



Surrey Academy
of INNOVATIVE LEARNING

learning without limits

Scholarships and Awards Information Booklet

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PREFACE

Each year, thousands of dollars have been awarded to students in Surrey through various scholarships and awards. The information that has been accumulated in this booklet is intended to give our students a broad picture of the financial opportunities available to them.

The objectives of this information are:

1. To encourage students to apply for scholarships and bursaries that will give them the opportunity to enhance their educational background.
2. To make students aware of possible financial support which is available to help cover the cost of their post secondary education.

For further information on post secondary scholarships, bursaries and student loans, students should contact a financial aid office at a post secondary institute, a school counsellor, or any of the following web sites:

- B.C. Programs & Services, Provincial & District Scholarships:
<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/support/provincial-scholarships>
- BC Student Loan Programs:
www.studentaidbc.ca
- Scholarships Canada:
www.scholarshipscanada.com
- Yconic Student Awards:
www.yconic.com
- BC Scholarships:
www.bcscholarships.ca/
- Schoolfinder:
www.schoolfinder.com
- Student Scholarships:
www.studentscholarships.org/
- Surrey School District Scholarship Information:
www.surreyschools.ca/studentervices/scholarships/Pages/default.aspx

DEFINITIONS

Scholarship

A monetary award based on academic merit or excellence in the area to which the award pertains. This may also include involvement in extra-curricular and community activities, and personal qualities such as leadership ability and citizenship.

Entrance Scholarship

An award that is available to students who are proceeding from grade 12 to studies at a post-secondary institution. These scholarships are awarded by the specific institution to new admissions.

Bursary

A non-repayable award made to students who are in need of financial assistance and who have maintained a satisfactory academic record. Evidence of need may be required.

StudentAid BC

StudentAid BC helps eligible students with the cost of their post-secondary education through loans, grants, bursaries, scholarships and special programs. It also has programs for borrowers who need help repaying their loans. For further information, contact the Financial Awards Office of the post-secondary institution you plan to attend, or contact:

Ministry of Advanced Education
StudentAid BC
PO Box 9173
Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9H7

Telephone: 1-800-561-1818

To learn more about StudentAid BC, visit www.studentaidbc.ca

SCHOLARSHIP STRATEGY

A. INTRODUCTION:

Scholarships need not be as elusive as that pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. With a little effort one can develop a “scholarship strategy” which will enable you to sort through the myriad of available scholarships, bursaries, grants, and awards with relative ease. The keys to success are planning and preparation. Planning and preparation should begin early in the school year to provide maximum flexibility in the pursuit of your scholarship goals. You, of course, must also know what you are looking for and what you are capable of attaining; and this is where education comes in. You will have to become familiar with scholarship types, scholarship terminology, necessary qualifications, application procedures, references, etc.

B. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Survey the range of scholarships available. Keep up to date by reading posted information, attending scholarship meetings, and making regular inquiries regarding the latest material available.
2. Determine which scholarships are realistically available by consulting the criteria and application deadlines pertinent to each scholarship.
3. Obtain application forms, collect the necessary documents (marks, transcripts, reference letters), prepare any required essays or resumes, and submit applications in time to meet deadlines.
4. Maintain a high Grade Point Average (G.P.A.). Note those scholarships for which candidates are screened according to G.P.A. achieved. (In some cases the relevant G.P.A. may be based on grades achieved in a specialty area over a two-year period.)
5. Since many scholarships require more than high academic standing, students should consider such areas as community service, volunteer work, extra-curricular involvement and participation.
6. Maintain a good rapport with people you know, no matter the capacity. A good reputation will help you in obtaining references and nominations; a poor reputation will close doors for you.

C. STRATEGY:

Scholarship candidates should adopt the following strategies for making scholarship applications:

Begin the application procedure sufficiently early in the school year. The process of acquiring an application form, completing the form, gathering letters of reference and recommendations, and returning all relevant documents can take a considerable length of time.

1. Chart the scholarships for which you intend to apply, making special note of the deadlines for each. This exercise will help you establish your own personal timeline.
2. Apply for as many scholarships as possible. Note those for which you can apply serially (where one application form suffices for several scholarships) and those for which you must apply individually.
3. Apply for a Canadian Social Insurance Number (S.I.N.) if you do not already have one. Recipients of Provincial District awards and of Provincial Scholarships must have a Canadian S.I.N. Recipients of scholarships administered by the universities may also be required to have one.
4. Prepare a letter of application early in the school year. When you write the letter, it should include this information:
 - An outline of your interests, hobbies, and activities.
 - A summary of positions and offices you have held in school, youth organizations, and the community.
 - A short statement of the goals you wish to achieve while attending a post-secondary institution.
 - Information concerning awards, scholarships, and prizes which you have won in any field.
 - Details of employment in the last two years, during vacations or after school.

Re-write the letter over the weeks and months, until you are pleased with the result. Make sure that your letter is neat and legible, is on 8 ½" x 11" paper (one side only), and uses regular business letter format. Include all important information, and note the details specified on the application forms. Keep the tone of the letter businesslike; be straightforward and concise.

**** Note:** *The "Student Profile" sheet attached to this booklet should assist you in preparing your letter.*

D. HOW TO OBTAIN TRANSCRIPTS

Many scholarship applications require the student to include a sealed transcript of their high school marks (usually grades 11 and 12). You may request transcripts from SAIL. However, if you simply require an unsealed record of your grades, you may download it from your Student Secure Web account: www.bced.gov.bc.ca/exams/tsw/tsw/student/welcome.jsp

E. LETTERS OF REFERENCE

Principal, teacher, and/or counselor reference letters are very important in an application. To do their best for you, they need to be given advance notice and sufficient time (at LEAST two weeks). Don't ask on Wednesday for a letter needed Friday.

****Provide them with a copy of your student's profile, or a resume. If possible, include a copy of the criteria of the award for which you are applying, and in particular, a copy of the criteria upon which the award is based. Also, remember to express your appreciation to those who provide you with reference letters.**

Furthermore, if there is a teacher/administrator/counselor who has seen you excel in a particular capacity, be sure to provide him/her with a profile or resume in advance in case they are in a position to nominate students for an award.

As well, please respect the reference process. Some people prefer to write confidential, sealed reference letters. Others are fine with showing you the letter. Whatever the case, please respect the wishes of your reference. Chances are, if someone would write something negative about you, he/she would not volunteer to be a reference for you in the first place. Also, do not "reference shop", or acquire several reference letters, only to pick the best few. That is disrespectful to those who are putting much thought and time into helping you succeed.

F. ESSAYS

Some scholarships may require the applicant to write an essay or autobiography. Stick to the length, format, and subject matter specified in the instructions. If goals are requested, include short and long-term goals. Your long-term goals may change over the next few years, but that is usually taken into consideration. A good idea is to confer with an English teacher about your draft and final work.

Tip: Always type your essay/biography in a word processing program first, and then copy/paste it into any online scholarship application. Why? A word processing program will help you find spelling, punctuation, and grammar mistakes. *Nothing looks mor unprofeshinal then writing misteaks in a skolarship aplikashin.*

G. SCHOLARSHIP FILE

Keep a scholarship 'FILE'. Include copies of your student profile, applications, reference letters, resumes, transcripts, essays. Often, you may be able to use the same material for different applications. Being organized and having a ready file of scholarship data will save you a lot of time.

What Do Award Administrators Typically Look For In Students?

Awards administrators typically look for excellence in **three areas**:

1. High scholastic achievement (i.e. GPA of 3.0 to 4.0)
2. Outstanding school/community leadership
3. Outstanding citizenship

Examples of school/community involvement and citizenship include:

- ❖ Organizing a youth summer camp
- ❖ Organizing a youth activity via a church group
- ❖ Volunteering at a senior citizens center
- ❖ Volunteering at a hospital or community center (eg. Surrey Community Centre)
- ❖ Volunteering for a community group (eg. YMCA)

BASIC TYPES OF SCHOLARSHIPS

1. BC Excellence Scholarships: \$5,000

There are 55 BC Excellence Scholarships available to recognize well-rounded B.C. graduates. Winners will have demonstrated community service, both inside and outside their schools, and shown aptitude and commitment to their chosen career paths. They will receive a \$5000 scholarship voucher to use for post-secondary tuition.

Students must be nominated for this scholarship by their school. If nominated, the student must submit an application to their school district or independent school authority, who will forward it to the Ministry of Education for adjudication by the selection committee.

(A student cannot win both a BC Excellence Scholarship and a Pathway to Teacher Education Scholarship.)

Districts/authorities must submit application packages on behalf of their nominees to the Ministry by February 24, 2019. Nominees must:

- Meet basic eligibility requirements as noted above.
- Be enrolled in or graduated from a B.C. Grade 12 graduation program.
- Be eligible for a BC Certificate of Graduation (Dogwood Diploma) by August 31st of the school year in which they are nominated.

Selection Criteria

Nominees' applications will be assessed on the following criteria. Nominees must:

- Meet basic eligibility requirements as noted above.
- Be in their graduating year, with graduation to occur by August 31 or sooner of the year in which they are nominated.
- Have at least a:
 - "B" (73% or above) in their Language Arts 11 final mark
 - "B" average in Grade 11 final course marks that fulfill graduation requirements of Science 11, Math 11 and Social Studies 11, with no more than one "C+" (67% or above) final course mark, (marks lower than "C+" are not accepted).
- Maintain a "B" average in Grades 11 and 12 final course marks required for graduation.
- Submit a resume.
- Provide two references, one from their community and one from their school.
- Provide a written statement (maximum 500 words) describing:

- What lead them to their community service, volunteer activity, and/or leadership role.
- What they learned from this involvement.
- How these skills/experiences will benefit them in their chosen career path.

Nominee’s Application Package

Students who have been nominated by their schools must complete the Ministry’s application and submit it to their district/authority office. Districts/authorities must forward the application package to the Ministry by **Feb** for adjudication by the selection committee. The Application package will be available in the fall of 2015.

2. District/Authority Scholarships: \$1,250

There are 5500 District/Authority Scholarships distributed across school districts and independent school authorities that recognize graduating B.C. students for excellence in their chosen area of interest or strength. Winners will receive a \$1250 scholarship voucher to use towards their post-secondary tuition.

Students can apply for this scholarship through their school district office or contact their school counselor for information.

Qualifying for a District/Authority Scholarship

To win a scholarship, a student must complete the SAIL Bursary and Scholarship Application package and submit to Ms. Enns by the deadline (TBA).

Students must:

- Meet basic eligibility requirements as noted below:
 - Be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident (landed immigrant) at the time of registration in the school year for which the scholarship is awarded
 - Be a B.C. resident
 - Be or have been in the school year for which the scholarship is awarded:
 - Meet the selection criteria for each scholarship
 - Be graduating in the same year the scholarship is awarded
 - Fulfill the B.C. graduation requirements of either the B.C. Graduation Program or the Adult Graduation Program by August 31 of your graduating year

- Meet criteria determined by the local scholarship committee. This requires a student show outstanding achievement in one or more areas:
 - **Indigenous Languages and Culture**, demonstrated at school or in the community
 - **Fine Arts** (e.g., Visual Arts, Dance, Drama, Music)
 - **Applied Skills** (e.g., Business Ed, Technology Ed, Home Economics)
 - **Physical Activity** (e.g., Athletics, Dance, Gymnastics, not limited to Physical Education)
 - **International Languages** with Integrated Resource Packages (IRPs) or External Assessments, including A.P. and I.B. courses
 - **Community Service** (Volunteer Activity), which includes demonstration of local and global issues and cultural awareness
 - **Technical and Trades Training** (e.g., Carpentry, Automotive, Mechanics, Cook Training)
- Have not previously received a District/Authority Award or a District/Authority Scholarship.

Local scholarship committee criteria must ensure that winners have been cumulatively evaluated in the area of achievement chosen for presentation to the committee, and satisfy other criteria which may include factors such as attendance, punctuality, work habits and cooperation.

A student can receive only one District/Authority Scholarship in their lifetime.

3. BC Achievement Scholarships: \$1,250

BC Achievement Scholarships recognize the top 8,000 graduates in the province. The Ministry will determine recipients based on achievement in Grades 10, 11, and 12 courses that satisfy B.C. Graduation Program requirements, including elective courses. Grad Transitions will not be included.

A cumulative average percentage will be calculated and form the basis for determining winners, who receive a \$1,250 scholarship voucher to use towards their post-secondary tuition.

Students do not apply for this scholarship.

Eligibility

Recipients must

- Meet basic eligibility requirements:

- Be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident (landed immigrant) at the time of registration in the school year for which the scholarship is awarded
 - Be a B.C. resident
 - Be or have been in the school year for which the scholarship is awarded:
 - Meet the selection criteria for each scholarship
 - Be graduating in the same year the scholarship is awarded
- Fulfil graduation requirements of the B.C. Graduation Program by August 31 of the student's graduating year
 - Have at least a "B" (73% or above) in their Language Arts 12 course
 - Write and pass a Language Arts 12 provincial examination
 - Have no more than one Transfer Standing (TS) or Standing Granted (SG) indicator among course marks used for the calculation of winners, excluding Language Arts 12, which must have a percentage score

Recipients must:

- Meet basic eligibility requirements as noted above.
- Attain a "B" (73% or above) or better average in their Language Arts 12 course:
 - English 12
 - Communications 12
 - Français langue première 12, or
 - English 12 First Peoples

A student can receive only one BC Achievement Scholarship in their lifetime.

Students cannot receive both a BC Achievement Scholarship and a Graduation Program Examinations Scholarship.

4. University/College Entrance Scholarships:

Most universities, colleges, and private post-secondary institutions, throughout North America provide entrance scholarships to superior Grade 12 students. The deadlines for screening applicants may vary. Students should carefully note deadlines and prepare their applications well in advance.

Included in this booklet are some of the entrance scholarships offered by B.C. universities and colleges. For a more detailed list, students should refer to the following sources:

B.C.I.T.

www.bcit.ca/

www.bcit.ca/finaid/

Camosun College

www.camosun.ca

www.camosun.ca/services/financialaid/

Capilano University

www.capilanou.ca/

www.capilanou.ca/financial-aid/

College of New Caledonia

www.cnc.bc.ca/

www.cnc.bc.ca/Exploring/Services/student_services/financial_aid.htm

College of the Rockies

www.cotr.bc.ca/

www.cotr.bc.ca/FinancialAid/

Douglas College

www.douglascollege.ca/

www.douglascollege.ca/student-services/financial/financial-aid

Emily Carr University of Art + Design

www.ecuad.ca/

www.ecuad.ca/student-services/financial

Justice Institute of British Columbia

www.jibc.ca/

www.jibc.ca/student-services/financial-aid-awards

Kwantlen Polytechnic University

www.kpu.ca/

www.kpu.ca/awards

Langara College

www.langara.bc.ca/

www.langara.bc.ca/student-services/financial-aid/index.html

North Island College

www.nic.bc.ca/

www.nic.bc.ca/services/educationplanning/financialaid.aspx

Northern Lights College

www.nlc.bc.ca/

www.nlc.bc.ca/Services/FinancialAssistance.aspx

Northwest Community College

www.nwcc.bc.ca/

Okanagan College

www.okanagan.bc.ca

www.okanagan.bc.ca/Student_Services/students/financialaid.html

Royal Roads University

www.royalroads.ca/

www.royalroads.ca/prospective-students/financial-aid

Selkirk College

www.selkirk.ca

www.selkirk.ca/financial-information/financial-aid/financial-aid-support

Simon Fraser University

www.sfu.ca/

www.students.sfu.ca/financialaid.html

Thompson Rivers University

www.tru.ca/

www.tru.ca/awards.html

Trinity Western University

www.twu.ca/

www.twu.ca/financial-aid/

University of British Columbia

www.ubc.ca/

www.students.ubc.ca/finance/index.cfm

University of Northern British Columbia

www.unbc.ca/

www.unbc.ca/financial-aid

University of Victoria

www.uvic.ca/

www.uvic.ca/registrar/safa/

Vancouver Community College

www.vcc.ca/

www.vcc.ca/applying/registration-services/financial-aid/

Vancouver Island University

www.viu.ca/

www2.viu.ca/financialaid/

5. School-Based Scholarships and Bursaries

Scholarships and awards are available to qualified applicants who submit an application and meet specific eligibility requirements. Application for these awards can be made by completing the SAIL: Bursaries and Scholarships forms.

The criteria for selecting recipients may be based upon any one of the following:

- Scholastic standing on provincial examination results
- Grade 11 & 12 Grade Point Average and/or percent average
- Specific criteria as determined by the contributor

6. Miscellaneous Scholarships and Bursaries

There are a number of additional scholarships and bursaries available to graduating British Columbia students. Some of these are administered by the provincial Ministry of Education. As well, there exist numerous scholarships and awards administered by hundreds of organizations and companies across Canada. These awards often fall under one of the following categories:

- Affiliation-based Awards
- Athletic Scholarships and Bursaries
- Career-based Awards
- Citizenship/Leadership Awards

For a more detailed list, students should consult:

- University and College calendars
- Personnel division of parents' employers
- Parents' unions
- Parents' place of banking
- Bulletin boards at SAIL

Schulich Leader Scholarships: <https://www.schulichleaders.com/>

Schulich Leader Scholarships are Canada's most coveted undergraduate STEM scholarships.

Up to one hundred are awarded to entrepreneurial-minded high school graduates enrolling in a **Science, Technology, Engineering or Math program** at 20 partner universities across Canada. Half are valued at \$100,000 for engineering scholarships and half are valued at \$80,000* for science and math scholarships.

Every high school in Canada can nominate one graduating student each year to apply for the scholarship.

CMOLIK FOUNDATION: <https://www.thecmolikfoundation.com/scholarships/>

Triumphing over adversity

We award scholarships to youth who have faced adversity in their lives and demonstrated tenacity. Many of our students would not be able to access post-secondary education without our help. With hard work and our support, their dreams can become reality.

WHO MAY APPLY?

Students who have lived in Canada for at least seven years and have experienced adversity in their lives are eligible to apply. They may not have top grades through high school but must be capable of succeeding at the post-secondary level.



<https://bcdl.ca/>

ABOUT

The BC Educators for Distributed Learning Provincial Specialist Association is pleased to offer one scholarship of \$1000 and two scholarships of \$500 to 2020 graduates. The scholarship will be awarded to a student graduating with a High School Dogwood or Adult Diploma from a Distributed Learning program in British Columbia. This student will be furthering their education after high school by upgrading skills, training for a career or enrolling in an academic program at a post-secondary institution. This opportunity is open to any student that has successfully graduated in 2020 from a British Columbia Distributed Learning program. Proof of graduation will be required before the scholarship is awarded.