

For immediate release

**August 10, 2018**

**Algonquin College students receive \$640,000 from  
Weston Family Scholarship in the Skilled Trades**

OTTAWA — Algonquin College is pleased to announce that The W. Garfield Weston Foundation will generously support 165 Algonquin College students over the next four years through the Weston Family Scholarship in the Skilled Trades.

Through this initiative, 95 post-secondary students and 70 apprentices at Algonquin campuses in Ottawa, Perth and Pembroke will benefit from more than 365 awards to be given out over the next four years – a total funding of \$640,211. The awards will go to students pursuing careers in the transportation, manufacturing and construction sectors – industries currently undergoing a labour shortage across Canada.

Beyond financial help, these Weston Family Scholars will also receive ongoing social and career support – including mentorship and co-curricular activities.

“The W. Garfield Weston Foundation is extremely proud of its long history of supporting excellence in education across Canada,” said Eliza Mitchell, Director, The W. Garfield Weston Foundation. “The Weston Family Scholarship will provide students with the support they need to complete their training in the skilled trades. We look forward to working with an institution of the size and dynamism of Algonquin College to help encourage even more Canadians to pursue valuable and long-lasting careers in the trades.”

“This incredible opportunity to partner with W. Garfield Weston Foundation will allow our learners to succeed in their chosen fields,” said Cheryl Jensen, President and Chief Executive Officer of Algonquin College. “We know how skilled trades programs and the apprenticeship learning model provide opportunities for people to make a difference in our communities – and the Foundation is generously making that a reality for a new generation with this multi-year program.”

The first deadline for applications is Sept. 15, 2018 and prospective students who qualify will be contacted directly. The [scholarship application form](#) provides details regarding selection criteria and eligibility

Post-secondary students will receive \$1,000 per semester along with a first-semester college award for entry-level students' equivalent to the cost of tuition. Apprentices will receive a college award of \$400 along with a one-time entrance award of \$1,000.

Deadlines for the Winter 2019 semester and the Fall 2019 semester will be announced this September.

Visit [here](#) for more information.

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**About The W. Garfield Weston Foundation:**

For three generations, the W. Garfield Weston Foundation has pursued its mission to enhance and enrich the lives of Canadians. With a focus on medical research, the environment, and education, the Foundation aims to catalyze inquiry and innovation to bring about long-term change. As the Foundation marks its 60th anniversary, it continues to collaborate with a broad range of Canadian charities to further world-class research, explore new ideas, and create tangible benefits for the communities in which it works.

**About Algonquin College:**

The mission of Algonquin College of Applied Arts and Technology is to transform hopes and dreams into lifelong success. Algonquin College, an Ontario public-sector community college, does this by offering hands-on, digitally connected, experiential learning in more than 185 programs. Based in the Ottawa Valley, Algonquin College is the largest polytechnic institute in Eastern Ontario. [www.algonquincollege.com](http://www.algonquincollege.com)

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