

Funding Your Future: A Guide to Scholarships, Bursaries, and Other Sources of Funding



What is a Scholarship?

- Scholarships are non-repayable monetary awards granted to students to help finance their education
- Typically based on academic excellence, but also often considering other achievements such as athletic skill, leadership, community involvement, or specialized talents.
- These awards can be provided by governments, educational institutions, businesses, or charitable organizations



What is a Bursary?

- Bursaries are based on financial need, which may have to be demonstrated in your application.
- They are non-repayable

Where to Look For Scholarships and Bursaries?

- G P Vanier Daily Announcements

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BUS REGISTRATION


CLOTHING STORE

VANIER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Daily Announcements: **Announcements for Oct 1**
Bi-Weekly Sept 29-OCT 10

BURSARIES / SCHOLARSHIPS

- [Scholarshipscanada.com](https://scholarshipscanada.com) is a free website with an extensive scholarship and bursary database. You will be matched to scholarships and bursaries that you are eligible to apply for once you create an account.
- [ScholarTree.ca](https://scholartree.ca) is a website that helps students find all the scholarships they qualify for within minutes. It's super easy to get started: 1. Create an account at <https://ScholarTree.ca> 2. Fill out your information and get matched to a list of scholarships you're eligible for 3. Start applying.
- * **Students interested in applying for the 2026 BC Excellence scholarship (\$5000 scholarships awarded to 55 students across BC)** are encouraged to get organized well before applications are due in February 2026. Make a checklist of the following required information that you will need to submit through the online application form by February 2026.
 - Written statement
 - Resume (in mandatory online format)
 - Reference letters (2)
 - Check out the details from the [2025 application \(PDF, 1.1MB\)](#) Note that this is an example only; the 2026 version is subject to change
 - Look for the online application to open in late fall 2025
 - Plan to meet all eligibility requirementsFor more information please visit: [BC Excellence Scholarship information](#)
- * **The Pathway to Teacher Education scholarship** is awarded to 20 outstanding high school graduates who have demonstrated a commitment to and aptitude for a career in K–12 teaching. Students selected for this award receive a \$5,000 scholarship voucher from the Ministry of Education and Child Care that they can use to be reimbursed for tuition paid after they are attending an approved teacher education program in the Faculty of Education at a B.C. post-secondary institution. To qualify, the program must lead to eligibility to apply for a B.C. teaching certificate and teach in the K–12 school system in this province. Online applications will open in late fall. Visit [Pathway to Teacher Education Scholarship](#) for more information.
- * **The Loran Scholarship awards are now open for applications!** These awards offer a four-year leadership-enrichment program, financial support for undergrad, diverse opportunities for experiential learning, and a long-term supportive community of peers and mentors—people who will inspire and motivate you in your pursuit to make a difference. Up to 36 Loran awards will be awarded valued at more than \$100,000 over four years of undergrad study. **Applications are due by Oct 16, 2025!** Visit <https://loranscholar.ca/the-program/how-to-apply/> for all the details.
- * **Animal Care Bursary:**

Where to Look for Scholarships and Bursaries?

- **Post-Secondary Institutions you are applying to. Most schools have a Financial Aid and Awards section on their website.**

- [North Island College Financial Aid and Awards](#)
- [University of Victoria Scholarships, Awards, and Aid](#)
- [University of British Columbia Awards: Scholarships and Bursaries](#)

Most post-secondary schools offer a combination of:



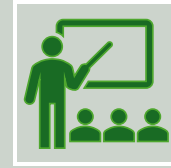
Merit-Based scholarships
(awarded for academic, athletic, or artistic excellence)



Need-Based bursaries
(allocated based on financial need)



Entrance Scholarships



Additionally, many institutions provide scholarships and **bursaries for specific demographics**, such as Indigenous students or those facing adversity

Entrance Scholarships



Nearly all universities in British Columbia offer some form of entrance scholarships, though the types, amounts, and application processes vary significantly between institutions and programs.



Some scholarships are automatic based on high school grades, while others require additional applications, resumes, and reference letters.

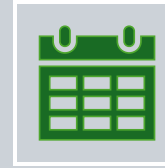


It's essential to **check each university's specific scholarship offerings and eligibility criteria**, as these opportunities are designed to attract students and may be contingent on accepting an offer of admission

Tips



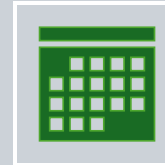
Start your research and apply early



Post-secondary applications open October 1st



Compile your achievements



Be aware of application/scholarship/bursary deadlines. Add them to your calendar.

Where to Look for Scholarships and Bursaries?

- **Online Scholarship/Bursary Finding Platforms**

- **Scholar Tree** <https://scholartree.ca/>
- **Scholarships Canada** <https://www.scholarshipscanada.com/>
- **Yconic** <https://yconic.com/>
- **Indigenous Bursaries Search Tool**



Where to Look for Scholarships and Bursaries?

- **G P Vanier Local Bursary and Scholarship Program**- program opens to grade 12 students on **January 15, 2027**



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Bursary & Scholarship Information

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BURSARY & SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

The 2026 Bursary/Scholarship Program will open in January 2026.

- [Last year's booklet: GP Vanier Bursary Booklet 2025](#)
- [Provincial Scholarships Program Infographic](#)
- [Bursary & Scholarship Newsletter 2025-2026](#)



How to prepare for G. P. Vanier Local Bursary and Scholarship program

- Obtain one letter of reference from a teacher, member of the community, and/or employer. To help your referee write a tailored letter of recommendation, complete and hand them the following [Brag Sheet](#) when asking for a reference letter.
- Compile of list of extra-curricular activities, volunteering, you have participated in since grade 10.
- Prepare a letter of introduction:
 - introduce yourself
 - explain your post-secondary plans
 - summarize your interests, activities, involvements, accomplishments etc.
 - comment on your financial circumstances (if appropriate).
 - closing comment thanking committee for considering your application.

Where to Look for Scholarships and Bursaries?

- Provincial Scholarships Program

Provincial Scholarships Program information for students

✦ Last updated on April 9, 2025



The provincial scholarships program recognizes student achievement and encourages students to pursue post-secondary education.

On this page

- [Types of scholarships](#)
- [How the program works \(overview\)](#)
- [How to use a scholarship](#)
- [Getting help with your scholarship](#)

Other Sources of funding

- **Student Loans, Lines of Credit, and Other Student Financial Assistance**

There is no doubt that funding your post-secondary education will be expensive. It is extremely worthwhile to spend the time searching for scholarships and bursaries. However, you may find that you cannot afford to pay for the full cost of post-secondary education. 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 Sources of funding

- **Student Loans, Lines of Credit, and Other Student Financial Assistance**

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](#).

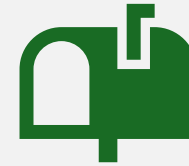
Questions & Support



VISIT THE COUNSELLING
OFFICE



[BOOK A ONE-ON-ONE
PLANNING SESSION](#)



LET'S MAKE YOUR POST-
SECONDARY DREAMS HAPPEN!

Additional Resources

- [Education Planner BC financial resources](#)