



# ECOLINT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

Transforming lives  
through education



# Welcome to Ecolint

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# 1. Our vision

At the International School of Geneva (Ecolint), our mission is to *“educate students to be global citizens with the courage and capacity to create a just and joyful tomorrow together.”* We aim to provide a distinctive, high-quality international education that allows all students to reach their full potential. By respecting individual and cultural identities, we foster independent learners who are eager to continue their education throughout their lives.

We prepare our students for membership in diverse communities, equipping them to engage with the political, ethical, and environmental challenges of their time. Encouraging active participation in creating a better world, our school has always championed mutual understanding, respect, and shared values.

In line with our commitment to inclusive education, we believe that transformative learning should be accessible to all, regardless of financial situation. Our scholarship programme, funded entirely by generous philanthropic support, offers talented students the opportunity to thrive at Ecolint, ensuring that future leaders from all backgrounds can benefit from the education we provide.

We are dedicated to continually evolving to meet the needs of our students, striving for excellence and modelling the values we teach.





## 2. Why we offer scholarships

Ecolint is a not-for-profit school and every decision we make, from the allocation of resources to the educational opportunities we provide, is driven by our commitment to offering a transformational and inspiring education for young people. This includes ensuring that exceptional students, who might not otherwise have the chance, can access the world-class education we offer. It creates opportunities for tomorrow's global citizens and leaders, including many students who have faced hardship or displacement.

Since 2019, we have welcomed 24 scholarship students, many of whom are refugees or come from disadvantaged backgrounds. These resilient, talented young people bring unique global perspectives, enriching our entire community.

### Where our scholars come from (2019-2025)



We have successfully reached our goal of supporting 15 scholars annually by 2024/25. With community support, we can sustain and grow this impactful programme, helping even more students realize their potential and contribute to a more inclusive, diverse world.

# 3. Who are we looking for

We are looking for highly motivated and intellectually curious students who are eager to contribute to the school community and engage with the wider world. Applicants should demonstrate a commitment to academic achievement and personal growth, as well as a passion for extra-curricular activities such as community service, music, theatre or visual arts. They should also align with Ecolint's mission and values, demonstrating a strong desire to be educated as future global citizens and leaders.

**To be considered for a scholarship, applicants must meet the following requirements:**

- **Academic commitment and potential:** Applicants should demonstrate a high likelihood of academic success at Ecolint and possess the necessary language proficiency in either English or French.
- **International mindset:** An openness to other cultures and diverse viewpoints is essential.
- **Guardian support:** Parents or guardians must be fully engaged in their child's education and collaborate with the school. The applicant's home environment should provide a stable setting for learning.
- **Eligibility to study in Switzerland:** Applicants must have the legal right to reside in Switzerland or France.
- **Financial need: Families must meet specific financial thresholds:**
  - Families living in Switzerland: Annual income under CHF 71,500 (for two adults and one or more children) or CHF 41,000 (for a single-parent household with one or more children).
  - Families living outside Switzerland: Financial need will be assessed on a case-by-case basis according to the United Nations Human Poverty Index.
- **Age:** applicants must be at least 14 years old by August of the entrance year and eligible for entry into Years 10, 11 or 12. Exceptions to the age requirement may be considered on a case-by-case basis.

**We are looking for students who will thrive in our diverse, international community, share our values and contribute meaningfully to school life.**

## Who?

Motivated  
Curious  
Academic  
Growth  
Passion

Engaged  
Aligned  
Financial Need  
Eligible  
High chance of success

## Eligibility

Age: 14+  
Financial Need  
Residency  
(Switzerland/France)  
Academic Potential  
Guardian Support

## 4. A strong support system

At Ecolint, making scholarship students feel at home is a top priority. We are proud of the strong support network that surrounds each scholar from the moment they join the school.

Each scholar is supported by a dedicated **marraine or parrain (personal mentor)** on their campus who meets with them regularly and liaises with families. Scholars also belong to a mentor group, receiving weekly guidance and check-ins. This support is embedded in a broader pastoral framework which includes **Heads of Year, School Counsellors and the School Nurse**.

Scholars benefit from our well-established **buddy system**, connecting them with current students (often other scholars) who help them settle in. In addition, the Scholarship Coordinator is a constant point of contact throughout the student's time at Ecolint.

Our **induction programme** includes a shadow day with a future classmate, a pre-term picnic with fellow scholars and their families and several social events throughout the year, such as a fondue night or campus breakfast, to foster peer support and connection.

**Psychological and well-being support** is available to all scholars, as is personalised academic advising. Our university counsellors work closely with scholars to identify higher education or training options that align with their legal and financial circumstances.

Ecolint does not publicly identify scholarship students. Each individual is **free to decide** whether to share that they are a scholar. Many choose to do so proudly, within the inclusive and respectful environment we strive to create.



# 5. What a scholarship covers

The Ecolint Scholarship Programme covers tuition fees, as well as additional costs and support needed for each scholar to fully engage in community life and succeed both academically and personally.

## This includes:



**Full tuition fees**



**Any exam fees**  
(IGCSE, IB etc)



**Any cost related to university preparation**  
(e.g. portfolio for art courses)



**Compulsory trips**



**Cafeteria\***



**Transport\* or public transport travel pass**



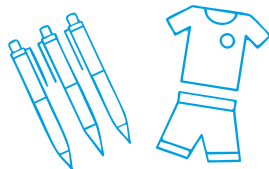
**Allowance for an extra-curricular activity**



**Laptop\***



**Calculator**



**School material**  
(PE Kit, Lab coat, notebooks, pens etc.)\*



**Pocket money / social allowance\***

\*According to the needs of the applicant

# 6. Application process and timeline

If you fulfil the eligibility requirements, please write to our Scholarship Coordinator, **Kate Friend** (scholarships@ecolint.ch), attaching:

1. Scholarship application form
2. Handwritten letter of application by the student (English or French)
3. Letter of recommendation
4. School reports/transcripts from the previous three years
5. Proof of financial situation and residence
6. Deadline to apply: consult our website here:  
<https://www.ecolint.ch/en/scholarship-programme/application>

## Application practicalities

### a) The application form

Applicants will be required to fill out an application form via the admissions portal:  
<https://www.ecolint.ch/en/scholarship-programme/application>

**This form will include:**

- Name
- Birth details, nationality and citizenship
- Language details
- Parent and guardian details
- Education history
- Campus preference (please note we have three campuses)

### b) What makes a good letter of application

- A strong application letter allows the committee to understand the applicant's personality, passions and goals. Suggestions for what to include:
- Why applying for the scholarship
- Why interested in being an Ecolint student
- Outline of academic and career goals and intended impact on the world
- Interests outside of school and how they have shaped the applicant



- Significant challenges or obstacles overcome, demonstrating resilience and growth
- Examples of initiative, creativity or problem-solving in leadership, volunteer or community work
- How receiving the scholarship would support educational and professional aspirations

### **c) Letter of recommendation**

A letter from an adult (not a family member) able to attest to the applicant's character, academic ability, personal resilience, and potential for success.

### **d) Proof of financial situation**

Applicants' families should provide as many of the following as possible:

- Proof of household income in the form of a recent tax return
- Three recent salary statements
- Certificate of financial support from social services (e.g. EVAM, Hospice Général)

NB: If shortlisted for a second interview, a more detailed financial questionnaire will be required.

### **e) Proof of residence status**

All applicants must have legal permission to reside in Switzerland or France.

Evidence such as a residence permit must be submitted before the school year begins.

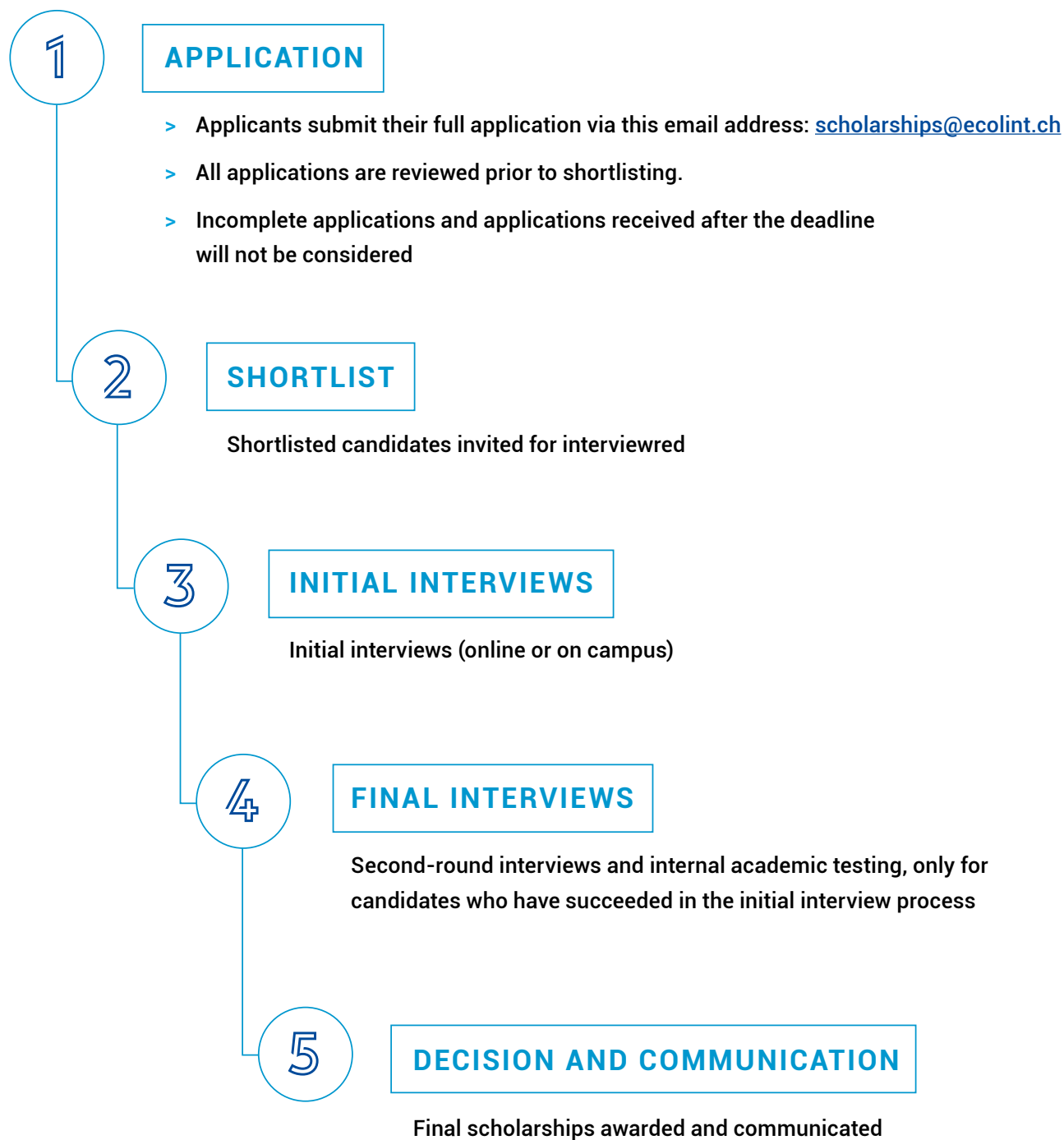
### **f) Proof of living arrangements**

Ecolint is not a boarding school. Most scholars already live in the Geneva area.

Applicants must provide one of the following:

- A certificate of residence from your commune
- A letter from a Swiss resident (potentially a family member) who offered to be a legal guardian
- If staying with a legal guardian, a letter of approval from Swiss authorities must be provided prior to the start of the academic year.

## g) Timeline



## **h) Interview process**

Applicants selected for interview will undergo a two-stage process:

### **Stage 1: Initial interview**

- Conducted by the Scholarship Coordinator and a member of the Ecolint leadership team; informal and conversational in tone
- Lasts approximately 30 minutes, conducted either in person or online.
- Aimed at exploring the applicant's motivation, interests, background, and alignment with Ecolint's values.
- Includes an opportunity for the applicant to ask questions about Ecolint and the scholarship programme.

### **Stage 2: Campus interview and assessment**

- Conducted on the relevant campus the student would potentially be enrolled with the campus marraine/parrain (personal mentor) and members of the campus leadership.
- Includes internal academic assessments (Maths, Sciences, English/French)
- A campus tour with current students is arranged to facilitate informal exchanges and offer insight into daily school life.

## **i) Conditions of our scholarships**

Final decisions are made by our Scholarship Committee on an individual basis (Scholarship Coordinator, Head of Development, Head of Admissions, Head of Finance, Director General). Once students have joined Ecolint, their scholarship will be renewed annually, provided that they meet the following criteria:

- Demonstrated alignment with the school's mission
- Consistent academic commitment and honesty
- Positive contribution to all areas of our school life

# 7. Life after Ecolint

Ecolint has a dedicated and experienced team of university advisors who guide students toward their next steps. Scholars benefit from tailored support in exploring and accessing higher and/or continuing education opportunities. For many of our scholars, choices will be determined by their residence status e.g. students with refugee status in Switzerland normally need to stay in Switzerland once they graduate.

## University and career counselling

Across all three campuses, students and families receive continuous support throughout secondary school to prepare for higher education and future careers.

### This includes

- Career exploration and post-secondary preparation
- Course selection and summer programme guidance
- Application planning and university requirements
- System expertise for the UK, North America, Switzerland and beyond
- Personalised advice for IB and Swiss Maturité students

### Services offered

- One-on-one counselling sessions
- SAT and IB exam preparation sessions
- University application workshops (essays, letters, interviews)
- University fairs with global institutions
- Presentations and campus visits

Once a member of the Ecolint community, always a member. With a global network of over 30,000 alumni, we encourage our scholars to stay connected, return to campus whenever possible and share their future successes through our alumni network on [Ecolint Connect](#) and with our alumni team at [alumni@ecolint.ch](mailto:alumni@ecolint.ch).



## 8. Our partners and donor community

The Ecolint Scholarship Programme thrives thanks to a wide network of committed supporters – individuals, families, foundations and partner organisations – who share our belief in the power of education to change lives.



### Our institutional partners

We are proud to collaborate with organisations who help us identify outstanding candidates, including:

- Hospice Général
- EVAM – Etablissement vaudois d'accueil des migrants
- Le Petit Escabeau

***" The International School of Geneva's Scholarship Programme has provided many young people from families supported by our institution with an unexpected opportunity. They benefit from a rich and challenging education in an environment that fosters the development of their skills. It is undoubtedly a wonderful springboard! "***

***Hospice Général***

### Our donors

Ecolint gratefully acknowledges the generosity of the individuals, families, foundations and corporate partners who make the Scholarship Programme possible. Since 2018, over 350 donors have supported the programme, and their contributions ensure that talented and deserving young people can access a life-changing education. Our Donor Honour Roll in our [Donor impact report](#) celebrates these supporters who are making a difference to so many deserving scholars.

Our most committed supporters include foundations such as the Oak Foundation, Fundación Universidad Congreso, the McCall MacBain Foundation and the Rudge Foundation, which provide full or partial funding for scholarships, as well as the SV Group (SV Catering), which provides meals for all scholars across our three campuses throughout the academic year.



## 9. Make an impact: support scholarships

Support from the community helps transform lives. It enables students with limited means to access the life-changing experience of an Ecolint education and pursue higher education.

*"Abdul came to Ecolint from Afghanistan when he was 18, fleeing threats originating from radical Islamism against his family. He had great results at school and finished in 2021. He became a two-time Swiss champion in taekwondo and his dream is to participate in the Olympics. In September 2023, he received a tuition scholarship for a bachelor's at the Sport Management School in Lausanne."*



### What your gift supports:

- Tuition and academic expenses
- Meals, transport, and social activities
- Personalised support and mentoring
- Psychological and well-being services



### Ways to give:

- One-off or monthly donations
- Endowment contributions
- Legacy or planned giving



## Meet our current and former scholars

Discover first-hand experiences as our scholars share their insights about the programme. Our current scholar Majd offers advice on why you should apply, what campus life is like, and how students are supported throughout their studies. Meanwhile Stefaniya, a former scholar, reflects on the programme's significance, its impact on her life, and why this opportunity was crucial for her future.

**Click on the image below or scan the QR code to watch their stories**



## 10. Contact us

**Questions about  
the programme?**

[\*\*`scholarships@ecolint.ch`\*\*](mailto:scholarships@ecolint.ch)

**Interested in  
supporting?**

[\*\*`development@ecolint.ch`\*\*](mailto:development@ecolint.ch)



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