



NRT Scholarship/Bursary Program

The New Relationship Trust and the First Nation communities realize the importance of educating our youth. Accordingly, the NRT Board of Directors identified education as a strategic priority and has approved the First Nations Scholarship Program.

The New Relationship Trust allocated \$720,000 for 2008/09 to assist British Columbia First Nation students in pursuing post-secondary education opportunities. Interested and eligible students should apply to the NRT for the post-secondary scholarship program. 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. However, scholarships are awarded annually and students must re-apply to the program for any subsequent years.

Number of Scholarships Available:

- 60 Certificate and Trades bursaries @ \$2,000 each per year
- 40 post-secondary scholarships @ \$5,000 each per year
- 20 Masters degree scholarships @ \$10,000 each per year
- 10 Doctorate degree scholarships @ \$20,000 each per year

If qualifying applicants exceed the available scholarships then NRT will incorporate equitable distribution regionally, by Nation and by Band/Community.

Application Deadline:

All completed applications must be received at the NRT office by **June 30th, 2008**; faxed applications will not be permitted. No late applications will be eligible.

Fields of Study:

All fields of study are eligible; students must be enrolled at a recognized post-secondary institution¹.

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 basis².

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

² 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:

A complete application consists of the following elements:

- Application form, fully completed and signed;
- An essay by you, up to 1000 words in length (4 typed pages), describing your vision for your First Nation community or First Nations in BC. Included in your essay would be how you would positively affect the future of your community;
- A letter of support from your First Nation government;
- Proof of citizenship from BC First Nation;
- A transcript of your academic record (most recent);
- Acceptance at a recognized accredited post-secondary institution;
- Resume/CV
- Returning students – An essay by you, up to 1000 words in length (4 typed pages), describing 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.

Bursary Application:

A complete application consists of the following elements:

- Application form, fully completed and signed;
- A letter of support from your First Nation government;
- Proof of citizenship from BC First Nation;
- Acceptance at a recognized accredited institution;
- Resume/CV

Scholarship Evaluation Criteria:

NRT will award scholarships based on the following:

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

Bursary Evaluation Criteria:

NRT will award scholarships based on the following:

- Complete application and support documentation
- Need

Renewal Criteria:

- All students must re-apply each year;
- Returning students must have a C+ (2.3 GPV) average in order to qualify for subsequent school year.