

# Scholarships, Bursaries & Student Loans

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## Finding Scholarships and Bursaries

Thinking about finding scholarships and bursaries can be overwhelming, and most students struggle with knowing where to begin.

This newsletter was created to help you find scholarships and bursaries that you may qualify for to offset the costs of attending a post-secondary institution.

There are many scholarships and bursaries out there if you look for them and put in the

time to apply. It does take work to put together an application, but it can be worth the effort.

It is important to remember that if you don't apply, you won't receive anything.

Every year many scholarships and bursaries go unawarded because students did not apply for them .



## Special points of interest:

- Find out where to find Scholarships and Bursaries
- Get Tips on making successful applications
- Learn how to print your transcript and get them to post-secondary institutions

## Important Terminology

Some of the terminology associated with scholarships, bursaries, and financial aid can be confusing. Listed below are some of the most common terms that you will hear:

**Bursaries**—financial awards that are based on both financial need and criteria set by the donor, founder or individual institution.

**Scholarships**—are awarded based on various criteria, which usually reflect the values and purposes of the founder of the award.

**Entrance scholarships**—money (typically based on marks) awarded to students by post-secondary institutions at the time of ac-

ceptance. Check when you apply.

**Student Loans**—money loaned from the government to students. Must be repaid.

**Grants**— money that does not have to be repaid.





# Places to Look for Scholarships

## PROVINCIAL & NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Many scholarships and bursaries are from union or employer groups, professional organizations, special interest groups, etc. Although there is no “master list” of scholarships or bursaries out there, there are many scholarship data-bases that students can use to help them find scholarship and bursary opportunities. Good places to start your search:

- [bcscholarships.ca](http://bcscholarships.ca)
- [scholartree.ca](http://scholartree.ca)
- [scholarshipscanada.com](http://scholarshipscanada.com)
- GP Vanier Announcements Weekly (Go to GP Vanier Website and scroll down).

## ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIPS

Every post secondary institution has its own scholarships and bursary program. When you apply to an institution check their website (usually under financial aid). Some of the scholarships and awards require a separate application. Most Entrance Scholarships have different deadlines than the deadline for admission. Talk to the institution's advisor directly if you have questions.

## VANIER BURSARY/SCHOLARSHIPS

The GP Vanier Bursary/Scholarship program opens to grade 12 students on **January 19, 2023**. There will be an assembly outlining the application process and counsellors offer sessions to support students on successful applications. Information can be found on the GP Vanier Website under the “Grad” Tab. All GP Vanier students are strongly encouraged to apply. Student have until **February 24th at 1pm** to hand in their completed applications.

## DISTRICT/AUTHORITY AWARDS

These awards worth \$1,250 recognize excellence in non-academic fields, including Fine Arts, Applied Skills, Physical Activity, Second Languages, Community Service, and Technical and Trades Training. More information available in the Vanier Bursary and Scholarship Booklet available **January 19, 2023**.

## G P Vanier Announcements

Check the G P Vanier Announcements Weekly (Go to GP Vanier Website and scroll down).

## Student Loans

There is no doubt that funding your post-secondary education will be expensive. It is extremely worthwhile to spend the time searching for and applying for scholarships and bursaries.

However, you may find that you cannot afford to pay for the full cost of post-secondary. Student loans exist to help students overcome financial barriers to higher education.

**STUDENT LOANS** are repayable financial assistance. Government-provided student loans are based on financial need and are interest-free while you are enrolled in full-time study (no interest rate is charged for BC government-issued student loans). One application to [StudentAid BC](#) covers application to both the BC and Canada student loan programs.



**LINE OF CREDIT LOANS** are loans that provide students with moderate interest level loans or a line of credit for education funding. Talk to your financial institution for more information

**OTHER STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE** programs include specific supports for low- and middle-income students, former youth in care, students who have a permanent disability, or a persistent or prolonged disability, and borrowers who need help with repayment. For more information, visit [StudentAid BC](#).

## Counsellor Tips

1. Begin drafting a letter of introduction which include:
  - a) Introduce yourself
  - b) Explain your post-secondary plans
  - c) Summarize your interests, activities, involvements, accomplishments, etc.
  - d) Comment on your financial circumstances if appropriate
  - e) Closing comment thanking committee for considering your application
2. Think about which teachers, mentors or coaches could write you a glowing reference letter. Ask two people to do this and give them lots of time.
3. Check the GP Vanier announcements weekly for scholarship and bursary information.
4. Save everything! Print or save a copy of all applications, reference letters, essay questions etc. You will find that a lot of scholarships applications require the same information and ask similar essay questions. Save yourself time and energy by having this information at your fingertips.
5. Pay attention to deadlines. Ensure that your application is not sent in at the last minute.
6. Never assume you are not good enough for an award. If you meet the criteria, Apply! Apply! Apply!
7. Proof read your applications and ask someone else to proofread it too. Make sure that your application looks professional



## The Most Commonly Asked Question

Q: If I don't go to post-secondary next year should I still apply for scholarships and bursaries?

A: If in doubt, apply! Many organizations will allow you to defer collecting your award for a year unless they specifically state otherwise.

## Accessing/Sending Your Transcript

Follow these steps to view, order, and send your secondary school transcripts. Your transcript can be sent electronically or by mail to post secondary institutions and employers. To register you will need your **Personal Education Number (PEN)** found on your report card.

Step 1: Go to **[www.StudentTranscripts.gov.bc.ca](http://www.StudentTranscripts.gov.bc.ca)**

Step 2: You **MUST** sign up for a **Basic BCeID account** before you can use the Transcript Service


Step 3: Log-in to Student Transcripts Service using your BCeID


Step 4: From your Dashboard, you can send and order transcripts, view assessment results and send transcripts immediately.

There are **detailed instructions** on how to order your transcript on the **Vanier website** under the Grad tab. Grade 12 students can send up to 25 transcripts to post-secondary institutions for **free**.

For BCeID questions: <https://www.bceid.ca>


For Student Transcript Questions: [servicebc@gov.bc.ca](mailto:servicebc@gov.bc.ca)

[Contact Us](#) | [Office 365](#) | [MyEducationBC](#) | [Portal](#)

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Grad Information

**Grad  
Information**

### GRAD INFORMATION

- [Important Graduation Dates](#)
- [Grad Checklist](#)
- [Order Transcripts and Certificates](#)
- [Bursary and Scholarship Information](#)
- [Post-Secondary Information for Vanier](#)
- [Vanier Graduation Requirement Checklist \(PDF\)](#)
- [Grad Bio Form – share your experience at Vanier](#)

#### Media

- Grad Pictures
- Grad Video

#### Graduation Information

- Bursary & Scholarship Info
- Grad Bio Form
- Grad Checklist
- Important Dates
- **Order Transcripts and Certificates**
- Post-Secondary Info for Vanier Parents & Guardians
- Requirement Checklist (PDF)