



Scholarship for Indigenous students

Application package 2025



Program and Eligibility

The imagery in this application form incorporates the theme of the 7 Sacred Teachings which include **love** (represented by an eagle), **respect** (buffalo), **courage** (bear), **honesty** (sabe or sasquatch), **wisdom** (beaver), **humility** (wolf) and **truth** (turtle). The teachings share the concept of abiding by a moral respect for all living things and provide guiding principles in the collaboration toward the restoration of cultural values, beliefs and practices.

Purpose

Our scholarships for Indigenous students work to address the education inequity faced by Indigenous peoples in Alberta by making post-secondary studies more financially accessible. We award 9 scholarships of \$1,500 annually to individuals who are active in their communities and display financial need.

Eligibility criteria

- Member of a First Nation or band, or has Inuit, Métis or Indian status as referenced on the Indigenous Services Canada website at sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1100100032374/1572457769548.
- Resident of Alberta and living in the province for the past 12 months.
- Enrolled in any full-time post-secondary certificate or diploma program of 2 or more years duration including graduate level studies.
- Has not received the Alberta Blue Cross Indigenous scholarship in the past.
- Must be attending an Alberta accredited post-secondary institution, as listed below.

All applicants must clearly describe their community involvement, personal goals and financial need, and submit 2 reference letters for evaluation.

Accredited post-secondary institutions

- Alberta College of Art and Design
- Ambrose University College
- Athabasca University
- Augustana Campus, University of Alberta
- Bow Valley College
- Burman University
- Concordia University of Edmonton
- Fairview College / Northwestern Polytechnic
- Keyano College
- The King's University College
- Lakeland College
- Lethbridge Community College
- MacEwan University
- Maskwacis Cultural College
- Medicine Hat College
- Mount Royal College
- NAIT
- NorQuest College
- Northern Lakes College
- Olds College
- Old Sun Community College
- Portage College
- Red Crow Community College
- Red Deer Polytechnic
- SAIT
- St. Mary's University
- University of Alberta
- University of Calgary
- University of Lethbridge
- University nuhelot'jine thaiyots'j nistameyimâkanak, Blue Quill
- Yellowhead Tribal College

What to include in your application

Information and application forms are available on the Alberta Blue Cross® website at community.ab.bluecross.ca/programs/indigenous-scholarships.php.

Note: incomplete applications will not be considered.

Follow the steps below to complete your application

Step 1: Complete the application form found on page 4.

Step 2: List or describe your involvement with community or school- sponsored events or organizations during the past 2 years—use the space provided on pages 5 and 6, or provide as an attachment to your application.

Step 3: Share a short story of 500 to 1,500 words about yourself, including your financial reasons for applying for the scholarship, your educational and personal goals and how you would like to give back to your community—please use the space provided on pages 7 and 8, or provide as an attachment to your application.

Step 4: Complete the declaration on page 9.

Additional pieces you must provide include

- Proof of your status or membership (for example, a copy of your Métis status card, Indian status card or band or First Nations membership card. **This is only required for those selected to receive the scholarship.** As per privacy legislation, our copy of your status card will be destroyed promptly within 30 days);
- a letter confirming your attendance from 1 of the accredited post-secondary educational institutions named within this application (most registrar’s offices can provide this for you); and
- 2 reference letters from relevant individuals or organizations, such as an instructor or professor, someone within the Indigenous community or a program director or supervisor from an Indigenous association with which you’ve been involved.

Application deadline

The deadline to apply is **Wednesday, January 31, 2025 at 11:59 p.m.** Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.

When will recipients be notified?

Successful applicants will be notified by **March 3, 2025.** Funds will be awarded by **March 31, 2025.**

Community involvement

Please describe your involvement in your community, including school sponsored events, organizations you have been a part of or any other experience. Please also include how you would like to give back to your community in the future.

Check here if you have provided additional information or have typed and attached your community involvement.

Community involvement (continued)

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Personal and educational goals

What are your personal and educational goals?

Check here if you have provided additional information or have typed and attached your story.

Personal and educational goals (continued)

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the user to write their personal and educational goals.

Mentorship

Tell us about a mentor or someone who has been influential in your life.

Mentorship (continued)

A large empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for writing or drawing.

Use of funds

How would you use your funds if you were to receive the scholarship?

Empty response area for writing.

Is your application complete?

Before you submit, please ensure your application is complete with the items listed below.

Checklist

PART 1

Within this application

Completed application form:

Page 4: **Personal information**

Page 5: **Community involvement**

Page 7: **Personal and education goals**

Page 9: **Mentorship**

Page 11: **How would you use your funds**

Page 14: **Declaration**

PART 2

Additional pieces you must provide

A letter confirming your admission to a post-secondary education institution (for list of eligible institutions, see the criteria section on page 2)

Reference letters (minimum 2)

PART 3

Submission

Collect the items listed under the checklist sections **Part 1 and Part 2**

Ensure your application is complete and error free

Email or mail your application to the address listed below

If you would like to submit pieces of your application as video or audio files, please contact:

scholarships.indigenoustudents@ab.bluecross.ca

Declaration of applicant

I have read and understand the instructions and declare that:

- a. all information provided is true and complete and I understand it is subject to audit;
- b. I will be a full-time student at the institution named for the period stated;
- c. I will immediately notify Alberta Blue Cross if I withdraw from full-time studies before completing the program I am enrolled in; and
- d. I confirm I am a member of a First Nation or band, or have Inuit, Métis or Indian status as referenced on the Indigenous Services Canada website and I will be able to provide proof of status should I receive this scholarship.

I authorize Alberta Blue Cross to release information, including my name and the award value, if I receive a scholarship.

Please check one: Yes No

Name of applicant _____ Date (YYYY-MM-DD) _____

Submit your application

Email (preferred):

scholarships.indigenoustudents@ab.bluecross.ca

Mail:

Alberta Blue Cross, Community Impact
10009 108 Street NW, Edmonton, Alberta T5J 3C5



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