



Post-Secondary Student Funding – Quick Reference

The following information is provided as a starting point for research into available funding sources for Aboriginal post-secondary students.

INAC Post-Secondary Student Support Program (PSSSP) – contact your Band to inquire as to eligibility requirements, funding availability and application process.

Student Loans are available from the federal and provincial governments. In many cases, students who qualify for loans also qualify for special grants or bursaries (which do not need to be paid back).

Some useful websites for additional/ alternative sources of student funding are:

New in 2009:

www.bcscholarship.ca/web - Irving K. Barber Aboriginal Awards - sponsored by the Ministry of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development. \$1000-\$3500 per year for Aboriginal students attending post-secondary programs, including trades and programs offered at Aboriginal post-secondary institutions (IAHLA).

ABORIGINAL LEARNING LINKS (ALL)

A "one-stop shopping" website for Aboriginal students in BC to assist in locating funding sources for tuition, living allowance, transportation, childcare, housing, trades and career/education planning. **www.aboriginallearning.ca**

Sponsored by the BC Aboriginal Post-Secondary Education and Training Partners (**www.fnesc.ca**). Launched March 2008.

<http://sdiprod1.inac.gc.ca/abs/main.asp?lang=E> – INAC - for a searchable list of scholarships and bursaries specific to Aboriginal persons

www.aved.gov.bc.ca/studentaidbc/welcome.htm - BC Ministry of Advanced Education - for student loans, scholarships and grants (note: special grants are available for students who have dependents, were formerly youth in care, female doctoral students, students with disabilities, students from low-income families and students in nursing or health programs. **Grants are also available for students taking Adult Basic Education courses.**)

www.bccampus.ca for financial aid, education planning, course search, applications and discussion boards on housing and transportation and other useful topics

www.studentawards.com for bursaries and scholarships

www.canlearn.ca for loans and to search for schools and programs

www.schoolfinder.com for scholarships searchable by school and area of study



www.naaf.ca - National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation - for scholarships

www.ayn.ca - Aboriginal Youth Network - for scholarships and awards

www.fnesc.ca – First Nations Education Steering Committee – for scholarships and awards, upcoming education events etc.

Finding Your Path: A Guide to Career and Education Planning – www.fnesc.ca

www.sshrc.ca – Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada – grants for graduate students, grants for Aboriginal research projects

www.newrelationshiptrust.ca – scholarships for BC First Nations post-secondary students

www.gov.bc.ca/mcf - Ministry of Children and Family Development – Former Youth in Care funding and child care subsidy for low-income families (and students)

www.fnchc.ca – First Nations Chiefs Health Committee – scholarships and bursaries for students of Aboriginal ancestry enrolled in health professional programs

www.bcawardsonline.sd61.bc.ca/index.asp?choice=none - BC Awards Online includes awards for Grade 12 students from governments, post-secondary institutions, private industry, and non-profit organizations and is searchable by school district, career area, keyword, or deadline date

www.theminervafoundation.com/awards/education.html - Minerva Foundation for BC Women offers scholarships for women, including Aboriginal women, single mothers, women with disabilities and women in non-traditional fields of study

www.millenniumscholarships.ca – Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation – entrance and in-course scholarships available for students involved in community leadership, as well as bursaries for those who apply and qualify for provincial financial aid

Contact the student, financial or Aboriginal advisor(s) at the institution you plan to attend in order to receive updated and detailed information on funding sources, including those specific to the school.

Many school websites (eg. UBC, Langara, SFU, UVic) also provide scholarship and bursary information online (including bursaries and awards available to Aboriginal students in general, not just those attending their institutions).

Ensure you apply for all scholarships, bursaries etc. that apply to your program or personal situation, not just those for Aboriginal students!



You may also wish to visit Service Canada at www.servicecanada.gc.ca to research potential education funding sources.

To view youth opportunities from Service Canada visit www.youth.gc.ca

To complete a search of available benefits based on your personal situation, such as marital status, employment status, aboriginal status etc. visit www.jobsetc.ca/benefitsFinder.do?lang=en

For information on trades programs and certification visit the Industry Training Authority of BC at www.itabc.ca

For information on federal grants for apprentices and tax deductions for trades visit www.hrsdc.gc.ca/en/hip/hrp/corporate/apprenticeship/skilled_trades.pdf

For information on potential funding for short-term courses and training-on-the-job support, visit www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/employment/aboriginal_employment/locations/ to research your local Aboriginal Human Resource and Development Agreement (AHRDA) organization.

For information on pre-employment funding support, contact your Social Development Department.

Planning Your Program

www.educationplanner.ca - Information on undergraduate program availability, application dates, tuition costs, admission requirements, lengths, and much more at 28 of BC's post-secondary institutions

Summer Employment

www.fnesc.ca/programs/program_youth.php – First Nations and Inuit Youth Employment Strategy (INAC and HRSDC program) – Student Summer Employment Opportunities Program – wage subsidized, career-related work experience and training for in-school First Nations secondary and post-secondary students aged 15-30 living on-reserve during the summer months. Apply through your Band.

Employment

www.psaagency-agencefp.gc.ca/ee/publications/inclusive/awpi-ipamt/recruitment-recrutement_e.asp Post-Secondary student and Aboriginal recruitment initiatives by the federal government

http://jobs-emplois.gc.ca/srp-fswep-pfete/index_e.htm - Federal Student Work Experience Program

http://jobs-emplois.gc.ca/srp-coop/about_e.htm - Post-Secondary Co-operative Education and Internship Program with the federal Public Service

http://jobs-emplois.gc.ca/menu/home_e.htm - federal job postings

www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/emp/index-eng.asp - Aboriginal employment programs at INAC