



2016-2017

New Relationship Trust Foundation Scholarship Awards Guidelines

The New Relationship Trust Foundation and the First Nation communities realize the importance of educating our people. Interested and eligible BC First Nation students should apply to the NRTF Post-Secondary Scholarship Awards. Successful applicants will be eligible for a maximum of four consecutive years of undergraduate post-secondary funding, a maximum of two years at the Master's level and a maximum of two years for the Doctorate level. Scholarships are awarded annually and students must re-apply for any subsequent years.

Number of Scholarships Available:

- 40 Undergraduate scholarships @ \$5,000 each per year
- 13 Masters degree scholarships @ \$10,000 each per year
- 6 Doctorate degree scholarships @ \$20,000 each per year

Application Deadline:

- Received at the NRTF office by Thursday, June 9th 2016 12:00pm (noon)
- Application must have all supporting documents attached- No Exceptions
- No Faxes. Faxed applications will not be accepted. You can scan and email
- Late applications will not be eligible

Eligibility:

Post-Secondary scholarships are available to all British Columbia First Nation students planning on attending an approved post-secondary institution on a full-time basis¹.

Examples of **Ineligible** Fields of Study:

1. Conferences / symposiums / workshops
2. Professional Fees / schools
3. Education at non-recognized post-secondary institutions
4. Executive / Management programs

¹ Full-time means the student is taking a minimum of four courses per semester (Fall & Winter), e.g. during a twelve week semester the student must be enrolled in a minimum of 12 credits (equals 60% full course load).



Scholarship Application:

Supporting Documents	Acceptable Items	Unacceptable Items
<input type="checkbox"/> Application form	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fully Completed form Signed and dated All information is true 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incomplete form Not signed or dated Inaccurate or false information
<input type="checkbox"/> Essay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 500- 1000 words (2-4 pages typed) Your own vision for your community or First Nations in BC Include how you would positively affect the future of your community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essays exceeding 1000 words Unoriginal essays, i.e. speeches or essays used in past applications Reused version from previous application year
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One Page on your community involvement with a First Nation Community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exceeds one page Community involvement being included in your vision essay. Must be separate.
<input type="checkbox"/> Letter of Support From BC First Nation Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter stating that you have support to apply for this scholarship On Letterhead from FN Government Dated this year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not from British Columbia Letter from anywhere else than the FN Government i.e. Tribal Councils, Education institutions Outdated letters
<input type="checkbox"/> Proof of Citizenship from BC First Nation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter from FN (on letterhead) stating you are a member Or photocopy of current Status or Citizenship card 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expired status cards Letter from anywhere else than the FN Government
<input type="checkbox"/> Latest unofficial Transcripts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unofficial or Official Transcripts From most recent school year Envelopes do not need to be sealed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Written on transcripts Note: Original official transcripts will be required if approved
<input type="checkbox"/> Acceptance/Enrollment at Post- Secondary Institution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acceptance letter into institution If returning student than a letter of enrollment Dated this year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outdated letters Letters from anywhere else other than the institution
<input type="checkbox"/> Resume	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to date Resume or CV 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outdated or incomplete

Scholarship Evaluation Criteria:

NRTF will award scholarships based on the following:

- Complete application and support documentation
- Grades (C+ average)
- Essay
- Involvement with First Nation community
- Need



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Question: I received an award last year, do I need to reapply?

Answer: Yes, each year students need to reapply. Past recipients must show they have kept up their C+ (2.3 GPV) average to qualify for the subsequent school year. Past recipients should also describe in their essay any work you have performed (paid or volunteer) to strengthen your community, and how your initial vision for your community has changed, if at all.

Question: I do not have my status, am I still eligible?

Answer: Yes, as long as you are a member of a BC First Nation and can get a letter of support stating that you are a member from your FN Government.

Question: I am getting my Diploma or Trades/Certificate but I can't find that information on this application?

Answer: This application is only for Undergrad/degree, Masters or Doctorate students. NRT provides bursaries for anyone taking a diploma, Associate Degree, certificate or trades program. Please go to our website under bursaries for more information

Question: I have already graduated, am I eligible?

Answer: No, applicants must be attending school after scholarship has been awarded (typically in August). If students are only attending the Fall semester than they may be approved for a half scholarship.

Question: My acceptance letter is dated last year because I'm in my 2nd year, is that acceptable?

Answer: No, if you are already accepted into the institution than a letter of enrollment will be needed rather than a letter of acceptance.

Question: My registration date isn't until after the application deadline.

Answer: We do not need confirmation of registration until after the scholarship has been awarded; we just need a letter of acceptance or enrollment.

Question: I cannot get a hold of my First Nation Government; will a letter from anyone else suffice? Or from a First Nation community where I currently live?

Answer: No, we require an official letter of support from the First Nation government you are registered with. We will not accept a letter from anywhere else.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS CONT...

Question: What field of studies are eligible?

Answer: All fields of study are eligible; students must be enrolled at a recognized post-secondary institution².

Question: I'm only registered for part time, do I still qualify?

Answer: No, Students must be enrolled full time. Full-time usually means the student is taking a minimum of four courses per semester (fall and winter), e.g. during a usual twelve-week semester the student must be enrolled in a minimum of 12 credits (3 credit hours per course).

Question: I am a BC First Nation but doing my studies outside of BC. Am I still eligible?

Answer: That is acceptable, you can be studying anywhere in the world as long as it is a recognized institution and you are from a BC First Nation

Question: Can I have my education institute send the transcripts or confirmation of enrollment directly to NRT?

Answer: Applications should be complete when mailing them in. This ensures that you know your application is complete before the deadline. However, if time restricts you from having it mailed to you than have them mail it directly to NRT. Any supporting documents received after the deadline will not be taken into the review process.

Question: When will I find out if my application has been approved?

Answer: We aim to let students know by the first week of August at the latest.

Question: Do I need my original official transcript?

Answer: No, unofficial transcripts will suffice until you are approved. If you are approved you will be asked to supply additional information, including your original official transcripts. In past years we've asked for the original official transcripts, however in an effort to reduce the amount a student needs to spend on the application we only ask for it once you are approved. If you do supply the original official transcripts in the applications than you will not be asked for it again.

Question: If my application is approved when will I receive my first cheque?

Answer: When you are approved you will be provided with a letter and instruction of further items we will need. They will be confirmation of registration, official transcripts from past year, course list and picture and biography. Once those items are received your cheque will be mailed to you.

² Government authorities are responsible for post-secondary education in each province and have identified "recognized," "registered" and "licensed" institutions within their jurisdiction.