
SUPREME COURT OF CANADA CHECKLIST FOR U OF C ALUMNI APPLICANTS – PART 1

(October 24, 2025 update)

2027-2028 Clerkship Program

Please note that the Supreme Court of Canada (SCC) and the Faculty of Law encourage alumni and students from a wide range of backgrounds to express their interest in being considered for a Supreme Court of Canada Clerkship. Each year, the Faculty of Law supports the applications of its strongest alumni and students. Alumni wishing to be considered for nomination by the Faculty of Law must first provide their materials to the Faculty for consideration and review (instructions below).

The Supreme Court of Canada Application information poster for this current academic year is not yet available. For now, you should review last year's program details [here](#) along with the [FAQs](#). Once this year's information becomes available, please read the materials thoroughly so you have a clear understanding of current requirements.

To be considered for the Faculty's support in pursuing a SCC clerkship, please note the following minimum requirements:

- a) You are a recent alum of the U of C Faculty of Law;
- b) You are or were on the Dean's list or have other markers of high academic success; and
- c) You have secured or completed a judicial clerkship at a lower-level Court.

While not necessary, our experience tells us that there are other important factors taken into consideration by the SCC and your application is *much* stronger if:

- a) You are bilingual in French and English; You have a range of life or work experience that suggests you will be successful working with a Supreme Court Justice on issues of tremendous significance to Canadians;
- b) You have one or more publications;
- c) You have two strong writing samples from upper-level courses in law school or other suitable alternative writing samples.

Note: All academic transcripts of alumni will be considered in determining if the applicant can be put forward to the Supreme Court of Canada.

If you are interested in being considered for a SCC Clerkship, and you believe you meet the criteria above, please proceed as follows:

- ☐ Schedule an appointment through Elevate with the Director of the CPDO to talk about your resume and cover letter;

- ☐ Submit the following in digital documentation (one email please) to the CPDO (forrayim@ucalgary.ca) by **November 17, 2025, 10 a.m. MT.**
 - **Statement of Interest** (max. 400 words) detailing how you stand out as a serious and competitive Supreme Court of Canada clerkship candidate. Note that the requirements and other factors considered by the Faculty in selecting SCC candidates are detailed in this checklist and the selection criteria provided in the [Supreme Court of Canada's Law Clerk poster](#) (keep your eye out for the release of the updated poster in the coming weeks). Remember that the Court is not looking for candidates who are applying "on spec". Because of this, the Faculty will only put forward alumni and students who are likely to be competitive candidates.
 - Curriculum Vitae (Resume)
 - Cover letter
 - Law transcripts
 - All undergraduate transcripts/graduate transcripts (non-official)
 - The names of three professors/individuals who have confirmed that they are willing to act as referees. [Note you must provide Part 3 of the SCC checklists to anyone you have reached out to about providing a reference. It is important that they have this information in advance of their accepting, or declining to be a referee.]
- ☐ Alumni will be notified by the end of the day on **Friday, November 21, 2025** if they have been accepted as candidates.
- ☐ Per last year's process and pending any updates from the SCC, writing samples will be due at the time of final application to the SCC in January (see SCC Checklist Part 2). Most recently, two legal writing samples have been required (if proficient in English and French, one to be supplied in English and one in French). These are important to start preparing for now and will be due in January.
- ☐ Note that the Guidelines for applying to the Supreme Court of Canada indicate that you must indicate in your application the basis on which you are entitled to work in Canada.
- ☐ Also note that candidates are asked to indicate in the application proficiency in both official languages (reading, writing, and speaking).
- ☐ Candidates are also asked to submit an online application form to the SCC which supplements the other requirements detailed above. This is to be submitted in January and details regarding the form can be found in last year's program found [here](#).