



Educational & Training Financial Support

A GUIDE FOR ABORIGINAL STUDENTS



Interior Health

Education & Training Financial Support

In our commitment to Truth and Reconciliation, Interior Health places priority on increasing our Aboriginal representative workforce in order to build an engaged and culturally diverse organization. We encourage careers in healthcare to improve health outcomes for Aboriginal peoples in the communities that Interior Health serves. We also recognize that the costs associated with schooling and training can be challenging.

This is why we created the Educational & Training Financial Support: A Guide for Aboriginal Students. It is our hope that the information in this document will assist First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students

THINGS TO KNOW

How to Use this Resource

This document is a combination of many different resources and was intended as a starting place for your exploration of funding opportunities. It is recommended to visit the specific program for a complete list of eligibility criteria, awards, deadlines, processes, and updates.

What is a Scholarship?

Traditionally, scholarships are based on academic merit. For example, entrance scholarships are based on your grades in high school. Modern usage of the word, though, is far less specialized. Many providers of non-academic awards use the term to describe any financial prize for education. Application procedures vary by scholarship, but often include a request for your grades so the administrator can assess your academic credentials.

What is a Bursary?

Bursaries are based on financial need. They may also have academic requirements, but their main purpose is to support students without the means to afford school otherwise.

What to Consider When Applying

You should always read the eligibility criteria to ensure that you qualify for the funding. Also similar to writing a cover letter for a job you should consider the five Ws:

Who: Who is reading your letter?

What: Make sure you include all the necessary documents the application is requesting. This can include an essay, video, resumes, transcripts, or something else.

Where: Ensure you know how to apply. Depending on the program you may need to submit online, via email, or by mail.

When: Submit before the application deadline.

Why: If writing an essay, research the organization, past winners, and the funding criteria. The more you can align your story to the mentioned aspects the higher chance you have at receiving the funding.

Still Need Help?

Contact your Student Services department at your high school or campus to see if they offer help with scholarship writing.

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General Information

STATUS FIRST NATIONS STUDENTS

Band Funding

Status (or Treaty) First Nations students may be eligible for band funding. Each First Nation Band's post-secondary office has its own application, policies, requirements and funding priority categories. There are many similarities in the application and funding process; however, they are not all the same and the demand/waiting list varies with each band. Students must contact their band for details about the application process. You can search specific Band contact information [here](#).

Eligibility for Post-Secondary Student Support Program (PSSSP) and/or the University College Entrance Preparation Program (UCEPP)

- The Band's application process
- A copy of their post-secondary policies and processes (may be referred to as Local Operating Guidelines)

Friendship Center Funding

The BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres provides financial assistance through the [Post-Secondary Student Support Program](#) to Northwest Territory or Nunavut Inuit students who have been residing in British Columbia for 12 consecutive months, British Columbia registered members who do not have Band membership or an affiliation with a Band (BC General List) and Status Indian students who are affiliated with a BC First Nation as indicated on Status Card but do not have Band membership.

MÉTIS STUDENTS

[Métis Nation British Columbia Ministry of Education](#) provides various educational programs that aim to improve the employment potential, earning capacity and self-sufficiency of Métis people in British Columbia. Although headquartered in Surrey the MNBC has seven regional offices which are located in Nanaimo, Kamloops, Cranbrook, Prince George, Terrace, Fort St John, and Surrey. Contact your nearest regional office to learn more.

SITÉM Skills Training Program

SITÉM provides skills training and support programs to Métis people in B.C. who are living in chartered Métis communities. The training is strategically designed to best meet community regional demands and focuses on in-demand jobs in construction and business administration. In addition to skills training, SITÉM also provides the necessary wrap around supports such as start-up tools, lunch programs, job coaches, work practicums and much more.

The comprehensive services provided to Métis citizens through the Initiative are wide ranging.

They include:

- **Employment Assistance Services:** Personal management skills; pre-employment assessments; job search skills and assistance; employment/career counselling; resume writing assistance; mentoring/coaching and more.
- **Skills Training and Education:** Occupational skills training delivered through public or private post-secondary institutions; short duration training certificates/courses; literacy, essential skills and language training, and adult basic education; apprenticeships; etc.
- **Financial Supports enabling program participation:** Childcare; transportation; disability supports; lodging; equipment or work gear; course materials; training wages; etc.
- **Employment Experience:** Wage subsidies to employers; direct supports to employers to support participant employment (e.g. developing training plans); post-job placement supports such as counselling, coaching and mentoring.

Métis Employment & Training Program (METP)

If you're interested in post-secondary education, regardless of what year and program (undergraduate, graduate, professional) reach out to your Regional Employment & Training office to learn more. Métis Nation British Columbia is committed to making a difference in the lives of Métis children, youth, and families. Métis persons residing in British Columbia are eligible and encouraged to participate in this program.

INUIT STUDENTS

Post-Secondary Student Education Strategy

The [Inuit Post-Secondary Strategy](#) reflects the Government of Canada's commitment to a renewed relationship with Inuit, one that is framed by principles of reconciliation, including recognition of rights, respect, cooperation, partnership, and self-determination. The goal is to close the post-secondary education attainment gap between Inuit and non-Indigenous students in Canada through distinctions-based and regionally delivery strategic support. The majority of the funding is reserved for direct financial support for Inuit students with additional funding going towards other programs & services, community engagement, and national coordination.

Inuit students, services providers and post-secondary institutions who are interested in accessing available funding should consult [Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami](#) or their respective Inuit land-claim organization.

ALL ABORIGINAL STUDENTS

We have highlighted a few of the scholarships, awards, and bursaries that we are aware of. However, with thousands of scholarship available in Canada we cannot list them all. Below are a few searchable databases that you can use to find your own financial funding.

1. [Aboriginal Bursaries Search Tool](#) - The Aboriginal Bursaries Search Tool is a searchable list of 469 bursaries, scholarships and incentives across Canada.
2. [Indspire - Bursaries & Scholarship Award](#) - From bursaries, scholarships and awards to mentoring programs to youth conferences and educator support, Indspire provides vital resources to help students graduate and go on to fulfil their potential.
3. [BC Ministry of Advanced Education](#) - The provincial scholarships program recognizes student achievement and encourages students to pursue post-secondary education.
4. [Scholarships Canada](#) - Lists all relevant scholarships and bursaries free of charge. They endeavor to update each listing on an annual basis. Students are matched to scholarships and bursaries when they create an account.
5. [StudentAwards.com](#) - matches members with scholarships, bursaries, grants, fellowships, and cash prizes. Student Awards delivers customized lists of awards based on profile information that members provide when they register on the site.
6. [Indigenous Skills and Employment Training Program](#) - Indigenous Skills and Employment Training (ISET) Program is designed to help Indigenous people improve their skills and find employment. The ISET Program provides funding to Indigenous service delivery organizations across the country that design and deliver job training services to First Nations, Inuit, Métis and urban/non affiliated Indigenous people in their communities. Find [an Indigenous service delivery organization near you](#) to obtain the training you need in order to secure employment.

General Funding/ Awards

OCTOBER DEADLINES

CH'NOOK SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Web address: http://www.sauder.ubc.ca/Programs/Chnook/Students/Chnook_Scholars

Deadline: **October 1**

Amount: \$3,500

Eligibility: Ch'nook Scholars is open to status and non-status First Nations, Inuit, and Métis students studying full-time in a business program at a post-secondary institution in British Columbia, at the University of British Columbia, or at the University of Calgary. Each year, we offer scholarships for Indigenous students residing in our operating areas who are pursuing a full-time degree, diploma or certified trade. These scholarships are valued at \$3,500 and are renewable for up to four years, or to the completion of your first degree.

About: The Ch'nook Scholars program gives Indigenous post-secondary business students the tools and connections they need to succeed in their studies and careers, as well as a range of other benefits. Initially developed in 2007 as a scholarship for Indigenous Business Students, Ch'nook Scholars has evolved into a program that complements post-secondary business education and works to develop leadership skills and business knowledge. Ch'nook Scholars also benefit from knowledge and advice from current industry leaders.

JANUARY DEADLINES

IRVING K BARBER INDIGENOUS SCHOLARSHIPS

Web address: <https://www.ikbbc.ca/indigenous-awards/about-this-award/>

Deadline: January

Amount: \$2,500

Student Award: \$1000-\$2500 (multi-year) for students pursuing trades training, apprenticeships, diplomas, certificates or undergraduate degrees.

Masters/Doctoral Studies Award: \$5,000 (multi-year) for students pursuing Masters or Doctoral studies.

Teacher Education Award: \$5,000 (multi-year) for students pursuing a teaching certificate.

Eligibility: First Nations (Status or Non-Status), Inuit or Métis;

Resident of British Columbia, defined as having a primary residence in the province for at least 12 consecutive months prior to the date of full-time enrollment in the program for which the award is applied for; Canadian citizen, permanent resident (landed immigrant), convention refugee, or protected person living in Canada; Planning to study at a BC public post-secondary institution, or Indigenous post-secondary institution

About: The Society offers three Award programs for students pursuing post-secondary education in BC. They are available to students who identify as Indigenous, defined as First Nations (Status or Non-Status), Métis or Inuit. All are renewable in order to provide sustained funding over multiple years.

FEBRUARY DEADLINES

TED ROGERS SCHOLARSHIP FUND FOR INDIGENOUS STUDENTS

Web address: <https://indspire.microsoftcrmpartals.com/en-US/>

Deadline: February 21

Amount: \$2,500

Eligibility: Students must be entering into full time studies in a first bachelor degree or first diploma program at a Canadian accredited university or college. Program must be a minimum of 2 years in duration. University preparatory programs in any jurisdiction are not eligible (e.g. (CEGEPs - pre-university diploma). Students must be under the age of 25 and a Canadian citizen or permanent resident and have a valid social insurance number.

About: The Ted Rogers Scholarship through Indspire is for Canadian Indigenous students starting a post-secondary program in the fall of 2021. It is a renewable award of \$2500 per year for students enrolled in a minimum two year post-secondary program to a maximum of four years. While enrolled in post-secondary students must

MARCH DEADLINES

BRITISH COLUMBIA ABORIGINAL NETWORK ON DISABILITY SOCIETY INDIGENOUS SUPPORT FOR STUDENT LEARNING PROGRAM

Web address: <http://www.bcands.bc.ca/>

Deadline: March 15

Amount: Laptop

Eligibility: Applicants must be enrolled in Formal education at any level from kindergarten to post-secondary OR taking courses through an accredited institution, AND be actively attending;

Applicants must be of Indigenous ancestry;

Applicants must not have received/be receiving any other support for equipment from Nation, community, or other organization/program;

Applicants must be a Canadian resident;

Applicants must be low-income OR;

Applicants identify as living with a disability AND be low-income.

About: To assist the continued participation and success of Indigenous students and Indigenous students with disabilities, in their education and eventually, in their future employment.

PACIFIC ASSOCIATION OF FIRST NATIONS WOMEN AWARDS FUND

Web address: <http://www.pafnw.ca/>

Deadline: March 22

Amount: \$2,500

Eligibility: Varies

About: The Association is excited to announce the 2021 Education Awards for Indigenous women attending Post-Secondary studies in BC. The Association has two awards to distribute this March to honour Indigenous women and their achievements. We will offer a \$2,500 bursary for Indigenous women in financial need, and a \$2,500 Language and Leadership Scholarship Award. Dr. Ethel Gardner was a board member of the Association and was instrumental in securing our Language Program funding. That is why the award is named -The Dr Ethel Gardner Language and Leadership Scholarship. A member of the Sto:lo Nation, Dr. Gardner passed to the spirit world last year.

APRIL DEADLINES

FIRST PEOPLE'S CULTURAL COUNCIL THE INDIGENOUS ART SCHOLARSHIP

Web address: <https://fpcc.ca/program/indigenous-arts-scholarship/#:~:text=The%20Indigenous%20Art%20Scholarship%20supports,funding%20for%20education%20or%20mentorship.&text=The%20scholarship%20is%20made%20possible,years%20of%20age%20or%20older>

Deadline: April 15

Amount: Up to \$20,000 in funding to students in full-time mentorship training and up to \$10,000 for students enrolled in post-secondary education

Eligibility: Applicants must be 17 years of age or older. While applicants can study anywhere, they must be a resident of B.C. and have previous experience that demonstrates a commitment to their artistic practice.

About: The Indigenous Arts Scholarships/Mentorships supports Indigenous artists to pursue either arts education through an accredited post-secondary institution, or through a mentorship with an established artist in their desired artistic discipline. The Indigenous Arts Scholarship is intended solely for Indigenous artists who have a demonstrated commitment to their artistic practice in any artistic discipline – visual, textile, music, dance, theatre, literary or media, contemporary or traditional art forms.

MAY DEADLINES

TD BRIDGING THE GAP SCHOLARSHIP

Web address: <https://jobs.td.com/en-CA/campus-recruitment/campus-diversity-programs/>

Deadline: [#toggle-id-3](#)

May 16

Amount: Up to \$10,000

Eligibility: Identify as one or more of the following: female, an Indigenous person, LGBTQ2+, a person with a disability, and/or visible minority.;

- Attend an accredited Canadian university as defined by the Canadian Information Centre for International Credentials on a full-time basis;
- Be enrolled in a 4- or 5-year undergraduate program at an Approved School and graduating in 2023/2024
- Be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident of Canada, or legally eligible to work in Canada.

About: Up to twelve Bridging the Gap Scholarships are available in Canada, each in the amount of C\$10,000 which will be paid upon completion of a summer internship. Scholarship recipients will also receive an offer of paid employment for a 2022 summer position at TD Securities in Sales & Trading, Investment Banking or Infrastructure. Recipients will also receive a business mentor at the time of offer.

BCHYDRO INDIGENOUS SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

Web address: https://www.bchydro.com/community/indigenous-relations/opportunities/individuals/donations_sponsorships.html

Deadline: May 31

Amount: \$5,000 scholarships allocated to students pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree with a full-time course load
\$2,000 bursaries allocated to students pursuing a diploma, certificate or trade program, or a part-time degree.

Eligibility: BC First Nations, Indigenous Status, Non-Status, Métis and Inuit students who are residents of B.C. and are enrolled in an accredited full-time post-secondary program. Students in Grade 12 planning to pursue a full-time, accredited post-secondary education within Canada are also eligible to apply.

About: We're looking to invest in students who are in programs related to the work we do. Click here for a list of programs we consider possible stepping stones to a future career with us. If you're in a program with a different name or focus but you think is relevant to the work we do, connect with us and we'll let you know if it's eligible before you apply.

JUNE DEADLINES

PETRO-CANADA AWARD FOR INDIGENOUS STUDENTS

Web address: <https://indspire.microsoftcrmpartals.com/en-US/>

Deadline: June 1

Amount: \$750

Eligibility: First Nation (status and non-status) high school students who live in communities listed within the application.
Enrolled full-time in a high school within Canada.
Have a valid Social Insurance Number.
Students must be under the age of 19 and a Canadian citizen or permanent resident.

About: The Petro-Canada Award for Indigenous Students is for Canadian Indigenous students enrolled a Canadian high school program. It is a one-time award of \$750 for students from one of the Indigenous communities listed within the application.

CHIEF JOE MATHIAS BRITISH COLUMBIA ABORIGINAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Web address: <http://www.chiefjoemathias.ca/>

Deadline: June 19

Varies

Amount: Are members or citizens of a British Columbia First Nation (or BC Indian Band)

Eligibility: British Columbia First Nation means a Band (within the meaning of "band" in the Indian Act) that is located in British Columbia;

Are enrolled at an eligible post-secondary educational institution as a full-time, or part-time, student;

Are pursuing studies that lead to a degree or to a certificate or diploma from that institution;

Are in financial need and demonstrate merit.

About: The Chief Joe Mathias British Columbia Aboriginal Scholarship Fund is a nationally registered charity established in memory of the late Chief Joe Mathias to support Chief Mathias' vision of post-secondary education for all First Nation persons. The Fund is an incorporated society under the Society Act of British Columbia.

The purposes of the Society are to advance education by providing educational scholarships to deserving British Columbia First Nation students who are in financial need and who demonstrate merit, in order to improve access to post-secondary education so that deserving British Columbia First Nation persons can acquire the knowledge and skills needed to participate in a changing economy and society.

NEW RELATIONSHIP TRUST SCHOLARSHIP AND BURSARIES

Web address: <http://www.newrelationshiptrust.ca/funding/for-students/>

Deadline: June 24

Amount: Varies

Eligibility: First Nations (status or non-status) member of a British Columbia First Nation community;

Planning to attend an accredited post-secondary institution on a full-time basis anywhere in the world.

About: The New Relationship Trust Foundation and BC First Nations communities realize the importance of education. Interested and eligible BC First Nation students are encouraged to apply for the NRT Foundation Post-Secondary Scholarship Awards and Bursaries. New Relationship Trust has parented with 10 organizations to offer four scholarships and six bursaries.

AUGUST DEADLINES

HORATIO ALGER INDIGENOUS ACHIEVEMENT SCHOLARSHIP-

Web address: <https://indspire.microsoftcrmportals.com/en-US/>

Deadline: August 1

Amount: \$2,500

Eligibility: First Nation (status and non-status), Inuit and Métis high school students from an Indigenous community in the territories as well as attending school in the Northwest Territories, Yukon Territories, or Nunavut.
Enrolled full-time in a high school within Canada at time of application.
Starting in a four-year post-secondary program within Canada full-time in September.
Have a valid Social Insurance Number.

About: The Horatio Alger Indigenous Achievement Scholarship is for Indigenous students starting a four year post-secondary program in the fall. This is a renewable award of \$2500. While enrolled in post-secondary students must maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA and a full-time course load to receive the renewed support each year.

CENOVUS INDIGENOUS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Web address: <https://www.cenovus.com/careers/indigenous-scholarship.html>

Deadline: August 1, November 1, February 1

Amount: \$3,500

Eligibility: **Program of Study:** All programs eligible; preference will be given to those pursuing programs with potential to lead to a career in the oil and gas industry.

Level of Study: Degree, diploma, certificate or technical and trade programs

Indigenous Affiliation: Any

About: Each year, we offer scholarships for Indigenous students residing in our operating areas who are pursuing a full-time degree, diploma or certified trade. These scholarships are valued at \$3,500 and are renewable for up to four years, or to the

INDSPIRED- BUILDING BRIGHTER FUTURES: BURSARIES, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND AWARDS

Web address: <https://indspire.ca/programs/students/bursaries-scholarships/>

Deadline: August 1, November 1, and February 1

Amount: Varies

Eligibility: Status and non-status Indians, Inuit or Métis pursuing post-secondary education

About: Since 2004, Indspire has provided over \$115 million in financial support to more than 37,500 First Nations, Inuit and Métis students. All Building Brighter Futures donations are matched by the Government of Canada allowing us to be double the impact for students. For a complete listing of Building Brighter Futures Supports, please visit indspirefunding.ca

KPMG'S INDIGENOUS STUDENT AWARDS

Web address: <https://home.kpmg/ca/en/home/industries/government-public-sector/indigenous-client-services/kpmg-indigenous-student-awards.html>

Deadline: August 1, November 1, February 1

Amount: Varies

Eligibility: Be a Canadian Indigenous person;

Be enrolled in an accredited institution such as: an accredited university program or an accredited college program;

Not be a member of the staff, board, or past participants at the time of applying for funding support.

About: This award is open to all Indigenous candidates (First Nations, Inuit and Metis) who are attending post-secondary institutions (i.e. college or university) with demonstrated financial need for contributions to education costs. Preference will be given to students studying in the following academic programs: Business Administration, Public Administration, Accounting, Information Technology, Human Resources, Communications and Marketing.

ATCO INDIGENOUS EDUCATION AWARDS PROGRAM

Web address: <https://www.atco.com/en-ca/our-commitment/indigenous-partnerships/indigenous-education-programs.html>

Deadline: August 15

Amount: Merit Awards (\$500) – for students completing Grades 10 – 12, including upgrading; Bursaries (\$1,000) – for students enrolled in trade, diploma or certificate programs; Scholarships (\$1,500) – for students enrolled in degree or graduate programs.

Eligibility: Are a Canadian Indigenous person, enrolled full-time in high school (including upgrading) or an accredited post-secondary institution or training program, and are not the child of an ATCO employee.

About: ATCO's Indigenous Education Awards Program supports First Nation, Inuit and Métis students across Canada by providing financial assistance to help them in their quest for higher education. These awards, bursaries and scholarships are given to students who demonstrate leadership capabilities and strive to be role models in their schools and communities.

CANADA POST ABORIGINAL EDUCATION INCENTIVE AWARDS

Web address: <http://www.canadapost.ca/cpo/mc/aboutus/community/aboriginaleducation/default.jsf>

Deadline: August 31

Amount: \$2,000

Eligibility: Are a Canadian and a member of a First Nation, Métis or Inuit community, have been out of school for 1 year or more and are returning, have already returned to school and completed 1 full year of studies, or have never received this award in the past.

About: A panel of Canada Post representatives and a member of the Indigenous community read and evaluate all submissions and select the winners.

CANADIAN COUNCIL FOR ABORIGINAL BUSINESS YOUNG ABORIGINAL ENTREPRENEUR AWARD

Web address: <https://www.ccab.com/awards/young-aboriginal-entrepreneur-award/>

Deadline: August 31

Amount: \$10,000 cash prize

Eligibility: Be a Canadian resident of First Nation (Status or Non-Status), Inuit or Métis ancestry between the ages of 19-35. Self-employed for a minimum of one year.

About: CCAB and ESS Support Services Worldwide, a division of Compass Group Canada, are proud to present The Young Aboriginal Entrepreneur Award. This award highlights the enterprising spirit of Aboriginal business leaders under the age of 35 and celebrates impressive young entrepreneurs who are driving the Aboriginal economy through vibrant community enterprises.

NON-SPECIFIC DEADLINES

FIRST CITIZENS FUND STUDENT BURSARY PROGRAM

Web address: <https://bcaafc.com/education/>

Deadline: Varies

Amount: Between \$700 - \$1,200

Eligibility: Post-secondary students of Indigenous ancestry (status, non-status, Métis, Inuit) who are: – permanent residents of British Columbia – registered in a BC recognized post-secondary institution – with a minimum GPA of 2.5 or a C+ grade equivalent

About: Bursaries between \$700-\$1,200 are awarded to students who meet all eligibility requirements and who demonstrate significant financial need. The funds are distributed after the applicant successfully completes a semester of school; the funds can then be applied to the following semester's tuition, fees, and other related educational costs. Post-secondary students of Indigenous ancestry (status, non-status, Métis, Inuit) who are: – permanent residents of British Columbia – registered in a BC recognized post-secondary institution – with a minimum GPA of 2.5 or a C+ grade equivalent

NATIVE WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF CANADA INDIGENOUS SKILLS AND EMPLOYMENT TRAINING

Web address: <https://www.nwac.ca/iset/>

Deadline: Varies

Amount: Varies

Eligibility: Post-secondary funding for certificate or diploma programs up to 2 years or in the last two years of a degree program;
Indigenous women, trans-gender, two-spirited and gender diverse;
15 years of age or older;
Must be unemployed, under-employed or able to demonstrate an immediate risk of being unemployed.

About: The NWAC ISET program helps Indigenous women and gender-diverse individuals to fully participate in economic opportunities. NWAC believes that education can help Indigenous women achieve economic success. Empowered Indigenous women are the foundation for strong families and communities.

Through NWAC's agreement with Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) we are able to provide supports such as tuition, living allowance, childcare, job starts and other resources that can help Indigenous women reach their employment and skills training goals.

OKANAGAN TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (OTDC) COURSE & SEAT PURCHASE

Web address: <https://www.otdc.org/programs/course-seat-purchase>

Deadline: Varies

Amount: Varies

Eligibility: Applicants must live within the OTDC Service Area, be of working age, and be of aboriginal ancestry as defined by the OTDC agreement.

About: To purchase institutional training from a public or a registered private institution on behalf of clients. Training must meet a Labour Market demand to ensure individuals are able to secure employment on completion of the training or have the prerequisites to attend college or university. This could involve the purchase of a single seat or the purchase of an entire course.

RBC ROYAL BANK SCHOLARSHIP FOR ABORIGINALS

Web address: <https://www.rbc.com/dms/enterprise/scholarships.html>

Deadline: Varies

Amount: \$5,000

Eligibility: Status and non-status Indians, Inuit or Métis pursuing post-secondary education

About: The RBC Indigenous Student Award Program was launched in 1992 to assist Indigenous students in completing post-secondary education and provide an opportunity for RBC® to strengthen its relationship with the Indigenous community

Additional Resources

This resource could not have been created without of all the dedicated people and organizations supporting Aboriginal Education. Interior Health has taken information from these organizations and attempted to compile the most relevant information in this document. Here is a list of additional resources we used in creating this document.

[Aboriginal Learning Links](#) is a web portal that provides resources for Aboriginal learners wishing to pursue or continue college or university (post-secondary) studies in British Columbia.

Aboriginal Learning Links is a project of the BC Aboriginal Post-Secondary Education and Training Partners and is maintained by the First Nations Education Steering Committee

[British Columbia's Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills & Training](#) is dedicated to working in partnership with Indigenous communities and organizations to support First Nations, Métis and Inuit learners to succeed in an integrated, relevant and effective British Columbia post-secondary system.

[Indigenous Services Canada \(ISC\)](#) provides financial assistance to First Nations students who are enrolled in eligible post-secondary programs.

[First Nations Health Authority](#) is the first and only provincial First Nations Health Authority in Canada. They are working to transform and reform the way health care is delivered to BC First Nations. They have their own [Scholarship and Bursary Resource Guide](#)

[Lethbridge College Indigenous Services](#) is dedicated to providing academic, cultural, and career services to their indigenous students. This document was inspired by [Lethbridge College's Scholarship and Bursary Resource Guide](#)

[BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres](#) is the umbrella organization for the Friendship Centres across BC. They work to promote, develop and deliver accessible programs and services that support Indigenous peoples living in urban areas and away from home to achieve their vision of health, wellness and prosperity.

[The Métis Nation British Columbia Ministry of Education](#) supports Métis Chartered Communities by focusing on strengthening provincial and federal relationships and developing educational resources that are Métis specific. The Métis Nation Relationship Accord II and the Canada-Métis Nation Accord identify education as priorities for improving the lives of Métis people.

ABOUT US

Interior Health is one of five regional publicly funded health authorities in British Columbia. With more than 21,000 employees and early 1,900 physicians on our team, we are developing the future of health care through innovation and professional development. Whether you desire to be near the Rocky Mountains, In the Kootenay Boundary, enjoying the Okanagan Valley vineyards or experiencing the scenic Thompson Cariboo region, we have a place for you!



2020/21 QUICK FACTS

- 60 MUNICIPALITIES
- 54 FIRST NATION COMMUNITIES
- 15 MÉTIS CHARTERED COMMUNITIES
- 7 REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICTS
- 7 DIVISIONS OF FAMILY PRACTICE
- 7 PRIMARY CARE NETWORKS

SERVING
801,000+
INDIVIDUALS ACROSS
THE SOUTHERN
INTERIOR OF B.C.

WITH A
BUDGET OF
\$2.6B

AND
COVERING OVER
215,000
SQ KILOMETRES



21,000+
STAFF

1,900+
PHYSICIANS

4,800+
VOLUNTEERS



29,200+
MENTAL HEALTH AND
SUBSTANCE USE CLIENTS
served in community settings
each year

31,900+
HOME HEALTH CLIENTS
served in community settings
each year

11,500+
LONG-TERM CARE AND
ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENTS
in IH-owned and partner sites
served per year

84,900+
HOSPITAL STAYS/CASES
per year



WHO WE ARE

Caring is at the heart of who we are, inspiring hope and trust as we provide the highest standard of health care for the people who live here. For Over 20 years, we have been working and partnering for the health and wellbeing of over 801,000 people in the BC Interior, so we can all enjoy a healthier tomorrow.

In Collaboration with the provincial government, health care agencies and community leaders, we deliver solutions that make a positive difference in the lives of everyone across our regions, spanning 215,000 square kilometers of traditional territories belonging to the seven Interior First Nations, and 15 Métis Chartered communities. From birth to end of life, mental health to surgery, Aboriginal Health to Pandemic Response, we understand the many situations each of us face on our journey together. WE will work tirelessly to ensure everyone receives the attention and care they need, and we will continue exploring innovative ways to deliver health care.

- Our goal is to make it possible for everyone to improve their wellness and quality of life
- Our people and our communities come first.



ABORIGINAL EMPLOYMENT AT IH



Interior Health offers support from Aboriginal Career Specialists for job seekers and employees who identify as having Aboriginal ancestry (First Nations, Métis, or Inuit). A dedicated Aboriginal Recruiter and an Aboriginal Employment advisor help to prepare job seekers with resumes and cover letter support, application processes, onboarding, and ongoing employment support. Their combined efforts include:

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Attending Aboriginal employment & Career events
- Engaging youth in considering careers in healthcare
- Fostering relationships with community and members creating recruitment linkages with Aboriginal communities, educational partners and Aboriginal employment organizations

ORGANIZATIONAL AWARENESS

- Guiding more effective Aboriginal-focused hiring practice at IH
- Developing culturally sensitive employment materials
- Promoting Diversity and inclusion at IH

Please visit [Interior Health's Job Board](#) for a full list of active openings.

Interior Health's Aboriginal career Specialist Team focuses on job seekers and as a result does not provide assistance with funding or award applications. We encourage students to reach out directly to their campus' Financial Aid Office, Student Services Office, or Aboriginal Student Services Offices for Assistance on funding or award applications.

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

At Interior Health, we value **Diversity & Inclusion**. Our Goal is to cultivate a workforce rich in culture, experience and knowledge to ensure equitable health outcomes for all of the clients we serve. We are welcoming of all populations, including Aboriginal partners, throughout the Interior Health Region.

We are committed to increasing Aboriginal representative workforce to build an engaged, culturally diverse organizational focused on the goal of providing high quality, sustainable health care through an engaged workforce and healthy work places We build inclusive, trusting and respectful relationships throughout our partnerships.



Diversity & Inclusion

Bring your whole self to work