**Dr. Steve Pawluk Soil Science Scholarship**   
**2025 Application Guidelines and Selection Criteria**

***Application deadline is 11:59 pm, EDT September 30, 2025***

Dr. Steve Pawluk was a professor in the Department of Soil Science at the University of Alberta. His research focused on understanding dynamic changes within soil systems that impact soil relationships influenced by hydrogeology, geomorphology, vegetation and soil fauna. His work occurred on major Canadian soils, including Podzols, Solonetzes, Brunisols, Chernozems, Luvisols, Gleysols and Cryosols. He served as chair of the Department of Soil Science and as Associate Dean (Research) for the Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry. He contributed greatly to the International Congress of Soil Science held in Edmonton, Alberta in 1978, was named a Canadian Society of Soil Science (CSSS) Fellow in 1980 and served as President of CSSS in 1983.

One annual scholarship of $2,000 will be administered by CSSS to support graduate students in programs focused on soil science; for example, in agriculture, forestry, environmental sciences or land reclamation.

**Scoring Selection Criteria (100 points total)**

**Part 1. Academic Achievement (25 points total)**

* Marks from three most recent soil science courses and overall GPA of current program (15 points maximum).

*GPA x 3.75 or Percentage x 15 = number of points*

* Honours, awards, achievements (10 points maximum).

**Part 2. Study Areas (25 points total)**

* Undergraduate and post-graduate courses related to soil sciences (10 points maximum).
* Relevance of courses taken to scholarship objectives (5 points maximum).
* Succinct and relevant research focus and objectives (10 points maximum).

**Part 3. Community Involvement (10 points total)**

* Community service (5 points maximum).
* Leadership, such as project organizer or initiator (5 points maximum).

**Part 4. Career Interests (10 points total)**

* Work experience directly related to soils and related sciences (3 points maximum).
* Career goals achieved (2 points maximum)
* Skills developed as part of the career trajectory (3 points maximum).
* Future personal, educational and career goals for the next ten years as related to soil science (2 points maximum).

**Part 5. Communication Skills (10 points total)**

* Communication skills in how the selection criteria are addressed clearly and concisely (10 points maximum).

**Part 6. Reference Letters (20 points total)**

* Three letters of reference provided from the graduate program supervisor, another faculty member, person outside academia or employer.
* Letter from supervisor or another faculty member (10 points maximum)
* Second and third letters of reference (5 points each maximum).
* Reference letters must be sent directly to CSSS Awards Program Chair, Dr. Judith Nyiraneza, at judith.nyiraneza@agr.gc.ca by the referee using the referee form provided. Use subject line: Pawluk Soil Reference For Last Name of Applicant.

# **How to Apply**

Submit a completed application package (*form provided on the CFFAE website as of March 20, 2024*) and provide all documentation requested by **September 30, 2025**.

**Application Package and Required Documentation:**

A completed and signed Pawluk Scholarship application form.

Official Transcripts from all post-secondary institutions. NOTE: Only PDF scans of official transcripts will be accepted and must be included as part of the application and received by the deadline.

A letter from your university confirming enrolment in your current Masters or PhD program.

Compile all parts of your application (except reference letters) into one pdf document before submission. Preferred order is Application form, Letter of Enrollment, Transcripts. Note that free PDF merge tools are available online, e.g. [www.ilovepdf.com/](http://www.ilovepdf.com/)

Your completed application package PDF must be submitted electronically by the deadline to Dr. Judith Nyiraneza (judith.nyiraneza@agr.gc.ca), subject line: Pawluk Scholarship Application for *Name*

Three (3) letters of reference (*using the form provided on the CFFAE website*) must be submitted directly by the referees to Dr. Judith Nyiraneza (judith.nyiraneza@agr.gc.ca). Use subject line: Pawluk Reference for *LastNameofApplicant*

**Application deadline is 11:59 pm, EDT September 30, 2025**