative pursuits;
- enthusiastic about learning and intellectual exploration; and
- actively engaged in activities to improve the lives of others, within their school or in the outside community.

Applicants should demonstrate one or more of the following:

- They have excelled academically, with the applicant’s specific academic standing considered in the context of any personal, family, or financial adversities that may have been faced.
- They have shown the imagination to innovate and the stamina to succeed in their innovations.
- They have helped to improve the quality of life of others throughout their education.

These scholarships encourage students to be critical, creative, and compassionate thinkers, and provide financial support for the first step in a lifetime of learning.

APPLICATION

Each applicant is only eligible for one McEwen award. Apply for one award that you feel is most closely suited to the strengths you bring as an applicant. Please be advised that if the committee feels your application is better suited for a different award, it may be moved to a more suitable category.

Applicants must submit a written personal statement that explains how personal experiences and achievements reflect the specific criteria of the award. Each applicant should submit only one personal statement. All submitted information will be held in confidence. Please add any information that would be significant to your application, such as the following information:

- Is there any further confidential information that reflects your financial need, (to supplement the financial information provided on the Scholarship Application) especially if that need may make it difficult or impossible for you to pursue post-secondary education at this time?
- Are you the first in your immediate family to plan to go to university, college, or other post-secondary institution? What is motivating you to do so?

Your personal statement should not exceed two pages and be double-spaced with a minimum of 12-point font (500-600 words). At the top of the page, please include your name, student number, homeroom, email address, and the award for which you are applying. Some applicants may be contacted to provide further information.

Please include a teacher, administrator, staff member, or community mentor, who is most familiar with the supplementary information provided in your personal statement. A letter of recommendation can be submitted by your reference to support your application. This is especially important if the reference is a community mentor. If the reference is a Cambie staff member, please ensure they are willing to endorse you at the Scholarship selection meeting and you may include their name as a reference on the bottom of your personal statement. Please ensure that your reference can write a meaningful letter with specific examples that describe your abilities and potential – see suggestions and examples at:

<http://mitadmissions.org/apply/prepare/writingrecs>

Some applicants may be contacted to obtain further information. **Deadline: April 1st, 2025 at 3:00pm. No late submissions will be accepted.** Submit your application [HERE](https://forms.office.com/r/BXMFx09v4K). (<https://forms.office.com/r/BXMFx09v4K>)

The reference letter should be e-mailed to Ms. Hui at shui@sd38.bc.ca . Alternatively, you may upload it to the online form if you have a copy of it.



If circumstances permit, it is hoped that the recipient of the McEwen Family Awards might assist future students similarly in the future.

DESCRIPTION OF AWARDS

Dr. Jim McEwen Innovation Award

\$5000

This award is given to an H.J.Cambie student who has exhibited an exceptionally innovative accomplishment, talent, skill or ability, well beyond any expectations and requirements of courses taken by the student. The emphasis is on innovation related to science, technology, engineering, arts, or mathematics (STEAM) that may have a foreseeable benefit to others. In extraordinary circumstances, this award may extend to exceptional creativity demonstrated in the arts.

In your personal statement, please address some, or all, of the following criteria questions pertinent to your specific situation.

- What have you accomplished that is exceptionally innovative in an area of science, applied science or technology, engineering, arts or design, or mathematics beyond what was required for your courses?
- What motivated you?
- How was it innovative?
- What did you learn?
- How could you see your innovation eventually being of benefit to others?
- Is there a teacher or mentor outside the school, who is most familiar with your innovation?

McEwen Family Scholarship

\$5000

The successful applicant:

- demonstrates financial need for post-secondary education;
- has achieved an average of 80% in Term 1 and Term 2 in courses taken at H.J. Cambie during the regular school year;
- has clearly demonstrated personal compassion by working to improve the quality of life of others, within the school or in the larger world, through appropriate self-initiated activities or in volunteer/leadership capacities;
- is planning to enroll in at least 80% or more of a full course load (usually 4 out of 5 courses per semester or its equivalence) leading to a degree, diploma, or certificate at an accredited college or university;
- submits a reference letter from an individual familiar with the volunteer contributions- please ensure that this individual can provide meaningful feedback that supports the descriptions in your personal statement.

In your personal statement, please address some or all of the following criteria questions pertinent to your specific situation:

- Explain how your financial situation is a serious obstacle for enrolling in post- secondary education;
- Describe your post-secondary educational goals;

Provide a brief summary of your achievements, self-initiated activities and volunteer activities, and how they have contributed to improving the quality of life of others. Include a short reflection on how these achievements and activities have personally impacted you, i.e. describe how meaningful the work is to you, what you have learned from your involvement, and why you chose to contribute to these volunteer activities.

Principal's Award, sponsored by the McEwen Family

\$5000

This special award is not based on scholastic standing, but rather is intended to be awarded to the student who has:

- demonstrated the greatest improvement at H.J. Cambie
- overcome significant personal obstacles in graduating, and/or
- achieved something remarkable inside or outside the school that is richly deserving of recognition, and that might not otherwise be recognized.

In your personal statement, please address some, or all, of the following criteria questions pertinent to your specific situation.

- Have you achieved something remarkable at school or outside the school, in the face of significant obstacles or challenges, that is deserving of recognition and yet that may not be known within the school?
- Have you had to deal with a significant challenge or obstacle in your personal life, health or family situation that may have affected your performance in school?
- What success have you had in overcoming any obstacles or challenges, leading to your graduation?

Potential for Future Achievement Award, sponsored by the McEwen Family

\$2500

This award targets the student who is recognized by staff as having greater potential for future success than is evident in academic marks. The student may face challenges in the home, financial, emotional, and/or learning areas. Staff will have observed the student in one or more of the following areas:

- consistently demonstrates strong work habits
- consistently demonstrates the Cambie 3 R's (Respectful, Responsible, and Ready to Succeed)
- passion and/or effort in a subject area
- participation and effort in class work
- involvement in the life of the school
- marked improvement in some particular area of learning during the high school experience
- has knowledge of a particular challenge or challenges faced by the student

In your personal statement, please address some, or all, of the following criteria questions pertinent to your specific situation.

- Have you achieved something remarkable at school or outside the school, in the face of significant obstacles or challenge, that is deserving of recognition and yet that may not be known within the school?
- Have you had to deal with a significant challenge or obstacle in your personal life, health or family situation that may have affected your performance in school?
- What success have you had in overcoming any obstacles or challenges, leading to your graduation?
- Have you demonstrated your compassion by finding opportunities to help others, while achieving your remarkable accomplishment or while overcoming your specific challenges?

Students who have difficulties with written expression may request an interview with a scholarship committee or prepare a multimedia presentation in lieu of a written personal statement.

McEwen Family Awards

7 awards at \$1500 each

These awards are provided to graduating students, based on a combination of:

- academic achievement
- leadership and/or service
- nature and level of contributions within the school and/or in the larger world aimed at improving the quality of life of others, and
- an evaluation by the Scholarship Committee of other factors based on the information provided in your Personal Statement.

In your personal statement, please address some, or all, of the following criteria questions pertinent to your specific situation.

- Regarding your involvement in school activities and in activities in your larger community, what do you regard as your major accomplishments and how have they helped others?
- What motivated you to become involved?
- How long have you been involved?
- What have you learned, and how have you benefited from your involvement?

or

Have you had to take on unusual responsibilities within your family while going to school that may have limited your ability to participate in school activities or to be involved with community activities and services? For example, have you had to spend time to help care for one or more family members, or have you had to work part-time to help support yourself or your family? Please explain, being as specific as possible.