

Aboriginal Scholarships & Bursaries Available to BC Students

Scholarships and bursaries are wonderful resources to help you finance your post-secondary education because they provide money that does not need to be paid back. Bursaries and scholarships can be provided by governments, schools or private organizations.

What is a Student Loan? *A student loan is designed to help students pay for tuition, books and living expenses. It must be repaid once the student completes their program of study.*

What is a scholarship? *Scholarships are usually awarded based on academic merit rather than financial need. A scholarship does not need to be repaid.*

What is a bursary? *Bursaries are usually granted based on the financial need of the applicant. A bursary does not need to be repaid.*

Web Search Engines for Aboriginal Scholarships/Bursaries

Use these search engines to find scholarships and bursaries available to aboriginal students attending post-secondary school:

Aboriginal Learning Links

<http://www.aboriginallearning.ca/resources/1/1/2>

Aboriginal Bursaries Search Tool

<http://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1351185180120/1351685455328>

Aboriginal Scholarship Guide

<http://www.ammsa.com/community-access/scholarships/>

Student Loan Links

Student Aid BC Assists with the cost of post-secondary education through student loans, grants, and scholarships. We also have programs that help with loan repayment.

<http://www.aved.gov.bc.ca/studentaidbc/>

Scholarships/Bursaries

INDSPIRE - Indspire is the largest supporter of Indigenous education outside the federal government. To date, Indspire has awarded more than \$50 million in scholarships and bursaries to 14,000 First Nation, Inuit and Métis recipients nationwide.

<https://indspire.ca/programs/building-brighter-futures/apply-for-a-bursary-or-scholarship/>

IRVING K. BARBER AWARD Established in 2008 as part of the Provincial Government's strategy to improve Aboriginal access and achievement, the purpose of this award is to support Aboriginal people in getting post-secondary education by reducing financial barriers and are awarded on a competitive basis to students who:

- are Aboriginal
- are British Columbia residents
- are accepted into an eligible program of study at one of BC's public post-secondary institutions or Aboriginally controlled institutions
- are studying in no later than their second year of any eligible program (if that program is longer than two years) by the application deadline.
- are enrolled in full time study in an approved program of study.
- For more information, visit <http://www.bcscholarship.ca/web/aboriginal/eligibility>

First Citizens Fund - Student Bursary Program - Objective: To provide financial assistance to eligible Aboriginal students enrolled in post-secondary education programs. Value: Maximum \$2,000 per year. (Students receiving assistance from their Band or Tribal Council are eligible for a maximum of \$700 per academic year.)

Criteria: Bursaries are available to assist Aboriginal post-secondary students that are normally a resident of BC and are attending a recognized university or college on a full-time basis. Applicants for the bursary program must be registered in a minimum two-year academic program and must maintain an average of C+ or 2.5 GPA.

Bursary levels are determined by the financial needs of each student but the maximum bursary students can receive is \$2,000 per academic year, and this is paid only after the receipt of official transcripts.

The BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres (BCA AFC), under contract with the Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services, currently administers the Student Bursary Program.

BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres
200 - 506 Fort Street
Victoria, BC V8W 1E6

Phone: 250 388-5522

Fax: 250 388-5502

Toll Free: 1-800-990-2432

<http://www.bcaafc.com/programs/firstcitizensfund/31-studentbursary>

NEW RELATIONSHIP TRUST

The New Relationship Trust is pleased to offer Bursaries for Certificate, Diploma and/or Trades to interested and eligible BC First Nations students.

NRTF Post Secondary Scholarship Awards

New Relationship Trust Foundation

Suite 1008 – 100 Park Royal South

West Vancouver, British Columbia V7T 1A2

604-925-3348

<http://www.newrelationshiptrust.ca/>

RBC ABORIGINAL STUDENT AWARDS PROGRAM

The RBC Aboriginal Student Awards Program was launched in 1992 to assist Aboriginal students to complete post-secondary education, and provide an opportunity for RBC to strengthen its relationship with the Aboriginal community. Selected students are awarded up to \$4,000 each academic year for two to four years to use towards tuition, textbooks, supplies and living expenses.

<http://scholarships.rbc.com/Overview.aspx>

KWANTLEN POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY

ABORIGINAL BURSARY (Kwantlen Polytechnic University) – A bursary of up to \$5000 for students registered in the Foundation Trades training program to be used for tuition, textbooks and personal safety equipment.

DOUGLAS COLLEGE

HSBC Aboriginal Bursary (Douglas College) - Established in 2002 by HSBC Bank Canada to assist Aboriginal students attending Douglas College.

Justice Institute of BC <http://www.ammsa.com/content/bc-scholarships>

Dr. Joseph & Rosalie Segal Award (JIBC) - The Dr. Joseph and Dr. Rosalie Segal Award supports students studying counseling in trauma and child abuse; and, Aboriginal students. Value: Five awards of \$4,000 each are available annually.

Applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Students pursuing programs in the subject area of counselling in trauma and child abuse OR Aboriginal learners pursuing careers in any JIBC program area
- Demonstrate the impact your education will have on you and your community
- Demonstrate the difference a Segal Award would make if received

Marvin & Colette Storrow Bursary (JIBC) - Marvin and Colette established this bursary in 2012 to provide tuition support for Aboriginal students towards a JIBC certificate, diploma or degree program. Value: Two awards of \$500 each are available annually.

Applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Applicants must be Aboriginal students enrolling in an individual course, which may be applied towards a JIBC certificate, diploma or degree program.
- Applicants have a demonstrated financial need not met by other available sources of funding, including student loans, grants, sponsorship, work income, etc.
- Applicants must document financial need by completing the application form and signing the declaration. Supporting documentation may be requested to verify information contained in the application form.
- Preference will be given to students involved in school or community activities, volunteer work and/or Aboriginal cultural events.

Safetek Bursary (JIBC)- Safetek established this bursary in 2012 with the purpose of providing financial support for Aboriginal Students in the Career Fire Fighter Pre-Employment Certificate program. Value: One award of \$1,000 is available annually.

Applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Be an Aboriginal learner
- Be accepted or in the process of applying to the Career Fire Fighter Pre-Employment Certificate Program
- Demonstrate financial need not met by other available sources of funding, including: student loans, grants, sponsorship, work income, etc.

Vern & Maureen Campbell Bursary (JIBC) - Vern and Maureen established this bursary in 2012 to provide financial support for Aboriginal youths (30 and under) for students attending a JIBC program of at least 10 credits. Value: One award of \$1,000 is available annually.

Applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Be an Aboriginal youth (30 years and under).
- Applicants must demonstrate financial need not met by other available sources of funding including grants, sponsorship, work income etc.
- Applicants must document financial need by completing the application form and signing the declaration. Supporting documentation may be requested to verify information contained in the application form.

SFU

SFU awards Entrance Bursaries to Canadian high school student for whom the cost of attending university would be a serious impediment. Minimum average of 80% required.

<http://students.sfu.ca/financialaid/indigenous-students/bursaries.html>

OKANAGAN UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Robert Allison Bursary for Non-Status Indians (Okanagan University College) - Allows deserving students to begin or continue attendance at Okanagan University College. Value: The annual income from a bequest may be divided or awarded to a single applicant at the discretion of the selection committee.

Eligibility: Native descent Applicant's circumstances make it necessary to be self-supporting. Available to students at any College Centre.

Information:

Financial Awards Office
Okanagan University College
1000 K.L.O. Road
Kelowna, British Columbia V1Y 4X8
Phone: (250) 862-5419
Fax: (250) 862-5466

