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

(Sept 23, 2025)

2027-2028 Clerkship Program

Please note that the Supreme Court of Canada (SCC) and the Faculty of Law encourage 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 students. Students 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 3L, graduating in 2026, or 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) In the case of our current students, you maintain your high academic success in the fall 2025 term.

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:

- d) You are bilingual in French and English;
- e) You have already secured a clerkship at a provincial or federal court;
- f) 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;
- g) You have one or more publications;
- h) You have two strong writing samples from upper-level courses in law school or other suitable alternative writing samples.

Note:

- While your 2L grades are more important than your 1L grades, your 1L grades are not irrelevant;
- We encourage transfer students to consider a SCC clerkship, but it's important that you reach out to the Director of the Career & Professional Development Office (CPDO) to discuss your eligibility to apply for the Faculty's support and/or whether it might make sense to wait another year until you have additional experience with us and perhaps some post-graduation experience.

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; you may also wish to seek feedback from faculty members who have clerked in the past.

- ☐ 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 students who are likely to be competitive candidates.
 - Curriculum Vitae (Resume)
 - Cover letter
 - Law transcripts to date (non-official)
 - All undergraduate and graduate transcripts (non-official)
 - The names of all professors in upper-level law classes for whom you have written, or are currently writing, a paper.
 - The names of three professors/individuals who are willing to act as referees. If their consent is conditional (i.e. confirmed to be a referee, pending per fall class performance, etc.), please indicate that in your materials [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.]
- ☐ Students will be notified by the end of the day on **Friday, November 21, 2025** if they have been accepted as conditional candidates. In early January, this conditional acceptance will be confirmed, pending the review of their fall 2025 term grades and their references.
- ☐ 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](#).