**BC EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP**

The BC Excellence scholarship is awarded to 55 well-rounded high school graduates who have demonstrated service and leadership, both at school and in their communities, and who show aptitude for and commitment to their chosen career paths.

Recipients receive a $5,000 scholarship voucher that they can use to be reimbursed by the Ministry of Education for tuition paid after they are attending a [designated post-secondary institution](https://studentaidbc.ca/apply/designated) or B.C. [authorized trades training provider.](https://www.itabc.ca/training-providers/overview)

Students have five years to [redeem](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/support/scholarships/provincial-scholarships/using-a-scholarship#post-secondary-verification) their BC Excellence scholarship vouchers; an expiry date is printed on each voucher and extensions are not possible.

**Key dates**

* February 15, 2022: online applications **due by 2:59 pm PST**
* Early June 2022: conditional recipients and their schools notified by email
* September 2022: conditional recipients checked against eligibility requirements
* October 2022: paper scholarship vouchers mailed to confirmed recipients

**Eligibility requirements**

Students selected as conditional recipients of the BC Excellence scholarship must meet the following requirements **by August 31 of their graduating year** to be confirmed as a recipient and receive their scholarship voucher:

* [meet core eligibility requirements](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/support/scholarships/provincial-scholarships/basic-eligibility-requirements);
* be eligible for a B.C. Certificate of Graduation (Dogwood Diploma);
* fulfill the [requirements of the B.C. Graduation Program](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/support/graduation);
* be graduating (between September 1 and August 31) during the same year the scholarship is awarded; and
* have the following final marks.
  + Minimum “B” average in grades 11 and 12 courses required for graduation
  + Minimum "B" (73% or above) in Language Arts 12
  + Minimum “B” average, no more than one "C+" (67% or above), and no marks lower than “C+” in courses that fulfill graduation requirements for Science 11 or 12, Math 11, and Social Studies 11 or 12

Note: students may apply for both the BC Excellence scholarship and the [Pathway to Teacher Education scholarship](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/support/scholarships/provincial-scholarships/pathway-to-teacher-education-scholarship) but they can only be awarded one.

**How applications are evaluated**

1. Written statements are assessed by teams of B.C. teachers using [the marking guidelines](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/kindergarten-to-grade-12/support/awards/excellence-written-and-resume-marking-guide.pdf)
2. A subset of approximately 80 candidates is shortlisted
3. The resume packages for those shortlisted candidates are assessed by the scholarship committee, which includes B.C. teachers, using the marking guidelines
4. Fifty-five candidates are named as conditional recipients

**How to prepare (overview)**

Students interested in applying for the 2022 awards year are encouraged to get organized well before the application deadline of 2:59 pm PST on February 15, 2022.

* Note that, this year, applications are due earlier in the day, at 2:59 pm
* Understand students must be nominated by their secondary school to qualify for this scholarship and each school may nominate one student only
* Check out a [sample of the 2022 BC Excellence scholarship application (PDF)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/download/7CB4BA69776A4D39A1BD33A83A13B1BE)
* Open the application (under Apply) and ensure your browser is supported
* Make a checklist of the required information you will need to submit
  + Nomination form completed by your school
  + Written statement
  + Resume in mandatory format
  + Reference letters (2)
* Prepare the required information offline (you can’t save your work in the online form; it must be completed in one session)
* Submit your application by the deadline
* Plan to meet all eligibility requirements
* Remember that only those selected as conditional recipients will receive notice (in June)

**Required Information**

Here are the detailed instructions for how to prepare the required information offline.

1. **Nomination from your school**

* Save this [nomination form (DOCX)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/download/860147FF00CA471DB5C6C76AEA71F0D3) to your computer
* Ask your principal or school head to sign the form and return it to you
* Save a digital copy
* When you are ready to submit your BC Excellence application online, upload your signed nomination form where prompted

1. **Written statement** (500 words)

* Save this [written statement template (DOCX)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/download/D8A50BDEAD6B406C93C1061BA3B625E6) to your computer
* Write your statement in the template, following the instructions provided
* When you are ready to submit your BC Excellence application online, upload your written statement into the online application form where prompted
* **Note:** the written statement is worth 60% in the overall assessment of the application; all written statements are assessed, and those assessments are used to shortlist applications

1. **Resume**

* Save this [resume template (DOCX)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/download/CED6B20F93CD4DAD8419412BB32B82A7) to your computer
* Enter all information into the template
  + Part I: volunteer and work experience (7 activities maximum)
  + Part II: additional accomplishments (250 words maximum)
* When you are ready to submit your BC Excellence application online, copy and paste the information from your template into the online application form where prompted
* **Note:**resumes are worth 40% in the overall assessment of the application; they are only reviewed for those applications that are shortlisted

1. **Two reference letters** (one community-related and one school-related)

* Save these [reference letter instructions (PDF)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/download/F1E8B42A904B410D8F79BB25C6080B21) to your computer
* Share the instructions with your two referees and have them return signed letters to you
* Save digital copies
* When you are ready to submit your BC Excellence application online, upload your two letters into the online application form where prompted
* **Note:** the marking team does not mark reference letters but does consider them when scoring resumes

**Apply**

* **Ready to submit?**

[​Apply for the BC Excellence scholarship](https://forms.gov.bc.ca/education-training/bc-excellence-scholarship-application/)

* Students are encouraged to inform their high schools of any address changes. In the fall, the Ministry mails paper scholarship vouchers to recipients using the home addresses reported by schools

**Questions?**

Please contact the Provincial Scholarships Program team: [scholarships@gov.bc.ca](mailto:scholarships@gov.bc.ca).

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